

<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>Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member, Place 5</i>
<b>TAMMI FISETTE</b> <i>Council Member, Place 3</i>		<b>LUCY FIELDS</b> <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND WORKSHOP MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BRIDGE CITY**  
**July 2, 2019**

The City Council of Bridge City met in a regular session on Tuesday, July 2, 2019, 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 6:03 p.m.

**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:**

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

**CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:**

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

City Manager Jerry D. Jones  
City Secretary Jeanie McDowell  
City Attorney Paul M. Fukuda  
Finance Director Karen Morgan  
Personnel/Purchasing Director Mitzi Nolan  
Police Chief Paul Davis  
Utility Superintendent Mike Lund  
Code Enforcement Officer Clarence Philpott

**2. INVOCATION**

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Invocation given by Council Member Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier.

### **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 AGENDA**

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Council Member Harbert made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Fisette.

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

#### **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

### **5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

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#### **(a) City Manager**

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

1. Service line project – the contractors have completed 85 out of 168, and they are working around the weather.
2. Manhole repairs and fire plugs replacement – the grant with the Water Development Board, is ready to go out for bids and Mark Kelly, Ace Engineers will administer the process.
3. Filter press – the City has had demonstration at the Sewer Plant and City Staff has decided on the one they would like to purchase. The City will begin the bid process for the purchase.
4. Funding for ditch cleaning – the City has the funds available now in the amount of \$961,000 and that project will be on the next regular meeting agenda. The City still has \$55,000 remaining to clean Center Street ditch.
5. Digital map – the City will have to provide this according to the last legislative law passed, I will have Mark Kelly, Ace Engineers begin working on getting it in place.
6. Building permits – legislative law passed cities can no longer use the dollars amounts to base permit charges on. This subject is on the agenda. City Staff has a revision and I will explain more during that agenda item.
7. Recycling – will end at the end of July in Bridge City. Republic says it actually cost money to recycle.

**(b) City Council**

**Council Member Carl Harbert** asked if the City will find another company to continue the recycling program. Mr. Jones told Council Member Harbert the City will try to find another company, but he does not think there will be one available. Mr. Jones said the fuel cost to pick up the recycling is more than what the company is recovering.

**Council Member Kirk Roccaforte**

None.

**Council Member Tammi Fisette**

None.

**Council Member Eric Andrus** said it is with great regret that I must resign my office as City Council Member, Place 4 effective July 3, 2019, due to moving outside the City limits. Being able to represent our city has been one of the greatest most fulfilling things I have ever done. I have enjoyed serving the Citizens of Bridge City over the past 9 ½ years and will miss the relationship that I have formed with the Mayor and Council Members. Not only have they been my mentors, because I was pretty young when I started. It was a big job for a kid to get to know, not only have they been mentors for me, growing up and maturing as a young man doing an adult. Not only mentors they have become very good friends. I greatly appreciate all the life lessons and other things y'all have taught me over the years is greatly appreciated. I thank all of y'all.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier**

None.

**Council Member Lucy Fields**

None.

**(c) City Staff Report**

**City Attorney Paul Fukuda** said he would not be in attendance for the next meeting. He will be on vacation, but will be available for staff and the meeting if necessary.

**Miscellaneous City Staff**

(d) **Mayor**

**Mayor David Rutledge had the following report:**

1. Legislation items:
  1. Cannot enact an ordinance regulating a lemonade stand
  2. Several changes to the annexation rules for cities that will go into effect immediately
  3. City officials conducting business on cell phones whether personal or city supplied cell phones you must forward the communications that is on there between a certain time frame to the person who handles the City's public information for archiving purposes effective September 1, 2019
  4. The building permits effective the middle of May 2019
  5. City Officials and City employees with access to computer systems must receive cyber security training effective immediately and can be done in house. The City will need to develop a training program for employees and council members
  6. Bills that have direct impact to the City's revenue include the cable and telecom franchise fee bills effective January 1, 2020. TML believes this will be declared unconstitutional and believes this will get overturned or modified.
  7. SB2 is the 3 1/2 % roll back rate
  8. There was a bill that says a person can have 6 chickens in their backyard and it did not pass

**6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

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None.

**7. RESOLUTION**

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- (a) *Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2019-15(R) authorizing the submittal of a DR-4332 CDBG-DR infrastructure application to the General Land Office and authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the application and the subsequent award***

Mr. Fukuda read Resolution No. 2019-15(R) in its entirety.

Council Member Harbert made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-15(R) as read, seconded by Council Member Fields.

Mr. Fukuda read Resolution No. 2019-16(R) instead of Resolution No. 2019-15(R).

Council Member Harbert made a motion to table Ordinance No. 2019-15(R), seconded by Council Member Fisetete

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

- (b) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2019-16(R) authorizing the submittal of a DR-4332 CDBG-DR Local Acquisition/Buyout application to the General Land Office and authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the application and the subsequent award**

Mr. Fukuda read Resolution No. 2019-16(R) in its entirety.

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to accept Resolution No. 2019-16(R) as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier.

Melinda Smith, Gary Traylor & Associates made a presentation for the DR-4332 CDBG-DR Acquisition program.

After the presentation and discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

- (a) Remove from table - Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2019-15(R) authorizing the submittal of a DR-4332 CDBG-DR infrastructure application to the General Land Office and authorizing the Mayor to act as the City's authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the application and the subsequent award**

Council Member Harbert made a motion to remove Resolution No. 2019-15(R) from the table, seconded by Council Member Roccaforte.

Mr. Jones told Mayor and Council this is the water well project. The City lost Romero well and it is imperative the City replaces this well. This funding is available for replacement of the well. Also, there is a possibility the City's commitment is \$762,000 could be covered by a different type of grant.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

## **8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION**

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**(a) Consideration and possible action to approve minutes of the June 18, 2019 City Council Meeting**

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to approve minutes of the June 18, 2019 City Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no questions, additions, or alterations, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**(b) Consideration and possible action to approve the recommendation from the City Insurance Committee for the 2019-2020 fiscal year to purchase the following:**

- **Cigna Plan for Employee Medical**
- **Cigna Plan for Employee Dental**
- **Fort Dearborn for Employee Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance**

Council Member Andrus made a motion to approve the recommendation of the City Insurance Committee to purchase Cigna Plan for Employee Medical and Dental and Fort Dearborn for Employee Life and AD&D for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, seconded by Council Member Fields.

Mr. Jones said this is first time in years we were able get a reduction in insurance premiums.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**(c) Consideration and possible action to reconstruct building, electrical, mechanical and plumbing fees required by the State of Texas**

Council Member Andrus made a motion to reconstruct building, electrical, mechanical and plumbing fees, seconded by Council Member Fields.

Mr. Jones said the City's rates are old, the City has not visited the rates in several years. The state has decided that the City can no longer use the calculation for the cost of construction, so City Staff reconstructed new rates. Orange County cities met to discuss and create a fee permit schedule. This will be County wide but with variations from cities, ours will be based off \$35 per square foot, but some are \$40 per square foot. The City Staff made a chart that will be easy to use.

Council Member Harbert said he does not see anything on rental property, such as if a person buys and remodels the house. He asked if that would be considered commercial.

Mr. Jones told Council Member Harbert that it would be considered residential, single family even though if it is rental property it is treated as single family residential property. He said if a person was building a house the cost would be \$35 per square foot, but if remodeling it would be \$20 per square foot. Also instead of a set fee on a remodeling job, it will have a price on the square footage. The person will not be paying for the whole house just the square footage that is being remodeled.

Council Member Gauthier asked when will this be effective.

Mr. Jones said if Mayor and Council agrees with City Staff recommendations, then it will be on the next agenda in the form of an Ordinance. Then it will go into effect after 10 or 30 days.

City Attorney Paul Fukuda said 10 days after it is published.

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

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

**9. ADJOURN**

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Council Member Andrus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m., seconded by Council Member Fields.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** None.

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David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary