

<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 AND SPECIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
**CITY OF BRIDGE CITY**  
**January 2, 2024**

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, 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 a.m.

**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

- Council Member Bryant Champagne

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

- City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
- City Attorney Paul Fukuda
- Chief of Police Tod McDowell
- Personnel/Purchasing Director Kim Tucker
- Interim Finance Director Karen Morgan
- Finance Director Katrina Jones
- Public Works/Interim City Manager Mike Lund
- Utility Superintendent Mike Die

**2. INVOCATION**

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Following the invocation given by City Attorney Paul Fukuda.

**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 remove Item 5 from the agenda and to approve the rest of 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, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

#### **5. PRESENTATION**

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*Presentation by the Orange County EDC for the Toolbox; "A Business Retention and Expansion Program" and other services available to the City*

This item was removed from the agenda due to the representative for the EDC could not attend because she was sick. This item will be rescheduled.

#### **6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

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None.

#### **7. REPORTS & COMMENTS FROM:**

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**(a) City Manager**

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

1. City employees were taking Christmas decorations down on Texas Avenue and Christmas lights at the park.
2. Sunnyside well was on the same track, waiting on Entergy and Centerpoint. Mayor asked when the last time was, he had talked to Entergy. Mr. Lund said the Entergy representative told him they should be here at the beginning of January to start setting things up. He said he talked with Centerpoint today and they are working on scheduling them to come out to set the generators.

**(b) City Council**

None.

**(c) City Staff**

**Tod McDowell, Chief of Police**

Chief McDowell told the Mayor and Council that all the officers who graduated from the Academy are on the streets and are in training. He said he had another officer in training and would possibly be released on Thursday to be on his own. He said the other officer in training would be a few more weeks before being released to be on his own.

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

1. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**8. ORDINANCE**

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- (a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2024-01 authorizing municipal participation in regulatory proceedings of ETI (Entergy Texas Inc.) at the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2024**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2024-01 authorizing the municipal participation in regulatory proceedings of ETI at the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2024; 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, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**9. RESOLUTION**

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- (a) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2024-01(R) to declare revenue loss under the standard allowance provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act**

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-01(R) to declare revenue loss under the standard allowance provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act, 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, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

- (b) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2024-02(R) to adopt the Governmental Accounting Standard Board's Statement No. 87; providing for the Incorporation of Preamble; and providing for an effective date**

Council Member Collins made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-02(R) to adopt the Governmental Accounting Standard Board's Statement of No. 87; providing for the Incorporation of Preamble; and providing for an effective date, seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

City Attorney Fukuda said the Statement is No. 87 in the Resolution, and on the agenda it has No. 97.

Ms. McDowell corrected it to state Statement No. 87 in the minutes.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

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

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- (a) Consideration and possible action to approve the following minutes:**  
**December 5, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting**  
**December 13, 2023 City Council Special Meeting**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting and December 13, 2023 City Council Special Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Reed.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

- (b) Consideration and possible action to approve the Bills List for the month of November 2023**

Council Member Collins made a motion to approve the Bills List for the month of November 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, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**(c) Consideration and possible action to amend Section 12 of the City of Bridge City Council Decorum and Procedures Policy to provide procedures for the City to review, approve and place Council requests on the City of Bridge City – City Council Agenda**

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to amend Section 12 of the City of Bridge City City Council Decorum and Procedures Policy which reads as the current procedures Section 12a states Items may be placed on the agenda either by the Mayor, the City Manager, the City Attorney, or by a Council Member with the agreement of the Mayor and the proposed to amend it to as read – Items may be placed on the agenda either by the Mayor, the City Manager, the City Attorney or at least two members of the City Council, seconded by Council Member Collins.

Mayor Rutledge amended Council Member Gauthier’s motion to - Items may be placed on the agenda either by the Mayor, the City Manager, the City Attorney or one Council Member, 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, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**(d) Consideration and possible action to approve an interlocal agreement with the City of Orange, Texas to provide professional information technology services**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve an interlocal agreement with the City of Orange, Texas to provide professional information technology services, 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, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**(e) Consideration and possible action to approve the use of ARPA funds to upgrade the Tyler Technologies Incode software to Version 10 Cloud in the amount of \$68,160**

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve the use of ARPA funds to upgrade the Tyler Technologies Incode software to Version 10 Cloud in the amount of \$68,160, 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, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**11. ADJOURN TO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**CITY COUNCIL TO GO INTO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE PROVISION OF CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE FOR THE FOLLOWING SECTION:**

- (a) *Section 551.074. Personnel Matters – to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, and duties of the City Manager including discussing interview results and possible selection of a candidate***

Mayor Rutledge asked the audience to please leave the council chambers while Council went into Closed Executive Session. He opened the executive session at 6:18 p.m. to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, and duties of the City Manager including discussing interview results and possible selection of candidate.

**12. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**

- (a) *City Council will reconvene into open session for possible discussion and/or possible action regarding Item 11(a) above.***

Mayor Rutledge reconvened the Council Meeting into open session at 6:46 p.m.

Council Member Collins made a motion to hire Christopher Baker, 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, Collins, Gauthier, and Dixon.

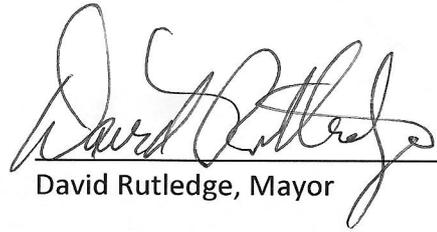
**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Champagne.

**13. ADJOURN**

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Mayor Rutledge adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.



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David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary