MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS HELD ON THE 6TH DAY OF JUNE, 2017.

On the 6th day of June, 2017 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
Mark Hicks	Mayor Pro Tem
Guessippina Bonner	Councilmember, Ward No. 1
Robert Shankle	Councilmember, Ward No. 2
Lynn Torres	Councilmember, Ward No. 3
Sarah Murray	Councilmember, Ward No. 6
Keith Wright	City Manager
Steve Floyd	Assistant City Manager
Bruce Green	City Attorney
Kara Atwood	City Secretary
Rodney Ivey	Human Resource 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 Department Director
Mike Akridge	Parks & Recreation Director
Barbara Thompson	Main Street Director
Jason Arnold	Water & Sewer Director
Dale Allred	Inspection Services Director
Chuck Walker	Solid Waste Director
Kent Havard	Solid Waste Director

being present and;

Rocky Thigpen	Councilmember, Ward No. 5

Being absent when the following business was transacted.

1. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Brad Minett of Lufkin Seventh Day Adventist Church.

2. Mayor Bob F. Brown welcomed visitors present.

3. **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD MAY 16TH 2017 - APPROVED**

   Councilmember Lynn Torres moved to approve the minutes of the meeting as presented. Councilmember Sarah Murray seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

4. **ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO CITY OF LUFKIN FIREFIGHTERS**

   Mayor Brown issued the Oath of Office to the new Lufkin Firefighters Randy Birdwell, Kyle Davis, Marcelo Rosario and Justin Willoughby.

NEW BUSINESS

5. **PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR EMERGENCY/NON-EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE IN THE CITY OF LUFKIN - APPROVED**

City Manager Wright stated that per City Ordinance, a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for emergency/non-emergency ambulance service must be issued for the operation of the same in the City of Lufkin. City Manager Wright furthered that an ordinance was adopted for non-emergency services within City limits with provisions. City Manager Wright stated that Item No. 5 was the next step in the process. City Manager Wright furthered that currently five (5) applications for a Certificate had been submitted to the City for consideration; however only two (2) of the applications were complete, as the remainder of the applicants did not provide the required information per the application and ordinance. City Manager Wright stated that both Americare and Acadian Ambulance Service of Texas, LLC submitted complete applications.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing at 5:11 p.m.

Americare Customer Service Representative and Business Development Coordinator, Johnny Perry, listed Americare's community involvement contributions.

Mayor Brown thanked Johnny Perry.

Americare President, Ricky Powell spoke on behalf of Americare summarizing paid services, unpaid services, out of town transfers, standby and 911 services. Mr. Powell identified the gap in the services Americare offered and furthered that Americare resolved the issues. Americare President Powell presented a fact sheet to City Council. Ricky Powell offered to answer questions from City Council.

Councilmember Robert Shankle inquired how many ambulances were in operation for Americare. Americare President Powell stated that five (5) units were staffed, with an increase of two (2) units to total seven (7).

Councilmember Hicks inquired about the number of ambulance units staffed and the shift schedules of the ambulance units. Americare President Powell stated that staffing and scheduling was based on call volume.

Councilmember Hicks inquired about the issuance of a six (6) month license as opposed to issuing a twelve (12) month license to allot for improvement in the services Americare provided. Americare President Powell confirmed that a six (6) month license was issued to allow for improvements. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Hicks requested confirmation that in Ricky Powell's' opinion; Americare's singular issue negatively impacting Americare's delivery of service was out of town transfers which pulled Americare's resources away from Lufkin for extended periods of time. Americare President Powell confirmed that the out of town transfers were primarily responsible. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Hicks inquired how staffing could be effectively scheduled to avoid the issues that out of town transfers caused. Americare President Powell responded that staffing was scheduled based on Lufkin's past call volume analysis, which was not always predictable.

Director of Operations, for the Lufkin, Nacogdoches and Polk County Region, Justin Cude spoke on behalf of Americare detailing the variables in meeting daily ambulance service needs. Justin Cude summarized that anticipating the fluctuating needs in Lufkin was a difficult task. Councilmember Hicks requested that Director of Operations Justin Cude list the benefits of choosing Americare over Acadian. Director of Operations Justin Cude summarized why Americare would be a better choice in meeting the ambulance service needs of the Lufkin area highlighting longevity, Texas based operations and Americare's willingness to invest resources into the Lufkin community.

Councilmember Shankle requested to view the letters of recommendation on behalf of Americare. Letters of recommendation and citizen thank you letters were presented to City Council for review.

Mayor Brown inquired if there were others who wished to speak on Item No. 5. Mike Boerne, Regional Vice President of the Southeast Texas area spoke on behalf of Acadian ambulance service. Mike Boerne highlighted Acadian's dedication to community involvement and listed that Acadian had been in business for forty-six (46) years, was employee owned, had a proven history of understanding the needs of a community; hired locally; and was able to back up the ambulance unit gaps, as Acadian staffed fifty (50) ambulance units in the surrounding areas that could be called upon as needed. Mr. Boerne concluded that eleven (11) ambulance units would be locally available to Lufkin.

Councilmember Sarah Murray inquired why Acadian decided to expand into the Lufkin area. Acadian representative Mike Boerne responded that due to permitting restriction issues the opportunity was not previously open to Acadian.

City Manager Wright requested that Fire Chief, Ted Lovett present his recommendation and list the reasons for his recommendation. Fire Chief Lovett stated that his recommendation arose from numerous complaints from the local Emergency Rooms and reports of an overall diminished level of service. Fire Chief Lovett summarized the meetings with Allegiance/Americare Administration held at three month intervals in an effort to address the continued complaints and diminished service. Fire Chief Lovett concluded that following Americare's inability to improve, other options were considered; and although he appreciated everything that Americare stated and invested he hoped that Acadian could offer the level of service that was needed for the City as Americare was not to be able to meet the required level of services.

Councilmember Shankle requested clarification on how Americare backed up its service needs. Fire Chief Lovett responded that Americare utilized the services of other ambulance providers as needed, however those services were not always capable of backing up Americare.

Councilmember Bonner inquired why Chief Lovett felt that Acadian could provide better service than Americare. Chief Lovett stated that the size of Acadian was a contributing factor, as Acadian was a larger company capable of providing more resources. Fire Chief Lovett furthered that the references he contacted provided positive feedback and a record of satisfaction.

Councilmember Bonner inquired of the size of the towns that Acadian serviced in comparison to Lufkin. Chief Lovett responded that most of the towns were smaller located around the Beaumont area.

Councilmember Hicks inquired how Chief Lovett felt about having to make the tough decision presenting his recommendation. Chief Lovett stated that he was the individual that received the weekly complainant phone calls requesting that the City provide an ambulance service that could provide the resources to meet the fluctuating needs of the City.

Councilmember Hicks inquired if Chief Lovett met with Americare administration at intervals to address the complaints utilizing an open line of communication to resolve the service gap issues. Chief Lovett confirmed that meetings were held and the complaints were expressed; however he was of the understanding that Americare did not have available resources to fill the service gaps.

Councilmember Bonner stated that if the City chose Acadian in lieu of Americare, then thirty-eight (38) people would lose their jobs. Councilmember Bonner inquired if Acadian intended to hire locally. Chief Lovett stated that it was his understanding that Acadian intended to hire locally and expressed his hope that those individuals previously working for Americare could transition to Acadian.

Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Shankle inquired regarding the contract between Acadian and the City. City Manager Wright stated that per the Ordinance; expanding the contract to three (3) years was an option and the recommendation, with the understanding of a considerable investment on Acadian's part to the Lufkin community and with the further understanding that the contract would be dissolved in the event that Acadian did not perform as expected.

Councilmember Murray asked if Chief Lovett made a formal protest to the Director of Americare stating that if Americare did not straighten up; they would lose their contract. Chief Lovett confirmed that such a meeting was held with the liaisons between the City and the Americare Representatives, at which time a roadmap of expectations was presented and monitored for accountability.

There being no one else who wished to speak Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing at 5:37 p.m.

Councilmember Hicks requested Acadian Representative Mike Boerne to come forward and inquired about the applicants Acadian accepted and how those applicants were processed. Mr. Boerne stated that during the hiring process it was made clear to the applicants that Acadian was under consideration by the City and not yet approved. Mr. Boerne furthered that Acadian sought to increase new hires from the Lufkin area. Councilmember Hicks stated that he felt the decision at hand was not an easy decision to make as someone losing their job was a big deal. Councilmember Hicks further expressed his understanding that a time frame was provided to resolve the issues and the issues were not resolved. Councilmember Hicks stated his confidence in Chief Lovett's ability to make the recommendation and further expressed his confidence in Chief Lovett's team.

Councilmember Hicks moved to approve the issuance of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for emergency/non-emergency ambulance service to Acadian as presented. Councilmember Torres seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

6. **CONSIDER ALL MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF "CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS, GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2017", INCLUDING THE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS, ESTABLISHING PARAMETERS FOR THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS AND DELEGATING CERTAIN MATTERS TO AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY - APPROVED**

City Manager Wright stated that a similiar Ordinance was previously approved during the November 15, 2016 meeting; however, the time limits on refunding the bonds had expired. City Manager Wright furthered that the bonds were not issued during the allotted time due to a change in market conditions that caused unfavorable interest rates. City Manager Wright stated that the issuance was delayed in order to ensure the City received the savings set out by the parameters in the Bond Ordinance. City Manager Wright furthered that the current market conditions had changed favorably and the City's Financial Advisor felt the City should now pursue the issuance of the bonds. City Manager Wright stated that Staff recommended City Council approve the refinancing of the bonds subject to the same parameters provided in Council's packets. City Manager Wright highlighted the present value savings of 2.99 million over the course of the bonds. City Manager Wright listed the provisions as follows: the aggregate original principal amount of the Bonds shall not exceed $10,000,000; the refunding must produce a present value savings of at least 5.50%, net of any City Contribution; the true interest cost rate for the Bonds shall not exceed 2.50%; and the maximum maturity date for the Bonds shall not exceed August 15, 2031. City Manager Wright stated that Staff recommended City Council authorize the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds and approve the Ordinance with the motion: *"I move to adopt the Ordinance authorizing the issuance of "City of Lufkin, Texas, General*

Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2017" establishing parameters for the sale and issuance of such bonds and delegating certain matters to authorized City Officials". City Manager Wright stated that the authorized City Officials would be City Manager Wright and Finance Director Belinda Southern.
Councilmember Torres moved to approve the issuance of the "City of Lufkin, Texas, General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017" as presented. Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

7. **PURCHASE OF A 2017 FORD TAURUS FOR THE LUFKIN POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $20,631.25 – APPROVED**

City Manager Wright stated that during the recent storm a tree fell on a City vehicle and damaged the vehicle beyond repair. City Manager Wright furthered that the Police Department requested to purchase a 2017 Ford Taurus to replace Unit No. 350W-20. City Manager Wright stated that the vehicle would be purchased through the Tarrant County State Contract from Silsbee Ford in the amount of $20,631.25. City Manager Wright concluded that Staff recommended City Council approve the purchase of the 2017 Ford Taurus in the amount of $20,631.25 form Silsbee Ford Sales.

Councilmember Bonner moved to approve the purchase as presented. Councilmember Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

8. **PURCHASE OF THREE (3) FORD INTERCEPTOR EXPLORER SUV'S FOR THE LUFKIN POLICE DEPARTMENT SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION IN THE AMOUNT OF $76,176.75 - APPROVED**

City Manager Wright stated that current vehicles driven by the Special Services Street Crimes Supervisor and Investigator are seized vehicles.. City Manager Wright furthered that in lieu of using the seized vehicles the City was considering providing quality vehicles for use as one of the vehicles had well over 100,000 miles of use already. City Manager Wright stated that the Police Department wished to purchase three (3) Ford Interceptor (Explorer) SUV's and the SUV's, which would be of the heavy duty, patrol rated and left unmarked. City Manager Wright furthered that funding for the vehicles was available in the Police Department Forfeiture Funds budget. City Manager Wright stated that pricing for the vehicles was obtained through the current Tarrant County State Contract from Silsbee Ford Fleet Sales in the amount of $25,392.25 each for a total cost of $76,176.75. City Manager Wright concluded that Staff recommended City Council approve the purchase of three (3) Ford Interceptor Explorer SUV's for the Lufkin Police Department Special Services Division in the amount of $76,176.75 from Silsbee Ford Fleet Sales.

Councilmember Hicks requested clarification regarding the change from the Tahoe to the Ford Explorer SUV. Police Chief Gerald Williamson summarized the cost of the vehicles in relation to the build and intended use of the vehicles. Chief Williamson stated that the cost of the Ford Explorer was significantly less than the cost of the Tahoe and the Explorer would suffice in meeting the intended use.

Councilmember Bonner moved to approve the purchases as presented. Councilmember Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

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

City Manager Wright detailed various upcoming City sponsored and community events.

10. There being no more business to address the meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Bob F. Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kara Atwood, City Secretary