

KEVIN MOTT <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	DAVID RUTLEDGE <i>Mayor</i> 	ERIC ANDRUS <i>Council Member, Place 4</i>
KIRK ROCCAFORTE <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>		LUCY FIELDS <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF BRIDGE CITY
February 21, 2017

The City Council of Bridge City met in a public hearing and meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 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
Mayor Pro-Tem Kirk Roccaforte
Council Member Tammi Fisette
Council Member Eric Andrus
Council Member Terri Gauthier
Council Member Lucy Fields

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:

Council Member Kevin Mott

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
Public Works Director Gerald Robinson
Utility Superintendent Mike Lund
Asst. Utility Superintendent Mike Die

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

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Andrus.

Mayor Rutledge asked if there were any corrections, additions, or edits to it. With no discussion, he called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

- (a) ***City Council to hear and consider public comments on the need to continue City Ordinance No. 05-04 (Curfew for Minors) as required by Texas Local Government Code §370.02***

Mayor Rutledge began the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 05-04 (Curfew for Minors - Attachment No. 1) at 6:01 p.m. He asked if there were any public comments on the ordinance. With no comments or questions, Mayor Rutledge asked again for comments or questions. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing at 6:02 p.m.

5. REPORTS & COMMENTS

- (a) ***City Manager***

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report for Council:

1. Filtration System Project: still no word from the State on start-up - they called back and asked a question that Mike Lund is getting information on now and will get back with State tomorrow
2. Romero Well Site: contractor is ready to start the lining - this will be discussed during agenda item
3. LUKE meeting today at City Hall: signs are getting made - start-up should be around the 15th of next month - will get the signs out and get information out in the papers
4. Golden Triangle Days in Austin: March 5, 6, and 7

- (b) ***City Council***

Council Member Tammi Fisette said she wanted to take this opportunity to tell Mr. Robinson that she appreciated him very much. He is retiring, and he has meant a lot to this City and made a difference in lives. She told him "Thank you very much for your service and your dedication. And you will be missed."

Mr. Robinson told her thank you very much. He said he appreciated that and it has been his pleasure.

Council Member Lucy Fields reported that the Chamber of Commerce is holding their second Mother of the Year Contest and are looking for nominations. She said they have a lot of wonderful gifts. They are also having a Father of the Year contest and looking for nominations. If anyone has nominations please turn them in to the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Rutledge asked her if people could contribute more gifts for the different categories. Council Member Fields replied "Absolutely." Mayor Rutledge told everyone to get out and support their local chamber of commerce. Council Member Fields thanked Mayor Rutledge for saying that.

There were no further comments from City Council.

(c) City Staff

There were no comments from City Staff.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2017 City Council Meeting

Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve the February 7, 2017 City Council Meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Council Member Fisetete.

Mayor Rutledge asked if there was any alterations, corrections, or changes to the minutes. Hearing none, he called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte, Council Members Fisetete, Andrus, Gauthier, and Fields.

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

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

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the City bills for the month of January 2017 (Attachment No. 2). Motion was seconded by Council Member Andrus.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

(c) *Presentation and possible action to approve the City of Bridge City Annual Audit for the year ending September 30, 2016 as prepared by Keri Michutka, C.P.A.*

Ms. Michutka thanked Council for giving her the opportunity to do the audit for 2016, and thanked Ms. Morgan and Ms. McDowell for all their help. She reported that they were issuing a clean or unmodified opinion.

Ms. Michutka went through each section giving a brief summary of the City of Bridge City Audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016 (may be viewed at City Hall).

At the conclusion of Ms. Michutka's presentation, she asked if there were any questions.

Hearing no questions, Mayor Rutledge thanked Ms. Michutka very much. He then called for a motion.

Council Member Andrus made a motion to approve the City of Bridge City Annual Audit for the year ending September 30, 2106 as prepared by Keri Michutka CPA. Motion was seconded by Council Member Fields.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

(d) *Consideration and possible action regarding a request from Donny Huebner for disannexation of his residence located at 155 Texas Avenue*

Council Member Andrus made a motion to discuss a request from Donny Huebner for disannexation of his residence located at 155 Texas Avenue (Attachment No. 3). Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte.

Mr. Jones stated that this request was generated by some letters that City staff had mailed out at various locations where trailers still exist. A person can keep a travel trailer parked around their house or driveway but it can't be hooked up to utilities and people actually living in it. He said the City received a couple of complaints that someone was living in the trailer at this location, and it was tied into utilities. A letter was then written asking them to remove that trailer. His (Mr. Huebner) comment was that his house is raised and his wife can't go up and down because of a physical problem. He moved the trailer in so she could live in the trailer below. Mr. Jones said that de-annexation of pieces like this all over town is not an advantageous thing to be doing. An easier solution to the problem is granting a variance, which is done from time to time at locations where people have someone that can't do things or needs to live close by somebody. Mr. Jones said his suggestion to Mr. Huebner would be to

come in and apply for a variance. Mr. Huebner is not on City water or sewer. Mr. Jones said water service is available because there is a line out front by the liquor store. Sewer service would require a sump pump be installed, but the City could get him water and sewer service. Mr. Jones said they have not pressed the issue because it will be a little expensive for Mr. Huebner. Mr. Jones added he would not recommend that Council start de-annexing pieces of property around town.

Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte asked if Mr. Huebner had been made aware about the variance. Mr. Jones said that he actually hasn't talked to him yet. Mr. Jones stated he would make sure that Mr. Huebner is made aware of the variance. Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte said he didn't think Mr. Huebner would have an issue or have any complaints from the area on a variance. Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte said he thinks that is where the City should go. Mr. Jones said it would certainly be an easier solution.

Mayor Rutledge stated this would be less expensive for everyone all around. It won't put anybody in a financial bind.

Discussion was held on disannexation and City limit issues.

Council Member Andrus amended his motion to deny the request from Donny Huebner to disannex his property. Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte seconded the amended motion.

After discussion with Mr. Fukuda, Council Member Andrus amended his motion again to take no action on disannexation. Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte seconded the amended motion to take no action.

MOTION CARRIED to take no action on Mr. Huebner's request for disannexation.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

(e) *Presentation of the 2016 Racial Profiling Report by Bridge City Police Chief Paul T. Davis*

Chief Davis asked if Council had any questions. He stated that this report (Attachment No. 4) is required by the State to be filed after approval of the governing body.

Mayor Rutledge asked if anyone had any questions for the Chief. He then asked Chief Davis if he had any further comments. Chief Davis replied no.

With no questions, Mayor Rutledge thanked Chief Davis for his time and his effort.

(f) *Consideration and possible action to abolish, continue, or modify City Ordinance No. 05-04 (Curfew for Minors) as required by Texas Local Government Code §370.002*

Council Member Andrus made a motion to continue City Ordinance No. 05-04 (Curfew for Minors), seconded by Council Member Fields.

Council Member Fields asked Chief Davis if the City has had any problems with the curfew ordinance. Chief Davis replied no, not with the ordinance. He said, from time to time, they do have difficulty with juveniles typically during holidays and summer break periods. This ordinance is very beneficial for the Police Department to have this ordinance in place.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

(g) *Consideration and possible action to approve an Aerial Waiver authorizing Orange County Mosquito Control District to fly at low altitudes as required for the application of insecticides for the abatement of mosquitoes within the limits of the City of Bridge City*

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve an Aerial Waiver authorizing Orange County Mosquito Control District to fly at low altitudes as required for the application of insecticides for the abatement of mosquitoes within the limits of the City of Bridge City (Attachment No. 5). Motion was seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

(h) *Consideration and possible action to approve repair of the Romero Well by Weisinger Incorporated in the amount of \$121,777.00*

Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte made a motion to approve repair of the Romero Well by Weisinger Incorporated in the amount of \$121,777.00 (Attachment No. 6). Motion was seconded by Council Member Andrus.

Mr. Jones said a lot of the costs have already incurred, but this is the total cost. This includes a 10" carbon steel liner to be completed and put in place for roughly \$32,000.00. This was added on to the other things that have already been completed, so the total cost of completely re-working this well - including re-pouring the base that the pump sits on - is \$121, 777.00. Mr. Jones said this is substantially cheaper than a new well.

Mayor Rutledge asked if anyone had any questions. With no questions, he called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

(i) Consideration and possible action to reschedule or cancel the March 7, 2017 City Council meeting due to Council's attendance at Golden Triangle Days in Austin, Texas

Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte made a motion to reschedule or cancel the March 7, 2017 City Council meeting due to Council's attendance at Golden Triangle Days in Austin. Motion was seconded by Council Member Fissette.

Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte asked Mr. Jones if Council needs to re-schedule or cancel the meeting. Mr. Jones said it is strictly up to Council's discretion. He said if something comes up where Council has to approve it, they could call a meeting the week following (March 14). If nothing comes up, Council can have their meeting on March 21.

Mayor Pro-Tem Roccaforte amended his motion to cancel the March 7, 2017 City Council meeting. Amended motion was seconded by Council Member Fissette.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

8. ADJOURN

Council Member Andrus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 p.m., seconded by Council Member Fields.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Member Mott.

/s/ David Rutledge

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Sherry Tisdale

Sherry Tisdale, City Secretary