

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

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BRIDGE CITY**  
**June 20, 2023**

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at the City Hall of Bridge City, 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:**

- Mayor David Rutledge
- Council Member Aaron Roccaforte
- Council Member Bryant Champagne
- Council Member Patty Collins
- Council Member Terri Gauthier
- Council Member Sherby Dixon

**CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:** Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Reed

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

- City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
- City Attorney Paul Fukuda
- Finance Director Karen Morgan
- Chief Tod McDowell
- Personnel/Purchasing Director Kim Tucker
- Interim City Manager/Public Works Director Mike Lund
- Utility Superintendent Mike Die
- Community Development Coordinator Natalie Pruitt

**2. INVOCATION**

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Following the invocation given by Council Member Terri Gauthier.

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

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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

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

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

#### MOTION CARRIED.

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Council Members Roccaforte, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

#### 5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

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None.

#### 6. REPORTS & COMMENTS

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##### (a) *City Manager*

**Interim City Manager/Public Works Director Mike Lund** had the following report for Council:

1. Sunnyside Well – work should begin on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Lund and Jared with LJA held a pre-construction meeting and found there was a problem with the electrical. He said one of the main components had to be ordered and it would be a two year wait, but they changed things around so they could receive it in 6 to 8 months.
2. Chevron Phillips – would like to know if the Council would like them to come to a meeting and explain the details of the construction on Hwy. 87.

##### (b) *City Council*

**Council Member Bryant Champagne** said he would like to thank Mr. Lund for with visiting him and answering his questions the last few times he has called. He said it was a great idea to get out in the public and advertise the big projects the City was working on. He said he would love to see Chevron come and visit with them, so they could answer questions that were asked to them by the citizens.

**Council Member Terri Gauthier** said Bridge City Chamber of Commerce has a scavenger hunt in progress for the local businesses in Bridge City. The citizens would go into the businesses and scan their QR code for clues. She said each business could give them a gift for an incentive to revisit their place of business. She asked the Council to go to the Chamber's Facebook page like and share it so more citizens could get involved in the scavenger hunt. She said the grand prize is \$500 for the person who solves the most clues.

**(c) City Staff**

**Chief Tod McDowell:**

He said he hired a new officer that started on Monday, June 19, 2023. He said they also hired a part-time dispatcher that also started on Monday. He said they also hired three cadets and they were working on getting all their paperwork and equipment ready for them to begin the Academy on July 31, 2023.

**(d) Mayor David Rutledge report:**

None.

**7. RESOLUTION**

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- (a) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2023-18(R) joining the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas in support of the Tribes of Texas Equal Fair Opportunity Act and urgently request those who represent Texas in the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate work to enact legislation into law**

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-18(R) to join the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas in support of the Tribes of Texas Equal Fair Opportunity Act and urgently request those who represent Texas in the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate work to enact legislation into law, seconded by Council Member Collins.

Kimberly Cline, Herb Johnson and Yolanda thanked the City Council for their support.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Council Members Roccaforte, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

**8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION**

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- (a) Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the Insurance Committee for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to purchase Employee Medical, Employee Dental and Employee Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance**

Council Member Aaron Roccaforte made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Insurance Committee for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to renew the health, dental, and Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance with United Health Care, seconded by Council Member Collins.

After discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Council Members Roccaforte, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

- (b) Consideration and possible action to approve the following minutes:**  
**June 6, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting**  
**June 13, 2023 City Council Special Meeting**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the June 6, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting minutes, and June 13, 2023 City Council Special Meeting minutes, seconded by Council Member Dixon.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Council Members Roccaforte, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

- (c) Consideration and possible action to approve the Bill list for May 2023**

Council Member Collins made a motion to approve the Bill list for May 2023, seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

After discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Council Members Roccaforte, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

- (d) Consideration and possible action to appoint a member to the City Planning and Zoning Commission due to a vacancy**

Council Member Collins made a motion to appoint Gina Mannino to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission due to a vacancy, seconded by Council Member Dixon.

With no other nominations or discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Council Members Roccaforte, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

**(e) Consideration and possible action on potential rescheduling/cancellation of the July 4, 2023 City Council Meeting**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to cancel the July 4, 2023 City Council meeting, seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Council Members Roccaforte, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

**WORKSHOP SESSION**

**9. WORKSHOP ITEM FOR DISCUSSION ONLY**

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**(a) Discussion of the City of Bridge City's current practices concerning temporary food service establishments**

After discussion, the consensus was the Council would like to create an ordinance for Mobile food units to come into the City to sell food. They thought it would attract visitors into the city, but were concerned how it would impact the brick and mortar restaurants.

City Attorney Paul Fukuda suggested to the Mayor and Council to put a committee together for the research and then make recommendations to the Council.

**(b) Public Information Act training for the City Council**

The Mayor and City Council watched a video on the Public Information Act. The Council Members were presented with a certificate of completion after the video.

**11. ADJOURN**

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Mayor Rutledge adjourned the meeting at 7:17p.m.

*David Rutledge*

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Jeanie McDowell*

Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary

