

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS HELD ON THE 6<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2015.**

On the 6<sup>th</sup> day of January 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	Mayor
Lynn Torres	Mayor Pro-Tem
Victor Travis	Councilmember, Ward No. 1
Robert Shankle	Councilmember, Ward No. 2
Don Langston	Councilmember, Ward No. 4
Rocky Thigpen	Councilmember, Ward No. 5
Sarah Murray	Councilmember, Ward No. 6
Keith Wright	City Manager
Steve Floyd	Assistant City Manager
Bruce Green	City Attorney
Kara Atwood	City Secretary
Rodney Ivy	Human Resources Director
Gerald Williamson	Police Chief
David Thomas	Assistant Police Chief
Ted Lovett	Fire Chief
Belinda Southern	Finance Director
Dorothy Wilson	Planning & Zoning Director
Steve Poskey	Street Superintendent
Mike Akridge	Parks & Recreation Director
Barbara Thompson	Main Street Director
Chuck Walker	Public Works Director
Kent Havard	Solid Waste Director
Thad Chambers	Economic Development Director

being present when the following business was transacted.

1. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Stephen Lantis of First Christian Church.
2. Mayor Bob Brown welcomed visitors present.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on December 16, 2014 were approved on a motion by Councilmember Lynn Torres and seconded by Councilmember Don Langston. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

4. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING 16.21 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT TO AND INCLUDING A PORTION OF JOE C. LANE INTO THE CITY OF LUFKIN – APPROVED.**

Mayor Brown stated the next item for consideration was to conduct a Public Hearing and consider on Second Reading an Ordinance annexing 16.21 acres of property located adjacent to and including a portion of Joe C. Lane into the City of Lufkin.

City Manager Keith Wright stated this was the second reading of the Ordinance annexing 16.21 acres of property located on Joe C. Lane. City Manager Wright furthered that Staff recommended City Council conduct the Public Hearing and approve the Ordinance as presented.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing at 5:03 p.m. and asked anyone who wished to speak to please step forward. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Brown asked for comments or questions from the City Council.

Councilmember Lynn Torres moved to approve the Second Reading of the Ordinance annexing the property as described. Councilmember Don Langston seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

## NEW BUSINESS

5. **FIRST PUBLIC HEARING IN CONSIDERATION OF AN ANNEXATION FOR PROPERTY LOCATED EAST OF LUFKIN CITY LIMITS ALONG AND INCLUDING A PORTION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY ON HARPER ROAD AND APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL SERVICE PLAN FOR THE SAME – APPROVED.**

Mayor Brown stated that Item No. 5 was to conduct a Public Hearing in consideration of an annexation for property located east of Lufkin City limits along and including a portion of right-of-way on Harper Road and consider approval of a municipal service plan for the same.

City Manager Keith Wright stated that during the meeting of December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, City Council approved a Resolution which authorized Staff to proceed with the annexation of 3.39 acres of property along Harper Road. City Manager Wright furthered that Robert Peltier had requested this annexation in order to develop the property into a car dealership. City Manager Wright stated that State Law required two (2) Public Hearings be held; both of which could be conducted during the same Council meeting in order to avoid a Special Meeting to conduct the required Public Hearings. City Manager Wright concluded that Staff recommended City Council conduct the Public Hearing as required and approve the municipal service plan as presented.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing at 5:05 p.m. and requested that anyone who wished to speak to please step forward. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing and requested comments or questions from City Council.

Councilmember Victor Travis moved to approve the municipal service plan as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

6. **SECOND PUBLIC HEARING IN CONSIDERATION OF AN ANNEXATION FOR PROPERTY LOCATED EAST OF LUFKIN CITY LIMITS ALONG AND INCLUDING A PORTION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY ON HARPER ROAD AND APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL SERVICE PLAN FOR THE SAME – APPROVED.**

Mayor Brown stated that Item No. 6 was to conduct the second Public Hearing in consideration of an annexation for property located east of Lufkin City limits along and including a portion of right-of-way on Harper Road and consider approval of a municipal service plan for the same.

City Manager Wright stated that the recommendation from Staff was the same as the previous item; that the Public Hearing be conducted and the municipal service plan be approved.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing at 5:06 p.m. and requested that anyone who wished to speak to please step forward. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing and requested comments or questions from City Council.

Councilmember Victor Travis moved to approve the municipal service plan as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

7. **RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PLANNING STAFF TO PROCEED WITH ANNEXATION OF 8.10 ACRES OF PROPERTY LOCATED NORTH OF THE LUFKIN CITY LIMITS ALONG ELLEN TROUT DRIVE AND DEVELOP A MUNICIPAL SERVICE PLAN FOR THE SAME – APPROVED.**

Mayor Brown stated the next item was to consider a Resolution directing the Planning Staff to proceed with annexation of 8.10 acres of property located north of the Lufkin City limits along Ellen Trout Drive and develop a municipal service plan for the same.

City Manager Wright stated that this was a requested annexation from the owner Eastex Capital Assets, LLC, for the annexation of 8.10 acres north of the City limits along Ellen Trout Drive. City Manager Wright stated the owner intended to develop the land as a private parcel distribution center. City Manager Wright stated that as City Council was aware, the first step in the annexation process was to adopt a Resolution which authorized Staff to move forward. City

Manager Wright concluded that Staff recommended approval of the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Lynn Torres clarified the owner of the adjacent property.

Councilmember Robert Shankle moved to approve the Resolution proceeding with the annexation as presented. Councilmember Sarah Murray seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

8. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2014-2015 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 7), PROVIDING FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENTS FUNDS – APPROVED.**

Mayor Brown stated that Item No. 8 was consideration of an Amendment to the 2014-2015 Operating Budget (Budget Amendment No. 7), providing for the appropriation of funds in the Community Development/Downtown Improvements Funds.

City Manager Wright stated that Budget Amendment No. 7 provided for the setup of revenue and expenditure accounts associated with Main Street activities in downtown Lufkin. City Manager Wright stated that this would provide for better accounting of funding and reduce financial liability. City Manager Wright stated that Fund 234, currently named the Heritage Festival Fund, would be renamed as the Community Development/Downtown Improvement Fund. City Manager Wright concluded that Staff recommended approval of this Resolution. Councilmember Victor Travis questioned whether this would make the accounting easier. City Manager Wright stated that it would.

Councilmember Victor Travis moved to approve the Resolution authorizing Budget Amendment No. 7. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

9. **PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2015 PETERBILT ROLL-OFF SOLID WASTE VEHICLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$168,988 FROM RUSH TRUCK CENTER THROUGH THE BUY BOARD – APPROVED.**

Mayor Brown stated that Item No. 9 was consideration of the purchase of one (1) Peterbilt Roll-Off Solid Waste Vehicle in the amount of \$168,988 from Rush Truck Center through the Buy Board.

City Manager Wright stated this was a purchase of one (1) 2015 Peterbilt 365 truck with a G & H roll-off body. City Manager Wright furthered that this equipment was used to transport the large roll-off dumpsters throughout the City. City Manager Wright continued that pricing was secured through the Buy Board for \$168,988 for the purchase of the equipment, even though only \$135,000 was budgeted. City Manager Wright furthered that this was by design due to the funds that would be received from the auction of the existing vehicle being replaced, which was a 2002 Volvo with a Kwiklift body. City Manager Wright clarified with Assistant City Manager Steve Floyd when the next auction would be held. Assistant City Manager Floyd stated it would be held once all new police vehicles were purchased and in service.

Councilmember Victor Travis moved to approve the purchase of the vehicle as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

10. **CITY COUNCIL TRAVEL POLICY – APPROVED**

Mayor Brown stated the next item was discussion and possible action on the proposed City Council Travel Policy.

City Manager Wright stated that a proposed travel policy was in the packet as proposed by Councilmember Don Langston as well as the current City Council budget.

Mayor Brown asked for questions or comments from the City Council. Councilmember Robert Shankle questioned why this was being addressed four (4) months into the current budget and there was plenty of time allotted during the budget process for this discussion. Councilmember Langston answered that City Council did not have a formal travel policy which outlined when

and where travel was conducted; only a budget, which would remain unchanged. Councilmember Langston stated there was no request to change the budget; this was simply clarification as to what benefit was received by travel; and he wished that City Council would define what was most beneficial to the City and the taxpayers. Councilmember Langston stated that he did make this request during the budget process, but it was never discussed and this was just to establish a formal travel policy. Councilmember Shankle questioned why it included bond rating; that travel was necessary for bond rating. Councilmember Langston stated that it had been necessary in the past; but the City was fortunate to not have had to travel for this purpose in the last several years. Councilmember Shankle then stated that the policy stated that travel was limited to Texas Municipal League (TML) events and conferences; however, TML might not provide all the necessary education or information needed. Councilmember Langston stated that was debatable; however, he felt that out of state travel to National League of Cities (NLC) events served no purpose to the taxpayers and that was his opinion. Councilmember Langston continued that TML served the City in many ways and it was necessary to be in contact with that entity and its representatives. Councilmember Langston stated that he did not feel the expense to attend NLC events was necessary. Councilmember Shankle stated he felt that the NLC events were beneficial. Councilmember Langston clarified that the policy did not restrict any travel, just defined what was necessary.

Councilmember Don Langston moved to approve the policy as presented. Councilmember Lynn Torres seconded the motion.

Councilmember Victor Travis stated that he felt the restriction of out of state travel was not to save tax dollars and did not agree that there was no benefit to the travel. Councilmember Travis then requested Planning Director Dorothy Wilson to step forward and tell City Council what was being done with housing in north Lufkin. Councilmember Travis continued that this housing program was a direct result of what was learned at the NLC convention. Planning Director Wilson stated that lots were being re-platted and houses would be built on these lots. Councilmember Travis stated that by not being allowed to attend these conferences, they were being denied education regarding programs. Councilmember Langston stated he had read information regarding the same program and it could have been accomplished without travel. Councilmember Langston commented that the funding spent on out of state travel did not justify what was being learned. Councilmember Travis stated he felt that other cities in other states had information that needed to be gained and the policy needed to stay as it was. Further discussion regarding the policy ensued between City Council members Travis, Torres and Langston. Councilmember Lynn Torres gave information as to when and why out of state travel was conducted in the past and how it was combined with legislative meetings that were important to the City. Councilmember Torres furthered that she did not feel that NLC meetings were valuable. Councilmember Langston clarified that the policy did not eliminate out of state travel, that it only required that it be justified. Councilmember Torres stated that all entities had regulations regarding travel; including the school district. Councilmember Travis stated that he felt the trips were beneficial.

The motion passed on a four (4) to three (3) vote with Councilmember Victor Travis, Councilmember Robert Shankle, and Councilmember Sarah Murray voting against the motion.

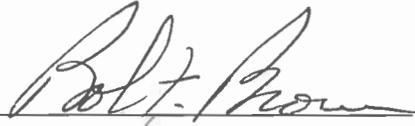
#### 11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Bob Brown stated there was no reason to enter into Executive Session.

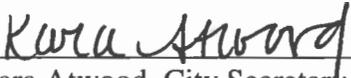
#### 12. DISCUSSION OF ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST, INCLUDING EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS, CONGRATULATIONS OR CONDOLENCE; INFORMATION REGARDING HOLIDAY SCHEDULES; HONORARY RECOGNITIONS OF CITY OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES OR OTHER CITIZENS; REMINDERS ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY THE CITY OR OTHER ENTITY THAT 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 Wright listed upcoming events and meetings on the City Council calendar. Councilmember Victor Travis gave a reminder regarding the availability of NAACP Scholarship applications.

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



Bob F. Brown, Mayor



Kara Atwood, City Secretary