

CARL HARBERT <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	DAVID RUTLEDGE <i>Mayor</i>	DANNY HARRINGTON <i>Council Member, Place 4</i>
MIKE REED <i>Council Member, Place 2</i>		TERRI GAUTHIER <i>Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member, Place 5</i>
TAMMI FISETTE <i>Council Member, Place 3</i>		LUCY FIELDS <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF BRIDGE CITY
September 3, 2019

The City Council of Bridge City met in a regular session on Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 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 Mike Reed
Council Member Tammi Fisetite
Council Member Danny Harrington
Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier
Council Member Lucy Fields

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT: None.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Jerry D. Jones
City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
City Attorney Paul Fukuda
Finance Director Karen Morgan
Police Chief Paul Davis
Assistant Utility Superintendent Mike Die
Utility Superintendent Mike Lund

2. INVOCATION

Invocation given by City Attorney Paul Fukuda.

3. PLEDGE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE STATE OF TEXAS FLAG

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

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

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisette, Harrington, Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

(a) City Council to hear and consider public comments regarding the proposed ad valorem tax rate for the 2019 tax year for the City of Bridge City, Texas, levied as follows:

\$0.19790 per \$100.00 valuation - Debt Service Rate

\$0.35560 per \$100.00 valuation - Maintenance and Operations Rate

\$0.55350 per \$100.00 valuation - Total Tax Rate

After reading Agenda Item 5(a) Mayor Rutledge opened the public hearing at 6:01 p.m. and asked if there were any comments or comments.

With no questions or comments, Mayor Rutledge closed the public hearing at 6:02 p.m.

Mayor Rutledge then announced, "A vote on the tax rate for the City of Bridge City 2019 Tax Year will be held by the City Council on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., at City Hall, located at 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

6. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

(a) City Manager

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report for Council:

1. Elsie Drainage Project – the proposals were put in the paper for bid. A pre-bid conference will be held on September 10, 2019. The bids will be submitted no later than the September 17, 2019, and the City will be awarding the project on the September 17, 2019.
2. Sewer line projects – only 14 left out of the 180 the City started with. City Staff is getting names for next year.
3. Filter press – working on the specs. Finally received all the information that was needed, should out to be bid soon.
4. Center Street outfall ditch – beginning the process. It will be done by a contractor and will be bid soon. The process has already started.
5. Manholes and fire plugs – last set of questions the Water Development Board had has been sent out. The City should get permission to bid it shortly.

(b) City Council

Council Member Carl Harbert said he drove by Nevils Street today and what the Drainage Department has done, they have done a great job. They are 30 feet short and there is a big rise in the ditch. Council Member Harbert said he did not know if they worked on it today, but they have a little more to do.

Mr. Jones said it may be where the pipeline is located. He said he would check, but did know they were contacting the pipeline company.

Council Member Mike Reed

None.

Council Member Tammi Fisette

None.

Council Member Danny Harrington

None.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier said she would like to share a couple of things regarding the information she left in front of each Council Member. The information is what she has received from the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission. The Planning Commission will be having a Stand Down which will be at the Beaumont Civic Center. It is an organization that provides services to our veterans and also homeless veterans. If you know of anyone that needs to attend or would like to attend, please get the word out. She said she knows the City has people that could be blessed by this because they will be giving medical screenings, which she provided the information with each Council Member. The Stand Down will be Friday, September 27, 2019 from 9 a.m. – 2p.m. She said she wanted everyone to know about this in case the Council knew of anyone in need of the services.

Also, on Thursday, September 5, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., on North Street in Beaumont, the Planning Commission will have a non-profit security enhancement workshop. This has been

created to equip the 501c public charities, faith based organizations, just realizing they are a higher risk for incidents to happen. The Planning Commission will be giving out information regarding funds that are available to the faith based organizations to receive more training and information they need from Homeland Security. Please pass this to your church or any organization you think will benefit from this workshop.

Mayor Rutledge said he contacted the Ministerial Alliance and gave the information to Melissa. She will disseminate it to different organizations

Council Member Lucy Fields said she had another gentlemen approach her this past week almost in tears, and he wanted the City Council and the City Water Department and whoever was responsible for replacing the clay sewer pipes to know how grateful they are. He said for years they have not been able to take a shower, wash clothes or flush the toilet simultaneously. He also said they are retired and could never afford to replace the lines. He just can't believe how well everything is working now. He also told Council Member Fields it took them two days, and there were a lot of roots and it was a mess, but he would like everyone to know how very grateful they are for the line replacement. Council Member Fields said it has been great lately, because replacing the sewer lines has really impacted the City's elderly and the seniors and they are very grateful for this service.

(c) City Staff Report

County Commissioner Kirk Roccaforte said he would like everyone to know that Saturday, September 7, 2019, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., the County will be hosting a Bailey Road clean up if anyone is interested in coming out and helping. He said a group that put this together contacted him and he will be providing the bags and a trailer. County Commissioner Roccaforte also said he has coordinated with Mr. Jones to use the dumpsters at the City's yard for the trash. Council Member Reed asked the time for this event.

County Commissioner Roccaforte said 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Student Representative:

Mayor Rutledge introduced the student representative as Keagan Smith and he will be the Bridge City High School Student Representative for the year. Mayor asked Mr. Smith if he would like to tell the City Council about his self.

Mr. Smith said he was excited to be working this year with the City Council, and also serving on the Council. He said at the school he is in the band, is an NHS and UIL student, and is active in student activities. He is excited to be able to represent Bridge City High School as a whole and for the student body. He is excited to be able to see civic service, because in he is very interested in politics. He also said he thinks this will be an insightful opportunity.

Mayor Rutledge said the City Council is glad to have you serve and if you have questions, please ask.

(d) Mayor

Mayor David Rutledge had the following report:

None.

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

8. ORDINANCES

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2019-09 amending Ordinance No. 90-2 and Exhibit "A" of Ordinance Nos. 03-04, 05-07, 2013-04, 2015-09 and 2018-16 by increasing water rate by \$.75 on minimum usage and increasing water rate by \$.25 per thousand gallon usage from 3,000 gallons to 50,000, increase Re-read fee by \$5.00, increase master lock fee by \$20.00, increase meter deposit fee by \$25.00 and include non-emergency after hours fee of \$50.00

Mr. Fukuda read Ordinance No. 2019-09, in its entirety, amending the Ordinance No. 90-2 and Exhibit "A" of Ordinance Nos. 03-04, 05-07, 2013-04, 2015-09 and 2018-16.

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-09 as read, seconded by Council Member Harrington.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED and RESOLUTION PASSED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2019-10 to establish a perpetual water and sewer maintenance and construction fee for residential unit per month of \$4.00 and for commercial unit per month of \$4.00

Mr. Fukuda read Ordinance No. 2019-10, in its entirety, establishing a perpetual water and sewer maintenance and construction fee for residential unit per month of \$4.00 and for commercial unit per month of \$4.00.

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-10 as read, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier.

With no discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED and RESOLUTION PASSED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisetle, Harrington, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve minutes of the August 20, 2019 City Council Meeting

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2019 City Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member Fields.

Council Member Fields said there is one slight correction. She said the minutes states she was to attend a census meeting for training on August 25, but it is September 25.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisetle, Harrington, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

10. ADJOURN

Council Member Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m., seconded by Council Member Harbert.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisetle, Harrington, and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary