

**LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

MARCH 17, 2015

6:30 P.M.

CLARK LIBRARY-MASONIC BUILDING, 217 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 3rd FLOOR, LOCKHART, TEXAS

Council present:

Mayor Pro-Tem Angie Gonzales-Sanchez
Councilmember Juan Mendoza
Councilmember Jeffry Michelson

Mayor Lew White
Councilmember John Castillo (arrived at 6:37 p.m.)
Councilmember Benny Hilburn

Staff present:

Vance Rodgers, City Manager
Peter Gruning, City Attorney
Dan Gibson, City Planner

Connie Constancio, City Secretary
Jeff Hinson, Finance Director

Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council: Bart Fowler and Jennifer Douglas of Specialized Finance; Rudy Ruiz of Community Development Management; and, Spencer Holbert, Citizen.

Work Session 6:30 p.m.

Mayor White opened the work session and advised the Council, staff and the audience that staff would provide information and explanations about the following items:

DISCUSSION ONLY

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING ORDINANCE 2015-08 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS, COMBINATION TAX AND REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2015; PROVIDING FOR THE SECURITY FOR AND PAYMENT OF SAID CERTIFICATES; PRESCRIBING THE FORM OF SAID CERTIFICATES; AWARDED THE SALE THEREOF; APPROVING THE PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT, AND THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT; AND ENACTING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT.

Mr. Hinson stated that the proposed ordinance, if approved, would authorize the issuance and sale of Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, providing for security and payment of the certificates, prescribe the form of the Certificates, award the sale of the Certificates, and approve the paying agent/registrar agreement and the Official Statement, and enact other provisions related to the Certificates. In order to get the most recent interest quote, the ordinance was provided in final form today to allow the final principal amount and principal and interest payments to be included in the document. There was discussion.

Bart Fowler and Jennifer Douglas of Specialized Finance provided information about the process involved with obtaining Certificates of Obligation.

B. DISCUSS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MARCH 3, 2015 MEETING.

Mayor White requested corrections to the City Council minutes of the March 3, 2015 meeting. There were none.

C. DISCUSS INTERLOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES BY THE CALDWELL COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR TO HOLD A JOINT ELECTION FOR THE CITY OF LOCKHART'S SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 9, 2015.

Ms. Constancio stated that the proposed Agreement is a result of the Lockhart City Council's approval of Ordinance 2015-02 on February 3, 2015 ordering a special election to fill the vacant position of One Councilmember At-Large. The Caldwell County Elections Administrator (County EA) is scheduled to conduct an election on behalf of the Caldwell County Emergency Services District (ESD). The County EA reported that the County ESD election will not include any of the city districts on Election Day yet they will hold early voting for both elections at the same location (Scott Annex Building/1403 Blackjack). Staff recommended that the County EA hold the City of Lockhart's Special Election since they are already preparing for an election and to keep election locations the same as in previous elections (i.e. such as early voting location and ballot by mail address, etc.).

D. DISCUSS ORDINANCE 2015-07 ESTABLISHING EARLY VOTING DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATION; DESIGNATING ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR JOINT ELECTION WITH CALDWELL COUNTY FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 9, 2015 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FILLING THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF ONE COUNCILMEMBER AT-LARGE.

Ms. Constancio stated that on February 3, 2015, the City Council ordered the Special Election to fill the unexpired term of Councilmember At-Large to be held on May 9, 2015. The proposed Ordinance provides information about the May 9, 2015 Special Election to fill the vacant position that includes details about early voting, election day polling locations, conduct of the election, and the Joint Election with Caldwell County. Ms. Constancio provided detailed information such as the early voting location and the Election Day polling locations.

E. DISCUSS SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDS TO THE NATIONAL DISASTER RESILIENCE COMPETITION (NDRC) THROUGH THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE FOR THE BRADEN-MESQUITE AND RICHLAND DRIVE DRAINAGE PROBLEM MITIGATION PROJECTS IDENTIFIED IN GRANTS SUBMITTED TO THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) AND THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (TDA), AND APPOINTING THE MAYOR TO SIGN ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.

Mr. Rodgers stated that the City has an opportunity to apply for the NDRC funds through the Texas General Land Office that assists in mitigating drainage problems that affect low to moderate income families. The funding if approved would assist with completing projects like the Braden-Mesquite and Richland Drive drainage problem mitigation projects as submitted to FEMA and the Texas Department of Agriculture a few months ago. If NDRC funding is approved for these projects, the Certificates of Obligation funds, if approved, would be used for other drainage problem mitigation projects. Mr. Rodgers recommended approval.

Rudy Ruiz of Community Development Management provided information about the application process. There was discussion about possibly adding other areas in Lockhart to the drainage problem mitigation projects, if possible.

F. DISCUSS STAFF APPLYING FOR A TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT ESTIMATED AT \$460,000 THROUGH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION WHICH INVOLVES EXTENDING THE SIDEWALK FROM THE TOWN BRANCH GREENBELT PARKWAY WHICH ENDS AT N. COMMERCE STREET THROUGH CITY PARK TO PLUM CREEK AND CARVER KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS, APPROVING MATCH FOR ENGINEERING ESTIMATED AT \$50,000, GRANT MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION ESTIMATED AT \$50,000 AND A 20% LOCAL MATCH REDUCED TO ABOUT \$5,000 WITH DISTRESSED COUNTY CREDITS, AND APPOINTING MAYOR TO SIGN REQUIRED DOCUMENTS.

Mr. Rodgers stated that the City has an opportunity to apply for a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant estimated at \$460,000 through the Texas Department of Transportation which involves extending the sidewalk from the Town Branch Greenbelt Parkway which ends at North Commerce Street through City Park to Plum Creek and Carver Kindergarten Schools, approving match for engineering estimated at \$50,000, grant management at \$50,000, and a 20 percent local match estimate reduced to \$5,000 or less when distressed county credits are applied. Mr. Rodgers recommended approval.

Rudy Ruiz of Community Development Management provided information about the grant process and the grant matching point system. There was discussion.

G. DISCUSSION REGARDING POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO CITY MANAGER REGARDING THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL ABOUT PRE-65 RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE OFFERINGS.

Mr. Rodgers stated that he failed to provide sufficient information to Council on how long term current employees would be adversely affected if the pre-65 retiree health insurance would be only offered to retiring employees after 25 years of continuous service or more who are at least 60 years old. Those employees most adversely affected would be those who have completed 25 to 30 or plus years of continuous service with the City of Lockhart before the age of 60 because they started at a very young age. Several can retire after 30 years of continuous service before reaching the age of 50.

The following is the City Manager's recommendation for pre-65 retiree health insurance proposal:

1. Grand-father the existing pre-65 retirees at the employee rate as stated at the last meeting.
2. New employees after June 1, 2015, would be offered 195% of employee premium at retirement with a minimum of 20 years of continuous service.
3. For current employees with continuous service here at the City of Lockhart, the following would apply:

Years of Service	Pre-65 Health Insurance Coverage Period	After Coverage Period
10-19 years	Offer up to 1 year at employee premium	Offer 195% of employee premium
20-24 years	Offer up to 5 years at employee premium	Offer 195% of employee premium
25-29 years	Offer up to 10 years at employee premium	Offer 195% of employee premium
30+ years	Offer until 65 at employee premium	

There was discussion about the proposal listed above.

Mayor White suggested that the retirees should have some level of continuous tenure prior to being eligible for health coverage through the City of Lockhart. He also suggested that employees that retire prior to the age of 60 with a certain number of tenure years be allowed a transition period prior to be removed from the health insurance requirement.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez spoke in favor of keeping the health insurance to retirees as currently implemented.

Councilmember Hilburn spoke in favor of possibly allowing the health insurance coverage as proposed by the City Manager at this meeting.

There was discussion about health insurance costs.

Councilmember Michelson suggested that health insurance is offered to employees with a specific long tenure period.

Councilmember Castillo inquired about leaving the retiree health benefit as currently implemented.

There was discussion.

Councilmember Mendoza suggested utilizing the City Manager's recommendation yet revising the years of service and coverage period.

Mayor White announced that the Council would make the final determination during the regular meeting.

H. DISCUSSION REGARDING COUNCIL'S APPOINTMENTS OF A COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH STUDYING AND MAKING RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO CHAPTER 46, SIGNS, SECTION 46-6, PROHIBITED SIGNS AND LOCATIONS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES AND POSSIBLY CONSIDER OTHER SECTIONS OF THE SIGN ORDINANCE REGARDED BY THE COMMITTEE AS POSSIBLY TOO RESTRICTIVE FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES.

Mr. Rodgers stated that City staff was directed to place this item on this agenda. The committee would work with City staff and at a later date the committee would make recommendations to the Council regarding possible changes to the sign ordinance. The purpose of the committee is not to make changes to the entire sign ordinance yet to specific sections that have posed concern. There was discussion.

Mayor White announced that the Council would make the appointments during the regular meeting.

There was discussion about the sections of the sign ordinance that the committee would review and make recommendations. It was determined that the committee would review Sections 46-6 and 46-7, and other sections of the sign ordinance of which business owners might have expressed complaints or concerns.

I. DISCUSSION REGARDING A DRAFT POLICY SETTING CONDITIONS AND PARAMETERS FOR MAYOR AND/OR COUNCIL MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT OUT OF TOWN SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, AND MEETINGS THAT WOULD BE BUDGETED AND PAID FOR WITH PUBLIC FUNDS.

Mayor White suggested that a policy about Council's out of town seminar attendance be considered. He suggested that the Council budget to limit attendance to seminars/conferences in Texas. There was discussion.

Councilmember Castillo stated that he requested to attend a seminar in Las Vegas, Nevada. He stated that the seminar in Las Vegas offers several sessions that he believes would benefit in educating him in various realms about city government and to represent Lockhart at a national seminar. He explained that he does not receive a stipend from the city as a State employee and that he has not attended many seminars during his tenure on the Council. He requested that the Council approve his attendance.

Councilmember Hilburn spoke in favor of limiting seminar attendance in Texas only.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez spoke in favor of limiting seminar attendance in Texas only.

Councilmember Mendoza suggested that each councilmember that attends a seminar to contribute 25-30% of the expenses.

RECESS: Mayor White announced that the Council would recess for a break at 8:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Lew White called the regular meeting of the Lockhart City Council to order on this date at 8:15 p.m.

ITEM 2. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Invocation - Ministerial Alliance.

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

ITEM 3. CITIZENS/VISITORS COMMENTS.

Mayor White requested the following to address the Council:

Spencer Holbert, 1001 Magnolia Street, spoke against Councilmembers attending out of state seminars and inquired about an update of the projects that would be funded with the certificates of obligation funds. Mayor White requested that the City Manager give Mr. Holbert an update after the meeting.

Mayor White requested additional citizens to address the Council. There were none.

ITEM 4. CONSENT AGENDA.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to approve consent agenda items 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 4E. Councilmember Michelson seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

The following are the consent agenda items that were approved:

- 4A: Approve City Council minutes of the March 3, 2015 meeting.
- 4B: Approve Interlocal Government Contract for Election Services by the Caldwell County Elections Administrator to hold a Joint Election for the City of Lockhart's Special Election to be held on May 9, 2015.
- 4C: Approve Ordinance 2015-07 establishing early voting dates, times, and location; designating Election Day polling locations; and providing for Joint Election with Caldwell County for the Special Election to be held on May 9, 2015 for the purpose of filling the unexpired term of One Councilmember At-Large.
- 4D: Authorize the City Manager to proceed with submission of an application for funds to the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC) through the Texas General Land Office for the Braden-Mesquite and Richland Drive drainage problem mitigation projects identified in grants submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), and appointing the Mayor to sign all required documents.
- 4E: Authorize staff to apply for a Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant estimated at \$460,000 through the Texas Department of Transportation which involves extending the sidewalk from the Town Branch Greenbelt Parkway which ends at N. Commerce Street through City Park to Plum Creek and Carver Kindergarten Schools, approving match for engineering estimated at \$50,000, grant management administration estimated at \$50,000 and a 20% local match reduced to about \$5,000 with distressed county credits, and appointing Mayor to sign required documents.

ITEM 5-A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2015-08 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS, COMBINATION TAX AND REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2015; PROVIDING FOR THE SECURITY FOR AND PAYMENT OF SAID CERTIFICATES; PRESCRIBING THE FORM OF SAID CERTIFICATES; AWARDING THE SALE THEREOF; APPROVING THE PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AGREEMENT, AND THE OFFICIAL STATEMENT; AND ENACTING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT.

Councilmember Hilburn made a motion to approve Ordinance 2015-08 of the City Council of the City of Lockhart, Texas, authorizing the issuance and sale of City of Lockhart, Texas, combination tax and revenue certificates of obligation, Series 2015; providing for security for and payment of said certificates; prescribing the form of said certificates; awarding the sale thereof; approving the paying agent/registrar agreement, and the official statement; and enacting other provisions relating to the subject. Councilmember Castillo seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 5-B. DISCUSSION AND/OR POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO CITY MANAGER REGARDING THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE COUNCIL ABOUT PRE-65 RETIREE HEALTH INSURANCE OFFERINGS.

There was discussion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to amend the pre-65 retiree health insurance offerings as follows. Councilmember Hilburn seconded.

1. Grand-father the existing pre-65 retirees at the employee rate as stated at the last meeting.
2. New employees after June 1, 2015, would be offered 195% of employee premium at retirement with a minimum of 20 years of continuous service.
3. For current employees with continuous service here at the City of Lockhart, the following would apply:

Continuous Years of Service	Pre-65 Health Insurance Coverage Period	After Coverage Period
15-19 years	Offer up to 2 years at employee premium	Offer 195% of employee premium
20-24 years	Offer up to 5 years at employee premium	Offer 195% of employee premium
25+ years	Offer up to 10 years at employee premium	Offer 195% of employee premium

VOTE: The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 5-C. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING COUNCIL'S APPOINTMENTS OF A COMMITTEE CHARGED WITH STUDYING AND MAKING RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO CHAPTER 46, SIGNS, SECTION 46-6, PROHIBITED SIGNS AND LOCATIONS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES AND POSSIBLY CONSIDER OTHER SECTIONS OF THE SIGN ORDINANCE REGARDED BY THE COMMITTEE AS POSSIBLY TOO RESTRICTIVE FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that the committee would review the several sections of the sign ordinance and provide recommendations of possible amendments to the Council at a future meeting.

Councilmember Hilburn stated that his appointee requested that the meetings begin after April 15, 2015.

The following are the appointments to the sign ordinance review committee:

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez appointed Gabe Medina, Manager of Ranch and Steel Supply Company.

Councilmember Mendoza appointed Raymond Mendez of Raymond's Barbershop.

Councilmember Hilburn appointed Terry Black, CPA.

Mayor White appointed Kenneth Sneed of First Lockhart National Bank.

Councilmember Castillo appointed Johnny Barron, Jr. of Johnny's Paint & Body Shop.

Councilmember Michelson appointed Tim Clark of Lockhart Motor Company.

ITEM 5-D. DISCUSSION AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A DRAFT POLICY SETTING CONDITIONS AND PARAMETERS FOR MAYOR AND/OR COUNCIL MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT OUT OF TOWN SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, AND MEETINGS THAT WOULD BE BUDGETED AND PAID FOR WITH PUBLIC FUNDS.

There was discussion.

Councilmember Michelson made a motion to approve the policy setting conditions and parameters to Texas cities only for Mayor and/or Councilmember attendance at out of town seminars, conferences, and meetings that would be budgeted and paid for with public funds. Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 5-E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMISSIONS OR COMMITTEES.

Mayor White requested appointments to various boards, commissions or committees. There were none.

ITEM 6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE DISCUSSION.

- Update: US Hwy 183 expansion project: water and waste-water work process; City electric work complete; Gas, AT&T and TWC work still in progress; storm water contractor work. Pre-construction meeting held earlier.
- Report: Lone Star Grand Prix 2015 Kart Race held on Saturday, March 7th and Sunday, March 8th; Thanks to Lee Weatherford, Joe Leal, Chris Sager, Street, Parks and Maintenance Crews; Julie Bowermon, All the volunteers; both Chambers, businesses and residents for their cooperation, to the Lone Star Grand Prix group for coming and the Post Register for support of the event.
- Report: City staff working with LISD management about the possible use of the City Council Chambers for LISD Trustee meetings for a year or more.
- Report: Chihuahua- Pancho Streets Neighborhood Area meeting held Tuesday, March 10, 6 pm, at Latino Hall.
- Reminder: Welcome Spring Day Event/Kid Fish with tagged fish worth cash; Free Hot Dogs, other events for kids, Chamber Chili Cook off.
- Cesar Chavez march will be held on Sunday, March 22 at 1:00 p.m. March begins at City Hall and ends at St. Mary's Catholic Church.
- Lockhart Kiwanis Annual 1K and 5K on April 4, 8 a.m.
- Reminder: CAMPO Transportation Policy Board Public Input Meeting regarding regional transportation to be held March 24, Scott Annex, 1403-C Blackjack.

ITEM 7. COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMENTS – ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez expressed condolences to the families of Sybil Kaigler, Sebastian Juarez, Marcy Youngman, and Carlos Urrutia, Sr. for their loss. She thanked the downtown businesses, staff, volunteers, drivers and all for cooperation with another successful Kart Race.

Councilmember Mendoza expressed condolences to the Juarez family for their loss. He thanked all that attended and were involved with the very informative District 1 Neighborhood meeting held on March 10.

Councilmember Hilburn thanked all involved with the successful Kart Race.

Councilmember Castillo expressed condolences to the Juarez and Kaigler families for their loss. He thanked all involved with the Kart Race. He thanked staff for working on finding funds to begin improving the drainage problems throughout the city. He invited all to attend the annual César Chavez march on Sunday, March 22 at 1 p.m. beginning at City Hall.

Councilmember Michelson thanked staff and volunteers for their hard work during the Kart Race.

Mayor White thanked all for their participation, hard work and volunteer hours during the Kart Race. He invited all to attend an event giving a history of Lockhart on March 28, 6-8 p.m. in the Council Chambers. April 11 is the Sip and Stroll event downtown from 4-7 p.m. KidFish, Welcome Spring Day, and Chili Cook off this Saturday, March 21 in Lockhart City Park.

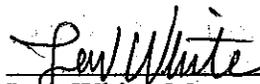
ITEM 8. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Mendoza seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED on April 7, 2015.

CITY OF LOCKHART




Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:


Connie Constancio, TRMC
City Secretary