

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

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BRIDGE CITY**  
**July 18, 2017**

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, July 18, 2017, 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 Carl Harbert  
Council Member Kirk Roccaforte  
Mayor Pro-Tem Tammi Fisette  
Council Member Eric Andrus  
Council Member Terri Gauthier  
Council Member Lucy Fields

**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  
Police Chief Paul T. Davis  
Utility Superintendent Mike Lund  
Asst. Utility Superintendent Mike Die

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

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Following the invocation given by Mayor Pro-Tem Fisette, 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**

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Council Member Gauthier made a motion to approve the agenda, 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, Andrus, Gauthier, and Fields.

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

**4. PRESENTATION**

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**(a) *New Membership Directory/Community Profile Magazine presented to City Council by B. J. Hanneman, Director of Bridge City Chamber of Commerce, and Candice Trahan of the Orange Leader***

Ms. Hanneman, Director of the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce, handed out their Membership Directory/Community Profile magazine to Council. She thanked Council for putting them on the agenda and also wanted to say "Thank You" for everything they do for the Chamber. She thanked everyone who purchased ads - business owners, chamber members, or others that are active in the community. Ms. Hanneman stated that this magazine was put together with the idea to promote Bridge City, to promote shopping local, and to help people find the city's businesses. "Come to Bridge City and shop, eat, and spend money." Ms. Hanneman introduced Ms. Candice Trahan, from the Orange Leader, who worked tirelessly putting this magazine together and sold all the ads that are in the magazine, which paid for the publication. This was all done for the Chamber at no charge. They provided the Chamber with 2,000 copies. She said it is free and there are plenty available. The magazine is a good resource for newcomers and visitors. It also highlights the Citizen of the Year and the Business of the Year. She said they are proud of the magazine but there is always room for improvement. She stated they didn't go with a full-size magazine so they wouldn't have to burden the members with the higher cost of advertising.

Ms. Trahan said this magazine was a very big learning experience. She stated, as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, she was able to meet so many new people. She said it started out as a 15-page magazine and ended up at 40 pages. It produced over \$8,000 for the Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Rutledge told them the magazine looks really nice, and he liked the way all the information is there. He also said it could be used in a welcome packet. Ms. Hanneman said they plan to continue this magazine every two years.

**5. REPORTS & COMMENTS**

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**(a) *City Manager***

***City Manager Jerry Jones*** had the following report for Council:

1. Playground equipment: 2 weeks out
2. Filtration project: No word from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) on the start-up of Romero Well
3. Flushing project: going well - covered 4 areas and 4 more to go - will start back over and keep flushing until there is nothing but clear water
4. Reclamation Pump: has been repaired and is on the way back to the City
5. Budget ready: ready to start going over it - Ms. Morgan has not gotten numbers from the Tax Appraisal District - hopefully it will be in before first workshop

**(b) City Council**

**Council Member Carl Harbert** said he went to TML School last week and enjoyed it and learned a lot. Also met with Mr. Jones today to answer some of his questions and helped him out.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Tammi Fisette** said she wanted to give an update on the Library:

1. Doors and door facings are hung: thanks to the City helping to make sure that job was done - also thank you to David Ess
2. Farmers Market: has been going for 3 weeks - more citizens are participating - selections are growing - not just produce but there is a variety of things
3. Farmers Market Vendors: Marian Pepper asked her to find out if the vendors could set up on Wednesdays due to keeping produce as fresh as possible - Mr. Jones said they can set up whenever they like - He said he would call and talk to her Ms. Pepper

**(c) City Staff**

There were no comments from City Staff.

**(d) Mayor**

Mayor Rutledge had no comments or report.

**6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

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There were no citizen comments.

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

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**(a) Consideration and possible action to approve the June 20, 2017 City Council meeting minutes**

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve June 20, 2017 City Council Meeting minutes, seconded by Council Member Andrus.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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

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

Council Member Andrus made a motion to approve the City bills for the month of June 2017 (Attachment No. 1), seconded by Council Member Gauthier.

With no questions, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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

**(c) Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the City Insurance Committee for the 2017-2018 fiscal year to purchase Blue Cross Blue Shield for Employee Medical, Employee Dental, and Employee Life and Accident Death and Dismemberment Insurance**

Council Member Fields made a motion to consider possible action to approve the recommendation from the City Insurance Committee for 2017-2018 fiscal year to purchase Blue Cross Blue Shield for Employee Medical, Employee Dental, and Employee Life and Accident Death and Dismemberment Insurance (Attachment No. 2). Motion was seconded by Council Member Andrus.

Mr. Jones referred Council to a letter in their packet that explains what they are doing. Mr. Jones said he was going to let Dale Etheridge go over what the City was facing. It ended up being a pretty good bid opening.

Mr. Etheridge informed Council that the City went out for bids and received five bids, with a few "turn-downs". He said he would start off by saying that the medical industry is a mess. It's tough and the City had a 16% increase with Aetna. After the bids came back, the committee was able to get a somewhat better plan with Blue Cross at about a 7% rate increase over what the City is presently paying with Aetna. They were able to reduce the deductible for the employees - cutting it in half. This is money out of the employee's pockets and it still provides a total out-of-pocket expense that is still less than Aetna. Mr. Etheridge said this is a "win-win". He said that the renewals he does personally for other groups has averaged about 18%. The City did have a good year. He asked if anyone had a question about the coverage.

Mayor Rutledge added that the recommendation was Plan MM-24.

Council Member Fields asked if this is a HMO or a PPO. Mr. Etheridge replied that this plan is a HMO.

Mr. Etheridge said Blue Cross, in the state of Texas, still has the better network than anybody does.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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

Mr. Jones thanked Mr. Etheridge for all the work he does for the City. Mayor Rutledge also thanked him.

**8. ADJOURNED TO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

- (a) *Section 551.071 - Consult with legal counsel regarding boundary dispute litigation settlement agreement and agreed judgment for the case regarding the City of Port Arthur vs. the City of Bridge City***
- (b) *Section 551.074 - Deliberate possible candidates for appointment to Municipal Court Judge position***

Mayor Rutledge then asked the audience to leave the council chambers while Council went into Closed Executive Session.

City Council adjourned into closed executive session at 6:17 p.m. to consult with legal counsel regarding boundary dispute litigation with the City of Port Arthur and to deliberate possible candidates for appointment to Municipal Court Judge position.

**9. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**

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- (a) *Possible discussion and/or action regarding the boundary dispute litigation settlement agreement and agreed judgment for the case regarding the City of Port Arthur vs. the City of Bridge City***

Mayor Rutledge reconvened the Council Meeting into open session at 6:51 p.m.

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the boundary dispute litigation settlement agreement and agreed judgment for the case regarding the City of Port Arthur vs. the City of Bridge City (Included in Ordinance No. 2017-04). Motion was seconded by Council Member Roccaforte.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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

**(b) Possible discussion and/or action regarding possible candidates for appointment to Municipal Court Judge position**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to appoint Bill Dixon to serve the unexpired term of Judge Scales, seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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

**10. ORDINANCE**

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**(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2017-04 affirming the boundary limits of the City of Bridge City, Texas, as enlarged by Ordinance No. 2014-09; adopting a boundary line for the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City; adopting a map showing the boundaries of the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction for demonstrative purposes; containing a savings clause and providing for passage of said ordinance**

Mr. Fukuda read the caption of Ordinance No. 2017-04, thereby constituting the reading of the ordinance as required by City Charter, Section 3.10.

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-04, as read, affirming the boundary limits of the City of Bridge City, Texas, as enlarged by Ordinance No. 2014-09; adopting a boundary line for the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City; adopting a map showing the boundaries of the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction for demonstrative purposes; containing a savings clause and providing for passage of said ordinance (Attachment No. 3). Council Member Andrus seconded the motion.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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

## 11. ADJOURN

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Council Member Andrus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m., seconded by Council Member Fields.

### **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

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

*/s/ David Rutledge*

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David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

*/s/ Sherry Tisdale*

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Sherry Tisdale, City Secretary