

The First Reading of an Ordinance of the City of Lufkin, Texas, changing the zoning designation to “Commercial” for property located at 1710 South First Street was approved on a motion by Councilmember Don Langston and seconded by Councilmember Lynn Torres. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

5. **RESOLUTION SUSPENDING THE PROPOSED RATE INCREASE BY CENTERPOINT ENERGY FOR FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS-APPROVED**

City Manager Keith Wright stated that the City of Lufkin was a member of the Alliance of CenterPoint Municipalities (ACM). City Manager Wright continued that the ACM group was organized by a number of municipalities served by the CenterPoint Energy Resources Corporation, and has been represented by the law firm of Herrera & Boyle, PLLC to assist in reviewing applications to change rates submitted by CenterPoint. City Manager Wright went on to explain the Gas Utility Regulatory Act (GURA) and the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program, also known as the “GRIP” statute. City Manager Wright explained that the City of Lufkin’s ability to review and effectuate a change in CenterPoint’s requested increase was limited, but to exercise its due diligence, it was necessary to suspend CenterPoint’s proposed effective date of May 30, 2015 for forty-five (45) days.

City Manager Wright concluded that Staff recommended Council adopt a Resolution suspending CenterPoint’s proposed effective date for forty-five (45) days, assuming a proposed effective date of May 30, 2015, CenterPoint’s proposed effective would be suspended until July 14, 2015.

Councilmember Don Langston clarified that City Council did not have the capability to reject the proposed increase, and that even by postponing the rate increase; CenterPoint would still be able to recover the costs from the interim postponement. City Manager Wright responded that this was true and the postponement gave the attorneys time to review CenterPoint’s “GRIP” application.

The Resolution suspending the proposed rate increase by CenterPoint Energy for forty-five (45) days was approved on a motion by Councilmember Robert Shankle and seconded by Councilmember Sarah Murray. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

6. **CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

City Manager Keith Wright reported on the General Fund, including the positive trends in revenue for ad valorem taxes, sales taxes, and charges for services (EMS Billing). City Manager Wright commented that he was satisfied with the residential, commercial, and industrial water use in the Water/Waste Water Fund despite the high amount of rainfall that the City had experienced in the past months. City Manager Wright mentioned the current fiscal status of the Solid Waste Fund, and went on to comment that the Capital Improvement Project list had not been updated yet and he mentioned ongoing projects from the Project Status Report.

City Manager Wright stated he would answer any questions from City Council on the City Manager’s Report. There were no questions from the Council.

7. **ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST FROM MAYOR, COUNCILMEMBERS, AND STAFF**

City Manager Keith Wright highlighted the various upcoming meetings and events and provided the early voting dates and election information for Ward Four (4).

Mayor Bob Brown and Councilmember Lynn Torres commended the Lufkin High School Soccer team for winning state.

Councilmember Robert Shankle thanked the well-wishers, funeral attendees, and the Police Department on behalf of Mrs. Percy Simond for their care in memorializing the loss of former Councilmember Percy Simond. Councilmember Shankle also extended congratulations to Main Street Director Barbara Thompson on the success of last weekend’s Downtown Hoedown.

Mayor Bob Brown thanked Police Chief Gerald Williamson and Fire Chief Ted Lovett for their department’s gestures during the memorial services for the late Buddy Temple and Councilmember Percy Simond.

8. There being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 5:17 pm.





Bob F. Brown, Mayor



Kara Atwood, City Secretary