

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS, HELD ON THE 18TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1981, AT 5:00 P.M.

On the 18th day of August, 1981, the City Commission of the City of Lufkin, Texas, convened in regular meeting in the Council Room at City Hall with the following members thereof, to-wit:

Percy A. Simond, Jr.	Commissioner, Ward No. 1
Don E. Boyd	Commissioner, Ward No. 2
Bob McCurry	Commissioner, Ward No. 3
Pat Foley	Commissioner, Ward No. 4
Richard Thompson	Commissioner, Ward No. 5
E. C. Wareing	Commissioner, Ward No. 6
Harvey Westerholm	City Manager
Roger G. Johnson	Assistant City Manager
Tommy Deaton	Assistant City Attorney
Ann Griffin	City Secretary

being present, and

Pitser H. Garrison	Mayor
Robert L. Flournoy	City Attorney

being absent when the following business was transacted.

1. Meeting opened with prayer by Father Maurice Linehan of St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Lufkin, Texas.
2. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing welcomed visitors present.
3. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of regular meeting of August 4, 1981, were approved on motion by Commissioner Richard Thompson. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Pat Foley, and a unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

4. Zone Change - Approved - Second Reading - Mrs. Mamie Richards - Agent for George A. Sparks Estate - RL to C

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that zone change application by Mrs. Mamie Richards, agent for George A. Sparks Estate, covering property located on Sandy Lane between Lufkin Avenue and Loop 287 from Residential Large to Commercial, had been approved at last meeting of City Commission. There was no opposition present.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Don Boyd that zone change application be approved on second and final reading of ordinance. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

5. W. J. Harbuck - Proposed City Bus System - Ordinance Approved - Second Reading

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the Ordinance regulating a City Bus System had been approved at last meeting of City Commission with changes to include insurance cancellation provisions and 90 day termination clause. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that City Attorney Flournoy had made the necessary corrections, and the Ordinance was now being considered for second reading.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Richard Thompson that Ordinance regulating City Bus System be approved on second and final reading. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

6. Accounting Department - Proposal of Implementation of Accrual System Alexander & Rogers - Proposal Approved

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that City Commission had received one (1) letter from Axley & Rode, Certified Public Accountants and two (2) letters from Alexander & Rogers, Inc., Certified Public Accountants, stating the advantages and disadvantages of

implementing the Accrual System in the City's Accounting Department.

In response to question by Mayor Pro Tem Wareing, City Manager Westerholm stated that the cost of converting the present accounting system to the accrual system would be approximately \$6,000. City Manager Westerholm further stated that under the accrual system, when an item is ordered the budget is encumbered, and the monthly report will indicate the status of the budget.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that this item was placed on the agenda because both auditing firms recommended that the City convert to the accrual system. City Manager Westerholm stated that subsequent City audits would provide fiscal agents with better information for proposed bond sales.

City Manager Westerholm stated that he recommended the City convert to the Accrual System and that the maximum cost of the conversion be set at \$6,000.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Bob McCurry that City Manager Westerholm be authorized to begin negotiations to convert the City Accounting Department to the accrual system. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

7. Zone Change - Approved - First Reading - L.T. Glover - RL to RS

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that zone change application by L.T. Glover covering property located at 500 Tower Lane between Darecille Street and Fuller Springs Drive from Residential Large to Residential Small had been recommended to City Commission by the Planning & Zoning Commission. There was no opposition present.

Motion was made by Commissioner Richard Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Bob McCurry that zone change be approved on first reading. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

8. Zone Change - Approved - First Reading - Angelina County - CB to CB,SU (Item 1-County Jail)

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that zone change application by Angelina County covering property located at Block 9, Lots 5-12 Original Town Site of Lufkin, on Frank Avenue from Central Business to Central Business, Special Use (Item 1-County Jail) was recommended to City Commission by Planning & Zoning Commission. There was no opposition present.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Don Boyd that zone change be approved on first reading. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

9. Approval of Bids - Stop and Yield Signs - Mounting Hardware for Traffic Control Devices - Public Works Department - Hall Signs

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the City of Lufkin had received a grant for the sign replacement program in the amount of \$9,988.16 for the purchase of traffic signs, but the cost of mounting hardware and labor are the City's share of the program which has been budgeted.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the low bidder was Hall Signs, Bloomington, Indiana, and he would recommend this company receive the bid award.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Percy Simond that the bid be awarded to Hall Signs. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

10. Request to Close Harrell Street - Approved - Public Hearing Set - September 1, 1981

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that a letter had been received from

Robert Poland of Lufkin Industries requesting that Harrell Street from Raguet to Pershing Avenue be closed to allow Luufkin Industries use of their property. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing further stated that the street was not dedicated and the City has only prescriptive right to the street. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that a traffic survey revealed that out of 51 cars traveling the street only 5 were miscellaneous and 46 were on Lufkin Industries business. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that Lufkin Industries will contribute \$100,000 to be used by the City for the improvement of Feagin Drive between Angelina-Pershing intersection and Loop 287, or Pershing Avenue between Southwood Drive and South Loop 287. Lufkin Industries feels this would expedite the improvement of these streets and any traffic inconvenienced by the closing of Harrell Street would receive greater benefits from this improvement.

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the City Commission might want to consider holding a Public Hearing at next regular meeting of Commission to consider closing of Harrell Street as a formality.

Motion was made by Commissioner Richard Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Pat Foley that Public Hearing be set for next regular meeting of Commission, September 1, 1981. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that he appreciated the offer from Lufkin Industries to help in the street improvements of Lufkin.

11. Ordinance Assessing Curb & Gutter - Approved - First Reading - FM 1271

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that an ordinance declaring the need for curb and gutter on FM 1271 and to allow liens to be properly executed to secure payment had been prepared for consideration.

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing further stated that property owners had been contacted and 74% agreed to participate at \$2 per front foot, but the ordinance was a formality to secure that payment.

Motion was made by Commissioner Don Boyd and seconded by Commissioner Percy Simond that ordinance be approved on first reading. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

12. Tax Rate - Establishment of Public Hearing - Approved - Budget for 1981-82

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the City Commission had received a letter from Roy Sinclair, Assessor/Collector, stating the need to establish a proposed tax rate for the new fiscal year and give notice for a public hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the City has changed to 100% valuation by State mandate, and has reduced the tax rate from \$1.45 to .725 per \$100 valuation. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that Lufkin's growth the past year reflects a 13.5652% increase, and the tax rate is not an increase.

Motion was made by Commissioner Richard Thompson and seconded by Commissioner Bob McCurry that the tax rate be advertised in the Lufkin News, and the public hearing be held at next meeting, September 1, 1981. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

13. Hearing Date Established - Annexation & Permanent Zoning - Jimmy C. Amerine

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that Jimmy C. Amerine had requested annexation of a tract of land located contiguous to south City Limits line of U.S. Hwy. 59 south and permanent zoning to Commercial to allow construction of a motel.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bob McCurry and seconded by Commissioner Richard Thompson that Public Hearing be set for next meeting, September 1, 1981. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

14. City Budget - Discussed - Fiscal Year 1981-82

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 1981-82 should be finalized at this meeting to allow submission to the public for a hearing on September 1, 1981. It was decided that each department would be considered separately.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the Library had asked for \$41,000 which is an additional \$1,500 over budgeted amount of \$39,500.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Richard Thompson that the Library budget be increased to \$41,000. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

City Manager Westerholm stated that \$85,000 had been added to the City of Lufkin TMRS Pension plan to provide for ten (10) year vesting, 100% updated service, and matching of retirement funds by the City of 1½ to 1.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that he had a problem with ten (10) year vesting of retirement, and would prefer 20 year vesting.

Motion was made by Commissioner Bob McCurry and seconded by Commissioner Don Boyd that City of Lufkin TMRS Pension be approved as stated to include ten (10) year vesting, 100% updated service, and matching of retirement funds by the City at 1½ to 1. The following vote was recorded: Aye: Commissioners Simond, Boyd, McCurry, Thompson and Wareing; Nay: Commissioner Foley. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing declared motion approved by a vote of 5 to 1.

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing requested that Commissioners be informed about various options available in the retirement system at budget consideration for fiscal year 1982-83.

City Manager Westerholm stated that it had been requested that the allocation of \$2,500 for SNAP be assigned to the Senior Citizens Center. Motion was made by Commissioner Don Boyd and seconded by Commissioner Percy Simond that the budget reflect this change of account designation. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the considerable increase in the Tax Department is due to the anticipated payments to the Central Appraisal District in the amount of \$108,000.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the budget for Data Processing will be less this year because of reduction in personnel by one person and a lower rental rate on the new computer.

City Manager Westerholm stated that Police Department is making application for grants to purchase several new systems, and the expenditures by the City for same would not be made unless the grants are received.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the new ladder truck for the Fire Department is proposed to be purchased with Revenue Sharing Funds.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the Health Department is asking for a 19½% increase for a total of \$22,580.37 because of reductions in federal aid and salary adjustments. It was the consensus of opinion by Commissioners that the Health Department Budget not be increased at this time with the possibility of an increase at Budget Hearing on September 1, 1981.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the Sanitation Department's landfill charges have been increased because the County is now required to buy land to trade to Owens Illinois for a landfill site. The increase is from \$152,000 to \$156,000.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Don Boyd that Sanitation Department budget be increased by \$4,000 for landfill in the preliminary budget. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the Parks Department had added two (2) part time employees. In response to question by Commissioner Don Boyd, Don Hannabas, Parks & Recreation Director, stated that he had \$3,500 in his budget to construct one (1) additional play court for basketball and volleyball at Jones Park, but it was removed when the budget was reviewed.

After much discussion, motion was made by Commissioner Don Boyd and seconded by Commissioner Percy Simond that \$3,500 be added to the Parks & Recreation Budget for construction of one (1) play court at Jones Park. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

During discussion of City Planning Department Budget, Mayor Pro Tem Wareing asked that City Manager Westerholm study the procedure for Annexation & Permanent Zoning requests received from property owners, and recommend a fee to be charged to help offset the cost of advertising.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the Zoo Department was increased by one (1) additional zookeeper, and \$7,500 for construction of an animal isolation building which is needed for the quarantine of new animals. City Manager Westerholm further stated that the additional \$7,500 needed to complete the building would be requested in 1982-83 budget year.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the Civic Center budget reflected an increase of \$16,000 to allow competition with other cities for conventions, and the increase of Hotel-Motel Tax to 4% is recommended. It was the consensus of opinion the Civic Center budget remain as stated in preliminary budget pending review of same.

City Manager Westerholm stated that \$100,000 for contribution to the Exposition Center would have to be allocated from the General Fund and designated contributions under General Government. Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Don Boyd that \$100,000 be budgeted from the General Fund under General Government, Contributions. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

In response to question by Commissioner Percy Simond, City Manager Westerholm stated that Federal Funds for the widening of Lake Street were several years away, and to complete improvements, the City Commission might consider a bond issue.

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the improvements on Lake Street should be considered outside of the budget discussion, and could be considered at a future meeting of City Commission.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that the Commission voted earlier in the year to consider construction of sidewalks on York Avenue for inclusion in the new budget. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the people in the area would not be in favor of sidewalks because too many trees would have to be removed. Commissioner Bob McCurry stated that if the sidewalks were built on York Street, every neighborhood in town would be requesting the construction of sidewalks. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that an estimate of the cost of construction could be obtained, and the matter considered further at a future meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the next item for consideration was the increase in salaries, and that any increase, in his opinion, should be across the board. Commissioner Percy Simond stated that the Police Department is a peculiar breed, and the Corrigan Police Department has higher paid officers than Lufkin. Commissioner Simond further stated that the Police Department should be given a 15% salary increase.

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that the Police Department is a high cost department, which means that it takes more funds for an increase in that department than in other departments. Mayor Pro Tem Wareing further stated that the Commission cannot disregard all the other people that work for the City, and 15% to the Police Department would negate other personnel receiving a raise.

Commissioner Don Boyd stated that the Police Department had a high rate of turnover due to salaries, and the starting pay for a police officer should be \$1,100.

Commissioner Percy Simond stated that a police officer cannot live on \$995 a month.

Mayor Pro Tem Wareing stated that 8% across the board should be given to all employees which is less than the \$350,000 left in the budget for raises.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Richard Thompson that Preliminary Budget be adopted with approved changes, that \$100,000 be set aside for contingency fund, and \$350,000 be reserved for salary adjustments which will be considered for distribution at Public Hearing for budget on September 1, 1981.

Commissioner Bob McCurry requested amendment to motion to specify that 8% salary increase be given across the board. Amendment failed for lack of a second.

A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded on previous motion by Commissioner Pat Foley.

City Manager Westerholm stated that the funds set aside in the Revenue Sharing Budget for Glenn Street would not be used because the property owners wanted to have the cost of Glenn Street improvements covered under a future community development block grant. After much discussion, it was the consensus of opinion by the Commission that money for Glenn Street remain committed in the event property owners decide to proceed with improvements.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Don Boyd that Revenue Sharing Budget be approved as stated. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

15. Resolution Commending Dwayne Humphrey - Approved

City Manager Westerholm stated that Public Works Director, Dwayne Humphrey would be leaving the City of Lufkin effective August 28, 1981. Motion was made by Commissioner Pat Foley and seconded by Commissioner Richard Thompson that a Resolution commending Dwayne Humphrey for a job well done be approved. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

16. There being no further business for consideration, meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.



ATTEST:

E. C. Wareing

E. C. Wareing, Mayor Pro Tem

Ann Griffin

City Secretary