

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 REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF BRIDGE CITY

April 21, 2020

The City Council of Bridge City met in a regular session on Thursday, April 21, 2020, via telephone conference with the Mayor at the City Hall of Bridge City, 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rutledge called the City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. INVOCATION

Invocation given by City Attorney Paul Fukuda.

3. IDENTIFICATION OF A QUORUM (ROLL CALL)

CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:

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

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT: None.

The City Staff present but was not part of the roll call is as follows:

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Jerry D. Jones
City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
City Attorney Paul Fukuda
Finance Director Karen Morgan
Captain Tod McDowell

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 Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes:

Mayor David Rutledge	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier	Yes
Council Member Harbert	Yes
Council Member Reed	Yes
Council Member Fisette	Yes
Council Member Harrington	Yes
Council Member Fields	Yes

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM:

(a) City Manager Report

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report:

1. Manholes – contractor has completed six and four has been called in to start.
2. Center Street Ditch – Contractor is about 60% finished.
3. Roadside Ditches – Contractor is working on those now.
4. Sewer Plant – waiting on platform for filter press, which should arrive this week.
5. City Crews – are working, and they are having quite a few calls.
6. Fireplugs – waiting on the Texas Water Development Board to approve the plans and let the City go out for bids.

(b) City Council Report

Council Member Carl Harbert said several citizens have asked if the City could have the election signs taken down until a later date, since the elections have been moved to November. Also, the contractors doing the ditches that are here are doing a great job.

Mayor Rutledge said the City will check into taking the signs down, not sure if we can take them down legally.

Council Member Mike Reed said he would like to thank the Council and City employees for the plant sent for his mother. He also said it is really appreciated.

Council Member Tammi Fiset

None.

Council Member Danny Harrington

None.

Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier

None.

Council Member Lucy Fields

None.

(c) **City Staff Report**

City Attorney Paul Fukuda

None.

Miscellaneous City Staff:

None.

(d) **Mayor**

Mayor David Rutledge had the following report:

According to HB 3834 passed by the Legislature this past session, everyone that has contact with a computer that touches the City's computer system in any way, which will be all City Hall employees and Council Members will also need to take the course. There is a cybersecurity training course that will have to be given to you sometime when we get back together again. It will be due no later than June 15, 2020.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Robbie Kelcher

1035 Charlotte

Mr. Kelcher said he had a question for the Council.

City Attorney Paul Fukuda told Mr. Kelcher he can tell the Council anything he would like, but they will not be able to answer any questions. The law does not provide for them to answer questions unless it is on the agenda to discuss, but they can hear what you are saying. They may give you feed back after the meeting from one of the City Officials.

Mr. Kelcher told Mr. Fukuda he understood the process, but it is still a question for the Council if someone wants to give feed back to him that would be great.

Mr. Kelcher said he would like to address that Mr. Cash made a presentation to the Council about a housing development that is taking place to the north of Charlotte Road. In his presentation, there were certain restrictions and requirements in order to develop that property. They have been bringing quite a bit of dirt over to the property in the last two to three weeks and I recently learned Mr. Cash sold that property. He said he would like to know if the new owner is being held to the same restrictions and requirements that Mr. Cash had that the Council agreed to, and we all kind of agreed that was the be best way to approach this new housing development that is being built. He also said that is just really what he was wondering if the new owner is being held to the old requirements that Mr. Cash was being held to. That is what he really wanted to know, because they are building, they have brought in quite a number of loads of dirt. The property is being raised probably two to three foot, and I was just wondering if that is being done. And if so, is there someone from the City that is following this to ensure they do what was Mr. Cash's requirements?

Mayor Rutledge told Mr. Kelcher that the City Staff would get back with him after they follow up on it tomorrow.

Mr. Cash asked Mayor Rutledge if he needed his phone number.

Mayor Rutledge said he did.

Mr. Cash gave the Mayor Rutledge his phone number.

6. ORDINANCE

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2020-03 denying the rate increase request of Entergy Texas, Inc. filed on March 31, 2020

Mr. Fukuda read the caption of Ordinance No. 2020-03, thereby constituting the reading of the ordinance as required by City Charter, Section 3.10.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-03 denying the rate increase request of Entergy Texas, Inc filed on March 31, 2020, seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Votes were orally given as follows:

MAYOR DAVID RUTLEDGE	Yes
MAYOR PRO-TEM TERRI GAUTHIER	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER CARL HARBERT	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER MIKE REED	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER TAMMI FISETTE	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER DANNY HARRINGTON	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER LUCY FIELDS	Yes

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

6. RESOLUTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2020-07(R) adopting the City of Bridge City residential homestead exemptions for the 2020 tax year

Mr. Fukuda read the entirety of Resolution No. 2020-07(R), adopting the City of Bridge City residential homestead exemptions for the 2020 tax year

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-07(R) adopting the residential homestead exemptions, seconded by Council Member Harrington.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Votes were orally given as follows:

MAYOR DAVID RUTLEDGE	Yes
MAYOR PRO-TEM TERRI GAUTHIER	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER CARL HARBERT	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER MIKE REED	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER TAMMI FISETTE	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER DANNY HARRINGTON	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER LUCY FIELDS	Yes

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

**(a) Consideration and possible action to approve minutes of the following meetings:
March 17, 2020 City Council Meeting
March 26, 2020 City Council Meeting**

Council Member Harrington made a motion to approve March 17, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes and March 26, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes, seconded by Council Member Harbert.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Votes were orally given as follows:

MAYOR DAVID RUTLEDGE	Yes
MAYOR PRO-TEM TERRI GAUTHIER	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER CARL HARBERT	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER MIKE REED	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER TAMMI FISETTE	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER DANNY HARRINGTON	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER LUCY FIELDS	Yes

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve the City Bills for the month of March 2020

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the City Bills for the month of March 2020, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier.

Council Member Harbert said look on page 28, he then asked if the City is spending another \$1,900 on the gradall. He also asked if City Staff is cleaning ditches or tearing down houses with this gradall.

Mr. Jones said City Staff is cleaning ditches with this gradall, and if the City has enough money he will consider putting a new machine in the budget.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Votes were orally given as follows:

MAYOR DAVID RUTLEDGE	Yes
MAYOR PRO-TEM TERRI GAUTHIER	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER CARL HARBERT	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER MIKE REED	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER TAMMI FISETTE	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER DANNY HARRINGTON	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER LUCY FIELDS	Yes

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(c) Consideration and possible action to extend the Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster

Council Member Harrington made a motion to extend the Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster, seconded by Council Member Reed.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Votes were orally given as follows:

MAYOR DAVID RUTLEDGE	Yes
MAYOR PRO-TEM TERRI GAUTHIER	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER CARL HARBERT	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER MIKE REED	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER TAMMI FISETTE	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER DANNY HARRINGTON	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER LUCY FIELDS	Yes

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

10. ADJOURN

Council Member Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m., seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Votes were orally given as follows:

MAYOR DAVID RUTLEDGE	Yes
MAYOR PRO-TEM TERRI GAUTHIER	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER CARL HARBERT	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER MIKE REED	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER TAMMI FISETTE	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER DANNY HARRINGTON	Yes
COUNCIL MEMBER LUCY FIELDS	Yes

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary