

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
LUFKIN, TEXAS HELD ON THE 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2015.**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2015, the City Council of the City of Lufkin, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall with the following members, thereof to wit:

Bob F. Brown  
Lynn Torres  
Victor Travis  
Robert Shankle  
Rocky Thigpen  
Sarah Murray  
Keith Wright  
Steve Floyd  
Bruce Green  
Kara Atwood  
Rodney Ivy  
Gerald Williamson  
Ted Lovett  
Belinda Southern  
Steve Poskey  
Mike Akridge  
Barbara Thompson  
Dale Allred  
Sid Munlin  
Chuck Walker  
Kent Havard  
Thad Chambers

Mayor  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Councilmember, Ward No. 1  
Councilmember, Ward No. 2  
Councilmember, Ward No. 5  
Councilmember, Ward No. 6  
City Manager  
Assistant City Manager  
City Attorney  
City Secretary  
Human Resources Director  
Police Chief  
Fire Chief  
Finance Director  
Street Department Director  
Parks & Recreation Director  
Main Street Director  
Inspection Services Director  
IT Director  
Public Works Director  
Solid Waste Director  
Economic Development Director

being present; and

Don Langston

Councilmember, Ward No. 4

being absent when the following business was transacted.

1. The meeting was opened with prayer by City Manager Keith Wright.
2. Mayor Bob Brown welcomed visitors present.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on February 17, 2015 were approved on a motion by Councilmember Lynn Torres and seconded by Councilmember Robert Shankle. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

4. **LUFKIN FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTION CEREMONY**

Mayor Bob Brown conducted a Lufkin Fire Department ceremony to promote Bill Wafer to Battalion Chief and Jeff McReynolds to Captain.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

5. **FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE REGARDING THE SALE, DISCHARGE, AND  
DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS IN THE CITY OF LUFKIN-APPROVED**

City Manager Keith Wright stated that on February 17, 2015 Staff presented a proposed Ordinance regarding the use of fireworks with the City of Lufkin in order to better regulate public fireworks display. City Manager Wright furthered that the wording of the current Ordinance presented liability issues for the City, because it stated that any fireworks display had to be under the supervision of the City. City Manager Wright stated that City Attorney Bruce Green evaluated the current Ordinance and came up with a proposal that would eliminate those liability issues for the City of Lufkin. City Manager Wright went on to highlight the specific points of the new Ordinance, such as the requirements for public fireworks displays to meet all

federal, state, and local laws, insurance is required, a permit is required through the City Fire Marshal, and some additional safety conditions must be met. City Manager Wright concluded that Staff recommended approval of the First Reading of an Ordinance regarding the sale, discharge, and display of fireworks in the City of Lufkin.

The First Reading of an Ordinance regarding the sale, discharge, and display of fireworks in the City of Lufkin was approved on a motion by Councilmember Robert Shankle and seconded by Councilmember Rocky Thigpen. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

6. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE T.L.L. TEMPLE FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$181,156 FOR THE PURCHASE OF BODY CAMERAS FOR THE LUFKIN POLICE DEPARTMENT AND A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 10 APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING-APPROVED**

City Manager Keith Wright stated that in light of recent events regarding police encounters with citizens, the Lufkin Police Department began to look at purchasing body cameras for all Lufkin Police Officers. City Manager Wright furthered that the Police Department researched the different technology available and found a body camera system that would be compatible with the Department's current vehicle equipment. City Manager Wright continued that due to the high cost of these cameras the Lufkin Police Department sought grant funding and the T.L.L. Temple Foundation generously approved the Department's grant application on February 12, 2015. City Manager Wright concluded that Staff recommended approval of a grant from the T.L.L. Temple Foundation in the amount of one hundred eighty one thousand one hundred fifty six dollars (\$181,156) for the purchase of body cameras for the Lufkin Department and a Resolution authorizing Budget Amendment No. 10 appropriating the funding. Lastly, City Manager Wright asked Police Chief Gerald Williamson to address Council regarding the body camera equipment.

Police Chief Williamson elaborated on the type of body camera equipment that the Police Department would purchase with this grant money. Police Chief Williamson stated that the latest body camera technology from Panasonic that the Department would purchase would be available in summer 2015. Until then the Department would begin adapting their current technology in preparation to integrate the Panasonic body camera technology. Police Chief Williamson concluded that these body cameras would be beneficial to the Department, because they would allow the Department to better serve the community. City Manager Wright added that the upfront cost of purchasing the body cameras would be funded through this grant, but future costs to the City for repairs and maintenance would be inevitable.

The Resolution authorizing the acceptance of a grant from the T.L.L. Temple Foundation in the amount of one hundred eighty one thousand one hundred fifty six dollars (\$181,156) for the purchase of body cameras for the Lufkin Police Department and a Resolution authorizing Budget Amendment No. 10 appropriating the funding was approved on a motion by Councilmember Lynn Torres and seconded by Councilmember Robert Shankle. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

Mayor Bob Brown stated that the decision to purchase these cameras was thoughtfully researched and the technology was purposefully selected for its compatibility with the Department's current equipment. City Manager Wright added that there was a Bill before the Texas State Legislature that would require Police body cameras and that the decision making to purchase body cameras for the Lufkin Police Department was a proactive step.

7. **APPOINTMENT TO THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD-APPROVED**

City Manager Keith Wright stated that Staff recommended Council approve a vacancy on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for the lone applicant, Mickey Hadnot.

The appointment to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board was approved on a motion by Councilmember Robert Shankle and seconded by Councilmember Sarah Murray. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: DELIBERATIONS REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551.072 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE,**

**WHICH PROVIDES FOR THE DELIBERATION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURCHASE, EXCHANGE, LEASE OR VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY.**

Mayor Bob Brown convened Executive Session at 5:13 pm. Mayor Bob Brown reconvened Regular Session at 5:23 pm.

**9. PURCHASE OF A TRACT OF LAND FOR USE BY THE CITY OF LUFKIN FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES-APPROVED**

City Manager Keith Wright stated Staff recommended City Council approve the purchase of a tract of land for use by the City of Lufkin for future economic development purposes.

The purchase of a tract of land for use by the City of Lufkin for future economic development purposes was approved on a motion by Councilmember Lynn Torres and seconded by Councilmember Sarah Murray. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

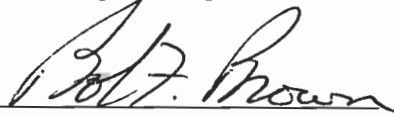
**10. DISCUSSION OF ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST, INCLUDING EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS, CONGRATULATIONS OR CONDOLENCE; INFORMATION REGARDING HOLIDAY SCHEDULES; HONORARY RECOGNITIONS OF CITY OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES OR OTHER CITIZENS; REMINDERS ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE CITY OR OTHER ENTITY THAT IS SCHEDULED TO BE ATTENDED BY CITY OFFICIALS OR EMPLOYEES; AND ANNOUNCEMENTS INVOLVING IMMINENT THREATS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE CITY.**

City Manager Keith Wright detailed the upcoming events including Cinema Toast the Pines Theatre, the First Friday Luncheon, the Household Waste Collection Day, the Landscape Taskforce Gala, and the usual meetings on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> with the various Councilmembers and City Manager Wright.

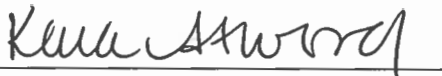
Mayor Bob Brown added that it was great to have Councilmember Victor Travis back. Councilmember Victor Travis added that he was glad to be back and that it was better to be seen than viewed.

**11. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to address the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.



Bob F. Brown, Mayor



Kara Atwood, City Secretary