

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 17, 2019

The City Council of Bridge City met in a regular session on Tuesday, September 17, 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 Fisette
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
Mitzzi Nolan Personnel/Purchasing Director
Police Chief Paul Davis
Assistant Utility Superintendent Mike Die
Public Works Director Mike Lund

2. INVOCATION

Invocation given by Council Member Tammi Fisette.

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

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, Fissette, Harrington, Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

(a) City Manager

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report for Council:

1. Public Works Director – introduced Mike Lund. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Lund if he had anything to say. Mike Lund said thank you. Mr. Jones also said this move will get him back to where he can start doing what he should be doing. Mr. Jones said he will start moving some of the duties to Mr. Lund. Mr. Jones told Mayor and Council it will take a little while because the City has a lot of things going on. Mr. Lund needs to understand how they work and where they are coming from, so we will work on that for the next week or two. Mr. Jones also introduced Mike Die as the new Water/Sewer Superintendent. Mr. Die told Mayor and Council that they can depend on the same professional job.
2. Yard lines – are complete for the year. Mr. Jones told City Council there were a few left and those will be added to the list for next year. He said the City is confident we will get this grant next year. City Staff will start to work on additional places and areas and houses that will be put on next year's list.
3. Harvey projects – no news on the projects.
4. Manholes and fire plugs – the Texas Water Development Board sent another list of paper work to be turned in and that has been done and sent back.
5. Sewer Plant Filter – have just about all the information needed for City Staff to put it out for bids.

6. Water well – Sunnyside is at the planning stage. The City has a lot of people working but not a lot of happening right now.

(b) City Council

Council Member Carl Harbert said he talked to Robbie Kelcher last Wednesday and Mr. Kelcher said with all the work that has been going on he did not get a drop of water in his yard. Mr. Kelcher said normally with the rain the City had his back yard would be half full, and he had none. Mr. Kelcher is thankful for the work that has been done, the contractor, the housing people and everyone else that has cleaned ditches.

Council Member Mike Reed

None.

Council Member Tammi Fisette said the ponds in front of the school, Mr. Jones, are we watching them. She said she noticed one holds water and one does not. Mr. Jones said he really has not looked at it, but he will. He said probably what is happened is when they go in and actually construct the ponds, it has to be a little deeper so they can put some type of liner, like a clay liner in it. They probably had it down some and the rain hit and if it is holding water, we can get the contractor to pump the pond out. Council Member Fisette said she knows one of the ponds has held water since they dug it. Council Member Fisette said she knows there is retention and detention and would like the City to keep an eye on that to make sure the contractors are putting the right things in. Mr. Jones said most of the those ponds should not hold water. Mr. Jones also said they should only hold water when we get a major rain fall, so the City will check on it and get it corrected.

Council Member Danny Harrington

None.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier

None.

Council Member Lucy

None.

(c) City Staff Report

Student Representative:

None.

City Attorney Paul Fukuda

None.

(d) Mayor

Mayor David Rutledge had the following report:

1. He congratulated Mike Lund and Mike Die and said to remember the following phrases: "I welcome the opportunity and I look forward to the challenges".
2. Mayor Rutledge also said December 14, 2019, will have an event called "Trees for Bridge City". He said there is a foundation in Houston, Texas called Trees for Houston, and will be donating 50 trees and will help City Staff plant them. Mayor Rutledge said Trees for Houston will also donate 250 trees to citizens. The City will begin distributing public notices regarding signing up for the trees in November. If someone ask about it, tell them to call the Mayor.

9. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

7. ORDINANCES

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2019-11 adopting and levying municipal ad valorem taxes for the 2019 tax year for the City of Bridge City, Texas as follows:

\$0.19790 per \$100.00 valuation - Debt Service Rate (Interest and Sinking)

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

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

Mr. Fukuda read the caption of Ordinance No. 2019-11, thereby constituting the reading of the ordinance as required by City Charter, Section 3.10.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion "I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.55350, which is effectively a 9.02 percent increase in the tax rate. The tax rate 0.35560 for maintenance and operations and 0.19790 for debt service with a total of 0.55350 per \$100 valuation." Motion was seconded by Council Member Fields.

Votes were as follows for Sections A and B:

HARBERT	YES
REED	YES
FISETTE	YES
HARRINGTON	YES
GAUTHIER	YES

FIELDS YES
RUTLEDGE YES

Votes were stated and signed for as evidenced on Ordinance No. 2019-11.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve minutes of the September 3, 2019 City Council Meeting

Council Member Fields made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2019 City Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member Reed.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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 the City bills for the month of August 2019

Council Member Harbert made a motion to approve the City bills for the month of August 2019, seconded by Council Member Reed.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(c) Consideration and possible action to appoint/reappoint members for the 2019-2021 terms to the following City Boards and Commissions

Board of Adjustment
Building Standards Commission

***Planning and Zoning Commission
Library Advisory Board***

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to appoint/reappoint members for the 2019-2021 terms to the City Boards and Commission, seconded by Council Member Fields.

Board of Adjustment

Reappoint Judy Cole, Board Member; Patsy Dowden, Alternate Board Member; Beverly Perry, Alternate Board Member; appoint Brenda Scales, Alternate Board Member and move Michael Gauthier, from Alternate Board Member to Board Member

Building Standards Commission

Reappoint Jeremiah Johnson, Board Member and appoint John Scales, Alternate Board Member

Planning and Zoning Commission

Reappoint Becky Rutledge, Chairman; Steve Quibodeaux, Vice Chairman; John Dubose, Board Member; Elaine Hearn, Board Member; and David Gauthier, Board Member

Library Advisory Board

Reappoint Jaclyn Phillips, Board Member; Robbie Bethea, Board Member; and appoint Hayley Kibodeaux, Board Member,

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(d) Consideration and possible action to award the Elsie Street Drainage Project

Council Member Fields made a motion to award the Elsie Street Drainage Project, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier.

Mr. Jones said that we received a bid that is within the City's budget to get the projects done. He also told Mayor and Council that it was divided in two parts. The low bid was McInnis Construction, Inc., the total cost of the project is \$279,690.03. Proposal 1 is \$125,899.53 and Proposal 2 is \$153,790.50. City Staff will do some of the work. Mark Kelly, Action Civil Engineers, PLLC is here if you have questions of him.

Council Member Harbert asked if this complies with what the City originally started with, will it give the same pipe diameters.

Mr. Jones said it will actually give more pipe diameter, because the City left one in the street and put another one behind the curb. The City will have more volume than what was originally proposed. He also said, the City put back in the laterals that went further down on both ends we originally thought would need to be taken out. The City will have to cut the ditch between the properties where we will reroute the water. The City will do everything that was on the original plan.

Council Member Fisette said the City will do everything that is on the original plan, the plans Mr. Kelly came up here and discussed with the Council, pretty much the major adjustments, from what I am hearing, is the pipe on side of the road instead of under the road.

Mr. Jones said adding additional pipe and not pulling from out of the road. Originally the City was going to take one out and put a new in, but to reduce the cost we simply came behind the curb and added a bigger pipe. The City will have a lot more volume than we had originally.

Council Member Fisette said she knew that at one time they had all the lines marked, the gas lines and the pipes, so that is not going to be an issue.

Mr. Jones said no, the City will work around all that and some of the lines will need to be re-marked. There are some the City will need to have raised or lowered, but that is all part of this bid.

Council Member Fisette said she knows there have been repairs done on Arthur St., she spoke with Mr. Kelly and he said the asphalt in the middle of the concrete is temporary, he also said it was on back log.

Mr. Jones said if you look there are two spots on Arthur St., not one. There is one on each end of the street. He said right now the wait time on cement is 6 weeks, so it is hard schedule for half yard of cement 6 weeks down the road. He said the City will wait in doing this project and get a little overage on some that they will need to pour and work the two spots in for repairs.

Council Member Fisette said the City will get the first one by FM 408 also.

Mr. Jones said yes.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

10. ADJOURN

Council Member Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m., seconded by Council Member Fields.

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Terri Gauthier, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary