

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
August 1, 2017

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, August 1, 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
Council Member Carl Harbert
Council Member Kirk Roccaforte
Mayor Pro-Tem Tammi Fisette
Council Member Lucy Fields

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:

Council Member Eric Andrus
Council Member Terri Gauthier

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
Asst. Utility Superintendent Mike Die
Library Clerk K'Lynn Borg

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 Mayor Pro-Tem Fisette.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

4. REPORTS & COMMENTS

(a) City Manager

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report for Council:

1. Filtration project: TCEQ has not contacted the City on the start-up of the Romero well site - still in limbo
2. Park equipment project: equipment is in - staff went out today to begin laying out the site - will drill holes to start mounting the equipment - will start putting the equipment together in the next day or two
3. Flushing project: flushing continues tonight on Area 4 - this will be the sixth section that has been flushed

(b) City Council

Council Member Carl Harbert said he had a lady question him about Ms. Ruby Blacke. She told him she was walking down the middle of Texas Avenue in the turn lane. She asked what was the status of this situation.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Fukuda what was the status. Mr. Fukuda said Orders are signed and the City is ready to go as far as removal of the FEMA trailer. Mr. Fukuda said he thought Mr. Jones was waiting to get the bid processed and the folks to move it.

Mayor Pro-Tem Tammi Fisette gave the following report:

1. Splash Pad: it has been packed out on the weekends - there is a lot of excitement about that park equipment - word has gotten around that it is coming
2. Farmer's Market: this coming weekend is the last weekend until fall

(c) City Staff

There were no comments from City Staff.

(d) Mayor

Mayor Rutledge had no comments or report.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

6. BRIDGE CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT RECOGNITION OF LARRY SCOTT, WITH BRIDGE CITY WRECKER, FOR OUTSTANDING ACTION IN HELPING ANOTHER CITIZEN

Buddy Hanks, President of the Bridge City Volunteer Fire Department, made the presentation. He stated that on the evening of June 1st, not long after their business meeting, a vehicle fire came out over their pagers. He said he was enroute from his home to the station, and he passed near the scene. He said the vehicle was very close to a residential structure, with flames reaching 15 feet or more. He called dispatch and reported there were exposures and dispatch relayed that information over the radio. He said he went on to the station to catch a truck and upon their arrival at the scene the vehicle didn't seem to be quite as close to the residence as it once did. Later he learned that Mr. Scott with Bridge City Wrecker had heard the radio traffic over his scanner and went to the call. Without regard to his personal property he latched on to the burning vehicle with his tow truck and dragged it far enough away from the home to prevent fire damage prior to their arrival. As they extinguished the fire it was noted that the cyclone fence was hot to the touch and the siding on the home had begun to melt. Had it not been for the action of Mr. Scott there is no doubt there would have been significant fire damage to the residence. Mr. Hanks stated that they felt the actions of Larry Scott needed to be recognized, and this certificate is just a small token of our appreciation. Mr. Hanks presented Mr. Scott with a special certificate of recognition.

Mayor Rutledge thanked them and said it is always nice to recognize someone that goes above and beyond the call of duty.

7. RESOLUTIONS

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2017-14(R) adopting the Orange County Hazard Mitigation Action Plan

Mr. Fukuda read Resolution No. 2017-14(R) adopting the Orange County Hazard Mitigation Action Plan (Attachment No. 1).

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to accept Resolution 2017-14(R) as read, and seconded by Council Member Fields.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2017-15(R) confirming the appointment of Bill Dixon, Jr. to fill the vacancy of the Municipal Judge position

Mr. Fukuda read Resolution No. 2017-15(R) confirming the appointment of Bill Dixon, Jr. to fill the vacancy of the Municipal Judge position (Attachment No. 2).

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to accept Resolution No. 2017-15(R) as read, and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Fisetete.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

8. CONDUCT SWEARING IN CEREMONY OF BILL DIXON, JR., TO THE POSITION OF MUNICIPAL JUDGE

Judge Ida Schossow swore in Mr. Bill Dixon to the position of Municipal Judge. At the conclusion, everyone applauded for Judge Dixon.

Terry Smith and Jaime Hoffpauir presented Judge Dixon with a special plaque, welcoming him to the Municipal Court.

Mayor Rutledge told Mr. Dixon "Welcome Aboard, Your Honor."

Judge Dixon told everyone that he was very humbled by this appointment, and he has awfully big shoes to fill. He said Jimmy Scales left him a good court and great help. He said everywhere he looks there is someone helping out. He said he promised to do the best he can.

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve the July 18, 2017 City Council meeting minutes

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve July 18, 2017 City Council Meeting minutes, seconded by Council Member Roccaforte.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve request by Van Roy Morgan to tie on to City water at his residence, located at 250 Suncrest, which is located in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Bridge City

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve a request (Attachment No. 3) by Van Roy Morgan to tie on to City water at his residence, located at 250 Suncrest. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Fisette.

Mr. Jones said the line is in front of the house. It is one of the lines that have been extended outside of the City. It's a simple matter of the City making the tap.

Mayor Rutledge asked if Mr. Morgan was aware of all the rates. Mr. Jones said Mr. Morgan has met with Mike Lund and Mike Die. They discussed what they were going to do and when he's ready the City will do it.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

(c) Consideration and possible action to approve an Emergency Notification System Interlocal Agreement between the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) and the City of Bridge City

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve an Emergency Notification System Interlocal Agreement between SETRPC and the City of Bridge City (Attachment No. 4). Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Fisette.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

(d) 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, 2017 through September 30, 2018

Council Member Fields made a motion to accept authorizing the City of Bridge City to enter into a contract with the Bridge City Police Association for the period effective October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018 (Attachment No. 5). Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Fisette.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

(e) Consideration and possible action to place a proposal to adopt an ad valorem tax rate on Tuesday, September 19, 2017, for the 2017 tax year of \$0.52000 per \$100.00 valuation for the City of Bridge City, Texas (total tax rate consists of \$0.20391 for Interest and Sinking Fund and \$0.31609 for Maintenance and Operations Fund)

Mayor Pro-Tem Fisetto made a motion stating, "I move to place a proposal to adopt a tax rate in the amount of \$0.52000 on the agenda for Tuesday, September 19, 2017. This rate consists of a Maintenance & Operations rate of \$0.31609 and a Debt rate of \$0.20391. This rate is a 5.71% increase over the calculated effective rate." Motion was seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

Votes were orally given as follows:

COUNCIL MEMBER HARBERT	YES
COUNCIL MEMBER ROCCAFORTE	YES
MAYOR PRO-TEM FISETTE	YES
COUNCIL MEMBER ANDRUS	ABSENT
COUNCIL MEMBER GAUTHIER	ABSENT
COUNCIL MEMBER FIELDS	YES
MAYOR RUTLEDGE	YES

Mr. Jones said this is the same rate as last year. There is no increase in tax rolls.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

(f) Consideration and possible action to schedule one (1) Public Hearing for Tuesday, August 15, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall of Bridge City to hear and consider public comments regarding the proposed 2017-2018 Budget for the City of Bridge City, Texas

Mayor Pro-Tem Fisetto made a motion to schedule one (1) Public Hearing for Tuesday, August 15, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall of Bridge City to hear and consider public comments regarding the proposed 2017-2018 Budget for the City of Bridge City, Texas. Motion was seconded by Council Member Roccaforte.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

(g) Consideration and possible action to schedule two (2) Public Hearings for Tuesday, August 15, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday, September 5, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall of Bridge City to hear and consider public comments regarding the proposed ad valorem tax rate for the 2017 tax year of \$0.52000 per \$100.00 valuation for the City of Bridge City, Texas (total tax rate consists of \$0.20391 for Interest and Sinking Fund and \$0.31609 for Maintenance and Operations Fund)

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to schedule two (2) Public Hearings for Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday, September 5, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall of Bridge City to hear and consider public comments regarding the proposed ad valorem tax rate for the 2017 tax year of \$0.52000 per \$100.00 valuation for the City of Bridge City, Texas (total tax rate consists of \$0.20391 for Interest and Sinking Fund and \$0.31609 for Maintenance and Operations Fund). Motion was seconded by Council Member Harbert.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

10. ADJOURN

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 p.m., seconded by Council Member Fields.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None. **Absent:** Council Members Andrus and Gauthier.

/s/ David Rutledge

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Sherry Tisdale

Sherry Tisdale, City Secretary