

August 20, 2012

DRAFT

Council Meeting

The Houston City Council met in regular session August 20, 2012 with Mayor Tottingham calling the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Aldermen present: Joe Honeycutt, Sharon Sillyman, Chalky Wells, Sheila Walker, Don Romines and David Arthur, City Administrator Larry Sutton, City Clerk Tonya Foster, City Attorney Brad Eidson and Police Chief Jim McNiell were present.

Alderman Romines made motion to approve the minutes from the regular session August 6, 2012. Seconded by Alderman Wells. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Alderman Wells made motion to approve the minutes from the closed session August 6, 2012. Seconded by Alderman Arthur. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Alderman Arthur made motion to approve payroll of August 15, 2012. Seconded by Alderman Walker. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Alderman Arthur made motion to approve invoices of August 17 & 20, 2012 totaling \$159,755.33 for payment as presented. Seconded by Alderman Sillyman. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Guests: Scott Dill and Ron Reed.

Scott Dill with the Houston Schools wanted to Thank the City for the improvements around the school and to also let the council know that the school board is considering a bond issue in April 2013.

Motion made by Alderman Romines to place Bill 109 (tax levy) on first reading by title only. (Bill 109 has been posted) Seconded by Alderman Walker. Motion passed with six yes votes. Motion made by Alderman Sillyman to place Bill 109 on second and final reading by title only. Seconded by Alderman Wells. Motion passed with six yes votes. Motion made by Alderman Honeycutt to adopt Bill 109 as Ordinance 2012-109. Seconded by Alderman Wells. Motion passed with six yes roll call votes. Aldermen Honeycutt – yes, Sillyman– yes, Wells – yes, Walker– yes, Romines – yes, Arthur - yes. (tax levy)

Discussed the need for reduced speed limits on North & South Hwy 63. Motion made by Alderman Romines to authorize City Administrator to contact MoDot to have a speed study done. Seconded by Alderman Arthur. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Discussed 2nd quarter delinquent utility bills. Motion made by Alderman Romines to write off and send to collections or small claims the 2nd quarter list. Seconded by Alderman Wells. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Administrator Report
August 20, 2012

1. Budget process is under way; Finance Committee will meet after regular council meeting to discuss.
2. Electric Dept has assisted school, installing poles and will also help install new scoreboards at the softball field. Work continues on the S. Hwy 63 lighting and bringing power to the Hamrick lift station and Industrial Park lift station located on HDC property.
3. Safe Route to School work is way ahead of schedule. Striping was completed before school started. Those driving need to pay attention to markings as a portion (in front of the Superintendent's office/New Flag Pole area) is one way traffic.
4. MoDOT told us that another round of enhancement grants that we might be eligible for, i.e. another safe route to school grant.
5. Water department has completed the water line for the new industrial park to the DFS office. Will do east side of Hwy 63 after bore is completed.
6. Tree clearing for the new lift station has been completed. When logs are removed the electric dept can install poles and wire.
7. Public grounds still chipping brush from the storm and working at the industrial park.
8. Sewer dept almost have the old plant filled in. Will haul in dirt then seed.
9. Airport hanger project may be delayed until next year due to estimated cost being higher than anticipated. By waiting, the annual allotment we received should be adequate to complete project.
10. Finishing up Village Trail IV, with the assistance of Public Grounds dept. Shoulders were seeded and straw applied. Still have to put up chain link fence in a couple of areas and install sidewalk where the road to the Hamrick Lift Station is located then project will be completed.
11. Construction crew will assist Public Grounds with concreting the low water crossing we had to build at the Fairgrounds for the Industrial Park grant.
12. Randy Kell will begin entry way to Industrial Park soon. Then Water and Electric can finish bring utility service to the new park.
13. Everyone is very busy and the progress is evident all over town. Thanks to all for making our town a great place to live.

In addition to administrators report:

Discussed the need for soccer fields. The Tuttle property needs to be disc, seeded and fertilized this fall, approximate cost \$1000.

Alderman Arthur made motion to approve the work on the Tuttle field and spend up to \$1000. Seconded by Alderman Romines. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Discussed the trash in Lone Star Plaza parking lot from the weekend. Decided to put more trash cans and signs up to see if that helps.

Steve Drake has purchased property on Second Street and needs the City to vacate an alleyway.

Alderman Wells made motion for the City to vacate the alleyway and authorize Attorney Eidson to make ordinance giving the land to the property owners. Seconded by Alderman Walker. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday September 4, 2012 due to the holiday. The second meeting will be September 24, 2012 due to City Administrator, City Clerk, Alderman Walker attending MML September 16-19, 2012.

No further comments.

Motion to adjourn made by Alderman Romines at 8:00 P.M. Seconded by Alderman Wells. Motion passed with six yes votes.

Minutes Taken By

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk