

AARON ROCCAFORTE <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	DAVID RUTLEDGE <i>Mayor</i> 	PATTY COLLINS <i>Council Member, Place 4</i>
MIKE REED <i>Mayor Pro-Tem / Council Member, Place 2</i>		TERRI GAUTHIER <i>Council Member, Place 5</i>
TAMMI FISETTE <i>Council Member, Place 3</i>		SHERBY DIXON <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF BRIDGE CITY
January 17, 2023

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at the City Hall of Bridge City, 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Rutledge called the City Council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor David Rutledge
Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Reed
Council Member Aaron Roccaforte
Council Member Tammi Fisette
Council Member Patty Collins
Council Member Terri Gauthier
Council Member Sherby Dixon

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
City Attorney Paul Fukuda
Chief Tod McDowell
Assistant Chief Robert Bergeron
Personnel/Purchasing Kim Tucker
Public Works Director Mike Lund
Utility Superintendent Mike Die
Finance Director Shelley Fields
Community Develop. Coordinator Natalie Pruitt
Code Enforcement Officer Justin Trahan
Utility Clerk Gloria Aguilar
Sr. Utility Clerk Erin Smith
Utility Clerk/Financial Assistant Brooke Leger

2. INVOCATION

Following the invocation given by Council Member Patty Collins.

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 THE AGENDA

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Fisette.

With no changes, discussion, or alterations, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Reed, Council Members Roccaforte, Fisette, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Kenneth Prosperie
819 Sunnyside
Bridge City, TX 77611

Mr. Prosperie said he had been hearing rumors and he was actually going to talk to Mr. Walker, but saw he was not there. He read a letter he wrote to Mr. Walker and it was as follows:

“Mr. Walker, I’m hearing rumors you are resigning. If you are, I sure hope no one is pressuring to do anything unethical or illegal. I have been told you’re a very studious person who spends time reading and studying up on all issues before making any judgments. This is exactly what Bridge City needs. I am leaving you a contact number just in case you need it. You were given an almost impossible task with all the problems left through the years that were ignored.

I sure hope the whole Council has individually approached Mr. Walker to ask you what is actually happening.”

He said it did not make sense to him. Thank you. He asked to please record the letter in the records.

6. REPORTS & COMMENTS

(a) City Manager

None.

(b) City Council

Council Member Tammi Fisette said she would like to welcomed Justin Trahan, Code Enforcement Officer and Gloria Aguilar, Utility Clerk.

Council Member Terri Gauthier said asked if the City bought a table for the City Council to the Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet.

Shelley Fields, Director of Finance said the City bought a table.

(c) Miscellaneous Staff

Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary:

This is just a reminder:

1. Tomorrow will be the first day for filing an application for a place on the ballot.
2. Friday, February 17 will be the last day for filing an application for a place on the ballot.
3. Thursday, February 23 we will draw for order of names on the ballot and that will be here at City Hall at 5:30 p.m.

Mike Lund, Director of Public Works:

1. The contractors who have been working on the well have come back to Sunnyside and would be preparing to pump water for the 36 hour test. He said they would start the 36 hour test any day.
2. City employees have started on the medians and the one on Lake Street is now dug out and later this week, weather permitting, they will pour the concrete.
3. The metering system is still underway, and 1,000 meters have been changed out. He said the City is seeing very good results.
4. The County would be spraying for mosquitos.
5. He introduced the new code enforcement officer to the Council.

(d) Mayor David Rutledge report:

1. Announced Mike Lund is now a Certified Flood Plan Manager.

7. ORDINANCE

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2023-01 ordering the City of Bridge City General Election to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023

(La Consideración y la posibilidad de acción para Ordenanza No 2023-01 ordenando la Elección General en la Ciudad de Bridge City que tendrá cabo el sábado, el 6 de mayo del 2023)

Mr. Fukuda read the caption only of Ordinance No. 2023-01, thereby constituting the reading of the ordinance as required by City Charter, Section 3.10.

Council Member Collins made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2023-01 ordering the General Election to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023, seconded by Council Member Roccaforte.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Reed, Council Members Roccaforte, Fisetete, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

8. RESOLUTIONS

- (a) *Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2023-06(R) authorizing the submittal of a 2022/2023 Flood Mitigation Assistance application to the Texas Water Development Board and authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to act as the City's Authorized Representatives in all matters pertaining to the application*

Mr. Fukuda read Resolution No. 2023-06(R), in its entirety, authorizing the submittal of a 2022/2023 Flood Mitigation Assistance application to the TWDB and authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to act as the City's authorized representatives in all matters pertaining to the application.

Council Member Collins made a motion to accept Resolution No. 2023-06(R) authorizing the submittal of a 2022/2023 Flood Mitigation Assistance application to the TWDB and authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to act as the City's authorized representatives in all matters pertaining to the application, seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Reed, Council Members Roccaforte, Fisetete, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

- (a) *Consideration and possible action to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2023 City Council Meeting*

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 3, 2023 City Council Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

With no changes, discussion, or alterations, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Reed, Council Members Roccaforte, Fisetete, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve the Bill lists for December 2022

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the bill list for December 2022, seconded by Council Member Dixon

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Reed, Council Members Roccaforte, Fisette, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(c) Consideration and possible action to enter into a Joint Election Agreement Services Contract between LaDonna Alford, Orange County Elections Administrator and the City of Bridge City, Texas to supervise and conduct the General Election to be held on May 6, 2023

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to enter into a Joint Election Agreement Services Contract with LaDonna Alford, Orange County Elections Administrator to supervise and conduct the General Election to be held on May 6, 2023, seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Reed, Council Members Roccaforte, Fisette, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

WORKSHOP SESSION

10. WORKSHOP SESSION – DISCUSSION ONLY

(a) Discussion of the mural design on the Bridge City Public Library

The City Council discussion was if they would like to do anything different with the mural design presented to them. Mayor Rutledge said if there was anything on the artwork the Council would like to discuss, please bring it to Mr. Lund. He said when it was put on the agenda for a vote, the Council would have the amount it would cost, they would know what they wanted on the mural, and they would make their final decision.

ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP SESSION – DISCUSSION ONLY

(a) Discuss matters related to filling the City Manager's position

Mayor Rutledge said there would be a lot of options as they go forward in their search for a new city manager. He said at the next meeting they would have a more formal discussion and they would decide on an option. Mayor Rutledge explained the options to hire a new city manager such as they could do the same as last year or the Council could hire a professional search firm.

Mayor Rutledge said they would need to discuss the hiring of an Interim City Manager. He named the different options for an Interim City Manager, such as hiring a retired City Manager, ask if there was a pool of City Manager's that would contract for a couple of months or in house employees.

Mayor Rutledge said these topics would be on the agenda to decide on how to proceed with hiring a new city manager. A workshop to discuss would be first then an agenda item for action would follow.

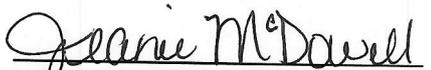
11. ADJOURN

Mayor Rutledge adjourned the meeting at 6:37 p.m.



David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary

