

CARL HARBERT <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	DAVID RUTLEDGE <i>Mayor</i>	DANNY HARRINGTON <i>Council Member, Place 4</i>
MIKE REED <i>Council Member, Place 2</i>		TERRI GAUTHIER <i>Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member, Place 5</i>
TAMMI FISETTE <i>Council Member, Place 3</i>		LUCY FIELDS <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF BRIDGE CITY

March 3, 2020

The City Council of Bridge City met in a regular session on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at the City Hall of Bridge City, 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier called the City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:

Council Member Carl Harbert
 Council Member Mike Reed
 Council Member Tammi Fisetta
 Council Member Danny Harrington
 Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier
 Council Member Lucy Fields

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT: Mayor David Rutledge

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Jerry D. Jones
 City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
 City Attorney Paul Fukuda
 Personnel/Purchasing Director Mitzi Nolan
 Police Chief Paul Davis
 Assistant Utility Superintendent Mike Die
 Public Works Director Mike Lund
 Natalie Pruitt

2. INVOCATION

Invocation given by City Attorney Paul Fukuda.

3. PLEDGE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE STATE OF TEXAS FLAG

Mayor Rutledge led in the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag and to the State of Texas flag. At the conclusion of the pledges, Mayor Rutledge thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Reed.

With no corrections, additions, or deletions, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisetette, Harrington and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mayor Rutledge.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

(a) City Manager

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report for Council:

1. Most of the projects we have talked about at every council meeting has not gotten off the ground yet. It is still too wet, but the contractors are ready to start the jobs. The City Staff has talked to a couple of the contractors and they are trying to get in to start the projects, but they cannot get enough dry weather.
2. The City Staff met with the Drainage District in preparation for the drainage grant, the \$3M the City was awarded, they will dove tail the information needed with LJA Engineers. The Drainage District will start the drainage study in Bridge City, and as it is funded they will continue to go north. The Drainage District was real excited the City had the money to get it started. Also, when the Study is finished, the City will still have the \$2.5M to address some of the major issues we have. The Drainage District will be instrumental in identifying the problems. Mr. Jones said when the other projects are started he will let City Council know.

(b) City Council

Council Member Carl Harbert

None.

Council Member Mike Reed

None.

Council Member Tammi Fisetette said she was able to do some ride outs, go around town and was able to meet the new Animal Control Officer. He is a real nice gentleman, and I would like to welcome him to the Bridge City family.

Council Member Danny Harrington said he received a citizen's request from Mr. Kenneth Prosperie on a drainage issue at his house. The problem is being looked into at this moment, and it will be repaired. Council Member Harrington said he visited with Mr. Prosperie quite a while on the phone over the weekend, the City is waiting on better weather to take care of Mr. Prosperie's problem. Council Member Harrington said Mr. Prosperie is aware it is being taken care of.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier said the Mayor asked her to make the Council aware of the TML Region 16 Meeting on April 2 at Lamar State College – Orange. The Mayor and myself encourages everyone to attend and please let Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary know after the meeting if you will be attending.

Council Member Lucy said the Census is getting ready to come out and everyone will be getting it on Friday, March 13. Council Member Fields is encouraging everyone to answer the Census. Council Member Fields said the Chamber of Commerce has a new Director, Debra Graham, and she would like to invite Ms. Graham to a meeting so City Council can meet her since the City and the Chamber work so closely.

(c) City Staff Report

None.

Student Representative:

None.

City Attorney Paul Fukuda

None.

Library

Kelli Miller, Library Clerk said the Census will be at the Library every Monday starting March 16 – April 20. Citizens can come by and use the computers to fill out the Census forms.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier asked Ms. Miller if she would have the information on the Library Facebook Page.

Ms. Miller said that it will be on the Library's Facebook Page.

(d) Mayor

Mayor David Rutledge had the following report:

Absent

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve minutes of the February 18, 2020 City Council Meeting

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2020 City Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member Harrington.

With no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fiset, Harrington and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mayor Rutledge.

(b) Consideration and possible action on a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to approve the Preliminary Plat application from Robert Staker from Cardinal Heights Subdivision, located in the City Limits of Bridge City, and described as lot three (3) and parts of two (2) and four (4) block one (1) Lakeside Farms

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission on the Preliminary Plat application from Robert Staker from Cardinal Heights Subdivision, seconded by Council Member Harrington.

Mr. Jones said it was a small subdivision with 8 lots and Mr. Staker has visited with Mike Lund on the water and sewer. The homes will be the Acadian style houses, which will be up off the ground because that area is close to the marsh. Also, Mr. Staker can have any type home he wants to build. The Planning and Zoning Commission approved the plat, then the City Council approves it before the final plat is approved.

Council Member Fields asked if the subdivision is required to have a retention pond like the other subdivisions starting up in Bridge City.

Mr. Jones said this will have to go, as all other subdivisions, through the Drainage District.

Mr. Samuel Fountain, Engineer said he has already gotten an approval from Orange County Drainage District. The design is called linear detention around the property and what it does all the water sheds to the detention and it acts as a detention pond, it fills up and slowly releases into the side ditches, along the street and then drains out.

Mr. Jones said all subdivisions in the City, as of this past year, has to go through the Drainage District before it is approved. So, regardless whether it is 8 lots or 100 lots, it goes through the Drainage District, they review it, they make a proposal and it comes back to the City with their blessings before approval.

Council Member Fields asked how many homes will be built.

Mr. Jones said eight, it is eight lots, and there is a plat in the council packet.

Council Member Fields asked so they are all going to be up high.

Mr. Jones said he doesn't have any idea what they are going to do. He said when you approve the subdivision, they can go back and change those and put whatever they want, but the one thing they would have to adhere to is the heights requirements through the floodplain. So, they

can do that by raising the slab, they can do it by putting it on pilings, but if it is beach style homes, they will have to go through variances through the Board of Adjustment.

Mr. Fountain said the concept for these homes for Mr. Staker is to make beach style houses.

Mr. Jones said all of this will come back to the City, because if they are above, like the small houses on Bland Street, they will have to have the Planning and Zoning Board approval up to beach style houses. He said the City will address all of that as Mr. Staker comes with permit requests.

Council Member Fields said she drove by and she was trying to figure where the houses were going to go and what type of homes. She also asked if they would be single family homes.

Mr. Jones said yes that is a single family dwelling area.

Mr. Prosperie asked Mr. Fountain what the elevation was.

Mr. Fountain said the back of the property was at 8.5' and the front of property is almost 5'. It drops significantly, so that is why he wanted to build beach style homes.

Mr. Prosperie also asked Mr. Fountain is it going to force drainage on some else.

Mr. Fountain said no, the drainage retention he has designed will hold 100 year plus.

Mr. Prosperie said he does not know where it is, so he doesn't know how it is designed, but he asked if there were homes around it already.

Mr. Fountain said there is not really any homes around it, but the water comes to the road then goes out towards Bailey's Road.

Council Member Fisetete asked Mr. Fountain if he could explain linear detention, what is that your building.

Mr. Fountain said linear detention is, what we are doing is essentially taking a detention pond and stretching it out and making it skinny. He said say you have a 10' x 10' detention pond, but instead of having that 10' x 10', we will make it 2' x 100'. It will have the same about of detention in it, but we are taking it and lengthening the time that it takes the water to get to there and drain out. It alleviates and lowers the amount of water that will be leaving the area.

Council Member Fisetete asked is this something that will be all the way down one side, all the way down the back, all the way around.

Mr. Fountain said yes, it goes all the way around.

Council Member Fisetete said you said it could be 100' by 2', is that what you plan.

Mr. Fountain said no, the property is 400' long, it's in the drainage report that he turned in, but he does not have it with him right now, he said the ditch itself is almost 1200' long.

Mr. Jones said it was 465' on each side.

Mr. Fountain asked Mr. Jones what the length down the back was.

Mr. Jones said 411'.

Mr. Fountain said so we are looking at 1300' – 1400' linear feet and it is pretty wide as well.

Mr. Jones said those calculations are put together by the Drainage District, and they are the ones that have to figure the calculations to give the City a letter of approval.

Council Member Fisetete asked Mr. Fountain so that is not a recommendation that comes from him to the Drainage District.

Mr. Fountain said yes it does comes from him to the Drainage District and the Drainage District reviews everything and approves the drainage plan, then once Mr. Staker starts building the

pond, he will inspect it to make sure it has been installed accordingly to his plan and write a letter of recommendation to the Drainage District for them to accept.

Mr. Jones said they can have anything they want for a detention pond, they design it, but if the Drainage District says it will not work then it will have to be changed. Anytime they turn in a set of plans, it will have their calculations on it. The City lets the Drainage District approve the plans and calculations for us.

Council Member Fisetta said yes, but she had questions, like Lucy, because going off what you told us the detention ponds is the new norm and it would be required on any subdivision, kind of like Ferry Drive. Ferry Drive has a subdivision, the gentleman on Ferry on the right will be required to also have a detention pond in his plan.

Mr. Jones said his is a different type. Mr. Staker's is a detention pond but more like a ditch detention. It will hold the same amount of water that is required for the area of the runoff. It is like a square pond and they could do the same thing on Ferry Drive. It is expensive to do the ditch all the way around, it is a lot easier to dig a pond in one spot and cheaper really.

Council Member Fisetta said the two foot is concerning.

Mr. Jones said well he says two foot but the Drainage District may say it has to be three foot. Whatever design they come up with will adequately handle the water runoff. The City will have the letter before he can do it.

Council Member Fisetta asked if the Council will vote on it again.

Mr. Jones said no before the Planning and Zoning votes on it, because they do the final plat. He said this is the Council's final chance. The Planning and Zoning Commission will need the letter before they vote on the final plat.

Council Member Fields asked if the City has had any protest for this particular subdivision.

Mr. Jones said it is in the preliminary state and we have not heard from anyone.

Council Member Fisetta asked if the City has sent out letters or is it even needed.

Mr. Jones said no.

Council Member Fisetta said the neighbors probably don't even know anything is going up there. Mr. Jones said maybe not, but it is not required that the City send out notices regarding a subdivision.

Council Member Harbert asked if there is a fence going to be around the subdivision.

Mr. Jones said they can, but it is not required. It is in a single family dwelling district and it is single families so there is no separation required. The fencing has to be there if you are in a commercial zone and residential is around the subdivision, then you have to fence off the difference between the two.

Council Member Harbert asked what about the residents behind Subway.

Mr. Jones said Subway is commercial and the neighborhood is residential, so they would have to have a fence. He said you have commercial use and you have residential. If you have commercial use, it has to be separated from the residential because it is more private, that's your house you don't want it interrupting your lifestyle. In the zoning ordinance, it reads if you have commercial property adjacent to residential it will need to be fenced. In this case, it is residential to residential, so it would not be required to have a fence.s

With no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisetite, Harrington and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mayor Rutledge.

10. ADJOURN

Council Member Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 p.m., seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no further discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisetite, Harrington and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Mayor Rutledge.

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary