

CARL HARBERT <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	DAVID RUTLEDGE <i>Mayor</i> 	ERIC ANDRUS <i>Council Member, Place 4</i>
KIRK ROCCAFORTE <i>Council Member, Place 2</i>		TERRI GAUTHIER <i>Council Member, Place 5</i>
TAMMI FISETTE <i>Mayor Pro-Tem / Council Member, Place 3</i>		LUCY FIELDS <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF BRIDGE CITY
January 2, 2018

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, 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 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor David Rutledge
Council Member Carl Harbert
Council Member Kirk Roccaforte
Mayor Pro-Tem Tammi Fisette
Council Member Terri Gauthier
Council Member Lucy Fields

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:

Council Member Eric Andrus

BRIDGE CITY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE:

Nolan Moore

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Jerry D. Jones
City Secretary Sherry Tisdale
City Attorney Paul M. Fukuda
Finance Director Karen Morgan
Personnel/Purchasing Director Jeanie McDowell
Chief Paul T. Davis
Mike Lund, Utility Superintendent
Mike Die, Asst. Utility Superintendent

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE STATE OF TEXAS FLAG

Following the invocation given by Mr. Fukuda, 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.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Pro-Tem Fisette made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no changes, deletions, or additions, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fisette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

4. REPORTS & COMMENTS

(a) City Manager

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report for Council:

1. Mike Die: Mr. Die is the latest person in State of Texas with a AA Water & Sewer License which is the highest license in Texas for water and sewer - only about 400 in the State - Mike Lund and Mike Die both have AA's - it's a tough test
2. Hwy 408 Well: Pump went out and staff had to have all of the stem pulled – this has been done and they installed a pump in there that was larger than the previous in order to have the capabilities to pump up to 800+ gallons per minute – previous was around 500 gallons per minute – as the population grows and there's more people, the State will require that the City be able to provide more water – when staff turned it on it had enough pressure that it blew out one of the fittings that was there before so they had to replace one – it's all back online now and pumping – the filter station that was put at this site froze up today so staff had to go and thaw it out – so lines will be insulated now – total cost for removing the stem, replacing with a larger pump, and dropping the motor an additional 40 feet cost the City \$40,000 - money available by paying out of bond monies that were set aside for water and sewer projects – this should be the total cost and the project is complete
3. Romero Well Site: still down - all repairs have been made - well is ready to pump water into the system – because the filter system has not been authorized by the State the well is still down – hoping to hear something from TCEQ this month

(b) City Council

Council Member Kirk Roccaforte told everyone Happy New Year! He also said he was glad to see Mr. Jones back to work. He told Mr. Jones "Glad you're back. You're looking a lot better."

Mayor Pro-Tem Tammi Fisette had the following report:

1. Happy New Year to everybody
2. Milestone Anniversaries for January:
 - Paul Fukuda - 13 years

- Ricky Waldrep - 16 years
- Karen Morgan - 22 years

3. January Birthdays:

- Judge Bill Dixon
- Detective Robert Bergeron
- Officer Becky Joiner
- Council Member Terri Gauthier
- Council Member Carl Harbert

Council Member Lucy Fields asked – with the freezing weather had there been any complaints about busted water lines anywhere in the City?

Mr. Jones said that won't really start until it starts warming up and thawing out. He said, with the extended sub-freezing weather, there would probably be some busted lines after the thaw.

(c) City Staff

City Attorney Paul M. Fukuda said it's nice to be here after 13 years.

(d) Mayor

Mayor David Rutledge commented that the SETRPC Annual Meeting is on January 18. Also, TML is starting a new year. He suggested to Council to go to the TML website and look at the training sessions that might be of interest to them. They are putting new courses on there all the time.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

6. ORDINANCE

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2018-01 authorizing municipal participation in regulatory proceedings of ETI (Entergy Texas Inc.) at the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2018

Mr. Fukuda read the caption of Ordinance No. 2018-01, thereby constituting the reading of the ordinance as required by City Charter, Section 3.10.

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2018-01, as read, authorizing municipal participation in regulatory proceedings of ETI (Entergy Texas Inc.) at the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2018. Motion was seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CIVIL RIGHTS DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (TDA) RELATING TO CITY OF BRIDGE CITY CONTRACT NO. 7217039

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2018-01(R) authorizing signatories for TxCDBG Contract No. 7217039

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-01(R) authorizing signatories for TxCDBG Contract No. 7217039. Motion was seconded by Council Member Fields.

Mr. Fukuda read Resolution No. 2018-01(R) in its entirety.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2018-02(R) reaffirming policies and procedures for civil rights, equal opportunity and fair housing as required by the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program and authorizing publication of required notices

Council Member Harbert made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2018-02(R) reaffirming policies and procedures for civil rights, equal opportunity and fair housing as required by the TxCDBG Community Development Block Grant Program. Motion was seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

Mr. Fukuda read Resolution No. 2018-02(R) in its entirety.

Mayor Rutledge asked if there were any questions.

Council Member Fields asked if the City has at least one activity during the contract period. Mr. Jones said, "We do that." He said the City is a member of the Fair Housing Authority for Southeast Texas, and there is a Fair Housing Fair every year.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

Before going any further, Mr. Jones referred Council to Resolution No. 2018-01(R) - Item No. 7(a). He said there was a typo that needed to be corrected as follows:

“WHEREAS, the City of Bridge City, Texas has received a 2017 Texas Community Development Block Grant award to provide street sewer improvements” not street improvements. He said Gary Traylor’s (Grant Administrator) office supplied the City with this so staff will call them in the morning to correct this.

Mayor Rutledge stated that procedurally they probably need to go back and amend this. Mr. Fukuda said it would be a good idea to authorize that change.

Council Member Harbert made a motion to amend Resolution No. 2018-01(R) with that change . Motion was seconded by Council Member Fields.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

(c) Proclamation declaring the month of February 2018 as Fair Housing Month in the City of Bridge City and authorizing the publication of required notices

Mayor Rutledge read the proclamation declaring the month of February 2018 as Fair Housing Month in the City of Bridge City.

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to declare the month of February 2018 as Fair Housing Month, seconded by Council Member Harbert.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

(d) Consideration of Limited English Proficiency Plan for the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to consider the Limit English Proficiency Plan for the TxCDBG Program. Council Member Fields seconded the motion.

Mayor Rutledge commented on Council reading this plan.

Council Member Fields asked how is this determined – where did the information come from? Mayor Rutledge said it is a “census thing”. Mr. Jones said the federal government sends it to you and tells you what to do – what the City has to do to participate in this program. He said the Census Bureau did the majority of these calculations.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve the September 26, 2017 City Council Special Meeting minutes

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the September 26, 2017 City Council Special Meeting Minutes, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette.

Mayor Rutledge asked if there were any changes, corrections, alterations, or deletions. With no discussion, he called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve City bills for the month of November 2017

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve the November 2017 City bills, seconded by Council Member Fields.

Mayor Rutledge asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

Council Member Roccaforte told Mayor Rutledge that there is a correction under Item 8(b) that needs to be addressed. On page 2 of the minutes, there is a reference to Mayor Roccaforte, which needed to be changed. Ms. Tisdale said it should read Council Member Roccaforte, and change is notated and corrected.

(c) Consideration and possible action regarding a request by Karah Saucier, residing at 175 W. Darby Street, concerning the roach infestation that is spreading from the trash and hoarding situation at 160 W. Darby

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to consider a request by Karah Saucier, residing at 175 W. Darby Street, concerning the roach infestation that is spreading from the trash and hoarding situation at 160 W. Darby.

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to consider this.

Council Member Harbert made a motion to table this since Ms. Saucier was not in attendance at the meeting.

Mayor Rutledge said a motion to table overrides any other motion. He asked Council if there is a second to Council Member Harbert's motion to table. Council Member Roccaforte said he would second the motion.

With the motion tabled and seconded, no vote is required.

(d) Consideration and possible action to appoint Kara Brinson to the Library Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of Jo Ann Collins

Mayor Pro-Tem Fisetto made a motion to appoint Kara Brinson to the Library Advisory Board to fill the unexpired term of Jo Ann Collins. Motion was seconded by Council Member Harbert.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fisetto, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

(e) Consideration and possible action to extend the current Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster (December 17, 2017 to January 15, 2018) for a 30-day period beginning on January 16, 2018

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to extend the current Emergency Declaration of Local Disaster for a 30-day period beginning on January 16, 2018. Motion was seconded by Council Member Harbert.

Mayor Rutledge stated that, as far as he's concerned, he doesn't think the City needs this any longer, but he will do whatever Council wants.

Council Member Roccaforte asked if the City was still having any debris pickup.

Council Member Harbert asked if the City needs this now.

Mr. Jones answered no. He said it had to be in place for the City to receive federal funds. All of those periods are past, and the City has submitted projects. They are to the point now where they are starting to approve. He said this Emergency Declaration was the initial thing to get the City recognition. Mr. Jones said he doesn't think it's necessary anymore.

Council Member Gauthier asked if all the rounds of debris pickup have taken place. Mr. Jones replied they are still picking it up, but that contract is with the County – not the City.

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

MOTION WAS NOT APPROVED.

Ayes (to extend the Declaration): None.

Noes (to not extend the Declaration): Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

9. ADJOURN

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m., seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Fissette, Council Members Harbert, Roccaforte, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Andrus.

/s/ David Rutledge

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Sherry Tisdale

Sherry Tisdale, City Secretary