

<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**  
**September 19, 2023**

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 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  
Mayor Pro-Tem Mike Reed  
Council Member Aaron Roccaforte  
Council Member Bryant Champagne  
Council Member Patty Collins  
Council Member Terri Gauthier  
Council Member Sherby Dixon

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

City Secretary Jeanie McDowell  
City Attorney Paul Fukuda  
Finance Director Karen Morgan  
Personnel/Purchasing Director Kim Tucker  
Interim City Manager/Public Works Director Mike Lund  
Utility Superintendent Mike Die

**2. INVOCATION**

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Following the invocation given by Council Member Patty Collins.

**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 Gauthier 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, Mayor Pro-Tem Reed, Council Members Roccaforte, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**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 – project was still underway. The contractors were preparing the driveways. They were still waiting for the chlorine buildings, electrical and pipes.
2. Drainage project – behind Holly Grove was underway and the Drainage District would be helping the City with that project. The City was in the process of moving fences to complete the project. After completion of Holly Grove, they would move to Parkside and begin that project.
3. 118 Robin Demo – the acquisition was completed.
4. Stapper demo – was also completed.

**(b) City Council**

None.

**(c) City Staff**

**Kim Tucker, Director of Personnel/Purchasing:**

Ms. Tucker reported to Mayor and Council the Slavin Group had 10 applicants last week and this week they had 14 applicants. She said three or four of the applicants had credentials that appear very strong. Monday, September 25, 2023, would be their first review deadline. She said on that date hopefully they could provide more information.

**Richard Teague, Police Captain:**

He said before the meeting he had several comments on how the cadets were doing and he said all three were doing really, really well. He said their grades were well and they were improving in their physical exercise. He said tomorrow would start one of the new hires, Jamie Lee's last phase in the FTO program and by the end of week, if everything goes well, she would be out on her own. Mr. Taylor, the gentlemen who came from Louisiana, was on schedule to finish his FTO the last week of October or around the first week of November and then he should be out on his own also. He said when that happens, they would be able to go back to their regular schedule and that would eliminate a lot of overtime.

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

None.

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

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**(a) Consideration and possible action to approve minutes of the September 5, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the September 5, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting minutes, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**(b) Consideration and possible action to approve City bills for the month of August 2023**

Council Member Collins made a motion to approve the City bills for the month of August 2023, seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

After discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**(c) Consideration and possible action authorizing the City of Bridge City to enter into a contract with the Bridge City Police Association for the period effective October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024**

Council Member Collins made a motion authorizing the City of Bridge City to enter into a contract with the Bridge City Police Association for the period effective October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.  
**Absent:** None.

- (d) Remove from table - Consideration and possible action to approve a HOT TAX application for the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce, Museum and Visitor's Center for 30% operational budget, 30% payroll and other expenses in the total amount of \$50,000**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to remove from the table a HOT TAX application for the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce, Museum and Visitor's Center for 30% operational budget, 30% payroll and other expenses in the total amount of \$50,000, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve a HOT TAX application for the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce, Museum and Visitor's Center for 30% operational budget, 30% payroll and other expenses in the total amount of \$50,000, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

- (e) Consideration and possible action to approve an increase of the hourly rate for accounting services**

Council Member Collins made a motion to approve an increase of the hourly rate for accounting services, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**(f) Consideration and possible action to enter into an agreement with LJA Engineering for Environmental Consulting Services for Stormwater Management Program Implementation FY 2024 – FY 2028**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to enter into an agreement with LJA Engineering for Environmental Consulting Services for Stormwater Management Program Implementation FY 2024 – FY 2028, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**(g) Consideration and possible action to appoint/reappoint members for the 2023-2025 terms to the following City Boards and Commissions**  
**Board of Adjustment**  
**Building Standards Commission**  
**Planning and Zoning Commission**  
**Library Advisory Board**

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to reappoint Patsy Dowden, Judy Cole, as Board Members and reappoint Mark Bunch as Alternate Board Member to the Board of Adjustments, seconded by Council Member Collins.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to reappoint Larry Nguyen and move from alternate to Board Member and appoint Jerry Jones as Board Member to the Building Standards Commission, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

Council Member Collins made a motion to reappoint Steve Quibodeaux, Jadon Ellender, John Dubose, Elaine Hearn, and Beverly Perry as Board Members to the Planning and Zoning Commission, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

Council Member Collins made a motion to reappoint Kandice Varela and Robbie Bethea as Board Members to the Library Advisory Board, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to appoint Kelci Roy as Board Member to the Library Advisory Board, 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, Champagne, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

- (h) **Consideration and possible action to cancel or reschedule the October 3, 2023 City Council meeting due to Council's attendance at the Texas Municipal League Conference in Dallas, Texas**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to cancel the October 3, 2023 City Council meeting due to Council's attendance at the TML Conference in Dallas, Texas, seconded by Council Member Champagne.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**WORKSHOP**

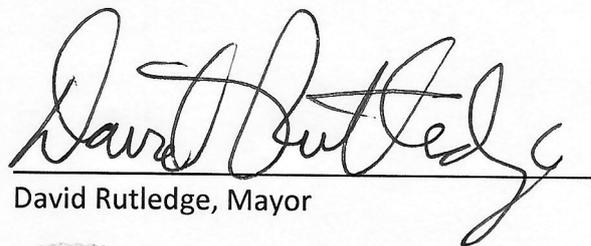
**8. WORKSHOP SESSION - DISCUSSION ONLY**

- (a) **Discussion and planning of the Christmas in the Park event**

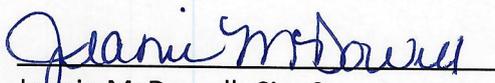
Mayor and Council discussed their expectations of the Christmas in the Park event and the council volunteered to complete different tasks. They discussed how to announce the event to the citizens and decided the City would begin accepting vendor applications. They also discussed having a float in the Christmas parade and asked if council members would be available to ride in the parade.

**9. ADJOURN**

Mayor Rutledge adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

  
David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary

