

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS, HELD ON THE 13TH DAY OF MAY, 1974, AT 5:00 P. M.

On the 13th day of May, 1974, the City Commission of the City of Lufkin, Texas, convened in special meeting in the Council Room at City Hall with the following members thereof, to-wit:

Pitser H. Garrison	Mayor
R. A. Brookshire	Commissioner, Ward No. 1
Pat Foley	Commissioner, Ward No. 2
E. C. Wareing	Commissioner, Ward No. 4
W. O. Ricks, Jr.	Commissioner at Large, Place A
E. G. Pittman	Commissioner at Large, Place B
Harvey Westerholm	City Manager
Robert L. Flournoy	City Attorney
Roger G. Johnson	City Secretary

being present, and

Joe E. Rich	Commissioner, Ward No. 3
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being absent, constituting a quorum, when the following business was transacted:

1. Mayor Garrison welcomed Frank Galloway, Lynn Hill and A. W. Cockrell, Jr., of the Texas Highway Department, who were present regarding special meeting which had been called by the City Commission to discuss an Urban Highway Plan.
2. Mayor Garrison then called on Mr. Frank Galloway who individually introduced representatives of the Texas Highway Department and thanked members of the City Commission for their cooperation in this regard. Mr. Galloway also complimented the City Commission for their fine choice of City personnel who worked with the Texas Highway Department personnel on many occasions.

Mr. Galloway explained that the purpose of this meeting was to inform members of the City Commission about an Urban Highway Plan introduced by the Texas Highway Department, and the disbursements that would be made accordingly, which would be used in the smaller urbanized cities with populations from 5,000 up to 200,000. Mr. Galloway stated that four cities would be eligible, to include Nacogdoches, Crockett, Center and Lufkin, based on \$7.00 per capita for a total amount of \$384,000. Mr. Galloway then informed members of the Commission regarding recommendations for improvement of roadways within the City excluding Highway 59, Highway 69 and Highway 103 West. Mr. Galloway also stated that the West Loop was eligible to include FM 325, Pershing Avenue and Angelina St.

Mayor Garrison called on Mr. Lynn Hill, Design Engineer of the Texas Highway Department, who further explained that since the "TOPICS" program was no longer available from the Texas Highway Department, urban highway money could be utilized for these same type projects. Mr. Hill explained that this program would probably be funded for at least three years.

Members of the Commission asked representatives from the Texas Highway Department a number of questions regarding the Urban Highway Plan. Comm. E. C. Wareing inquired as to what sectors of town Texas Highway Department officials would recommend for improvement due to "bottleneck" conditions. Mr. Galloway explained that from the standpoint of traffic volume, additional two lanes should be considered on the Southwest quadrant of Loop 287 from Highway 94 to the underpass at railroad crossing. It was determined by further questioning, however, that improvement of Loop 287 could be considered under normal highway construction funding.

Mayor Garrison asked Mr. Galloway to describe the City's next most urgent highway problem. Mr. Galloway stated that FM 325 could be developed to serve a considerable amount of traffic to the new Junior High facility and could be developed as a secondary road, but explained that the City must furnish any additional ROW necessary. Mr. Galloway explained that there would be no farm roads in the City by the year 1976 and that same would become urban highways under the Urban Highway Plan. Members of the Commission were reminded to consider priorities for highway improvement in areas where major traffic volume existed.

It was determined from considerable discussion that FM 325 would require a minimum of 80-foot ROW for widening with a desired amount up to 100 feet and only 50 feet was available.

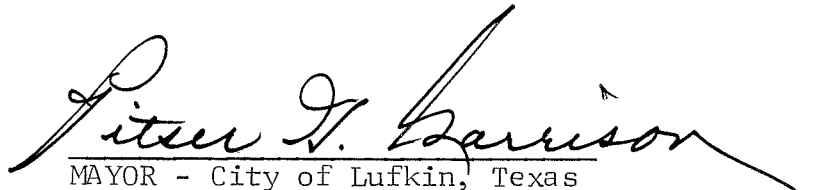
Mayor Garrison asked City Manager Westerholm for his recommendations regarding street improvements on Pershing Avenue or FM 325. City Manager Westerholm stated that he was of the opinion that more traffic volume existed on Pershing Avenue. Considerable discussion developed regarding current ROW acquisition being processed by the City along Pershing Avenue. Mr. Hill informed members of the Commission that in order to qualify for funds, ROW acquisition must be obtained by providing property owners fair market value through appraisals. Mr. Hill also stated that certain public hearings were necessary in addition to previous requirements as stated. Mayor Garrison pointed out the fact that the City was obtaining ROWs along Pershing Avenue in exchange for payment of curb and gutter costs to property owners, which should be a reasonably fair trade. Members of the Commission agreed, however, that further investigations could be made regarding acquisition of ROWs along Pershing Avenue in order to qualify same for consideration under Urban Highway Plan as proposed. Mayor Garrison explained that members of the Commission should make a determination regarding street improvements in order that the Texas Highway Department could establish certain street improvements on a priority basis.

Members of the Commission were in unanimous agreement that priority number one be placed for improvement of Pershing Avenue from Bynum Street to Loop 287. Priority number two received a tie vote on priority between street improvements on FM 325 (Lufkin Avenue) and Angelina Street (Pershing Avenue to Loop 287).

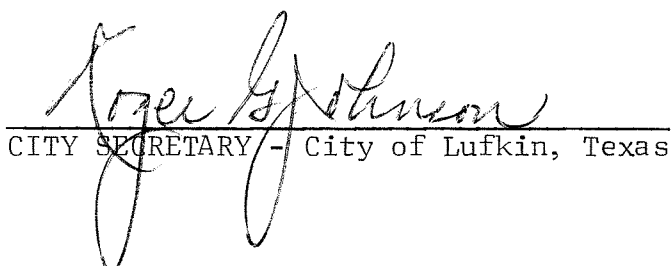
Mayor Garrison explained that Commission's judgement was only advisory and in final analysis the Texas Highway Department would make the best judgement based on traffic volume counts and other available information.

Comm. R. A. Brookshire inquired as to when these funds would be available if approved. Mr. Galloway stated that these funds could be available as early as September of this year, but construction would require considerably more time.

3. There being no further business for consideration, meeting adjourned at 6:05 P. M.


MAYOR - City of Lufkin, Texas

ATTEST:


CITY SECRETARY - City of Lufkin, Texas