

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

March 17, 2020

The City Council of Bridge City met in a regular session on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, 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

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT: Council Member Lucy Fields

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Jerry D. Jones
 City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
 Finance Director Karen Morgan
 Police Chief Paul Davis

2. INVOCATION

Invocation given by Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier.

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

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.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Fields.

5. PRESENTATION

(a) Presentation of an award to the City of Bridge City by Texas Municipal League Institute

Mayor Rutledge presented an award from the Texas Municipal Institute to Mr. Jones for the City of Bridge City. Mayor Rutledge read, "The Texas Municipal League Institute, Award of Leadership presented to the City of Bridge City for recognizing the importance of continuing education to the enhancement of local governance by investing in the training of your elected leaders through the Texas Municipal League Institute, 2019". Mayor Rutledge said he was privileged to accept this award on behalf of the City. Mayor Rutledge also said there are 1,160 cities in the Texas Municipal League in the State of Texas and Bridge City is one of seven that has ever received this award.

(b) Presentation of tips for survivors of a disaster or traumatic event

Mayor Rutledge asked the presenter to step to the microphone and state his name and address. Gus Roy, Represents MHMR and FEMA

Mr. Roy said this is a new program and it is Disaster Relief. In Imelda and the explosion in Port Neches and Groves, people were displaced really quick. When they got to where they were going to go, even if it was with relatives, they did not know who to call or to talk with, who could help them and when could they help them. FEMA got together with MHMR and they designed this packet. Mr. Roy told City Council he would try to explain it to them if they could open the packet. He said starting with the page that reads Disaster Relief, which tells about disaster relief and on

the back is numbers, and these numbers people can call and they will give tips on how to survive. Please look at the page that reads Referral Resources, and this page gives you referral numbers. When people get where they are staying, these numbers will be helpful to them, for such as food, transportation, and for pregnant women. He said he was a survivor of Imelda and he had to take care of his mother, because she was mean, she would not let anyone in her house except him. He also said when water came in the house, they did not have this program. He pointed out his phone number, in case City Council needed to contact him. He said there is also Scenario pages and now there is a phone number for each scenario. Mr. Roy thanked the City Council for letting him present this information to them to be distributed to the community. Mayor Rutledge thanked Mr. Roy for coming and giving the City this information.

6. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

(a) City Manager

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report for Council:

1. Elsie Street Drainage Project – the contractor’s work is complete, but the City has quite a bit to do over there. The City is waiting on weather conditions and it is almost dry enough to get back in there and do the work.
2. Sewer Plant Filter – most of the equipment came in, and the City is waiting on the pad to be built.
3. Manhole Project – they have completed 3 or 4 manholes and are still moving.
4. Center Street Project – started cutting the brush.
5. Roadside Ditches – waiting on line locates.
6. Fire Plugs – TWB requested more information. The City sent in the additional requested information. Mark Kelly, Action Civil Engineering PLLC will get the fire plugs bid.
7. Splash Pad – the City is resurfacing the pad. The work will be finished by the end of the week.

(b) City Council

Council Member Carl Harbert

None.

Council Member Mike Reed

None.

Council Member Tammi Fisette said she heard in the community that the drainage is going a different way on the project off Ferry Drive.

Mr. Jones said it was going both ways.

Council Member Fisette asked if it was going both ways now.

Mr. Jones said yes.

Council Member Fisette said at first it was just the Meadowlawn ditch then it changed to...

Mr. Jones said they wanted to cut the Ferry Drive road and the contractors will not cut Ferry Drive Road. He said the contractors came in with an alternate plan, and the Drainage District approved

them splitting it. He also said the Meadowlawn ditch will be the overflow basically, but the amount that is released will still be the same amount as the 12” pipe.

Council Member Fisette asked we don’t think taking it to Bridgeview will hurt.

Mr. Jones said according to the contractors calculations it will decrease the amount of water going down to the Bridgeview ditch.

Council Member Fisette said she also heard that TXDOT is possibly putting in a turning lane on FM 1442 down to FM 105, is that true or is that not true.

Mr. Jones said TXDOT has not contacted him, he asked County Commissioner Roccaforte if had heard anything about it.

County Commissioner Roccaforte asked where.

Council Member Harbert said FM 1442 all the way to FM 105. He also said he called TXDOT and they told him after they finish Hwy. 12 then they were coming to FM 1442.

Mr. Jones told Council Member Harbert that he knew more than him, because TXDOT had not called him.

Council Member Harbert said he had several people ask him about it, so he checked with TXDOT and was told it had already started.

County Commissioner Roccaforte said there is already one at FM 1442 and FM 105.

Council Member Harbert said no, from the traffic light at the school to FM 105.

County Commissioner Roccaforte said a center turning lane.

Council Member Harbert said yes, a center turning lane. He also said TXDOT will be striping Hwy. 87 to Chemical Row, because at night you cannot see the lanes.

Council Member Danny Harrington

None.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier

None.

(c) City Staff Report

None.

Student Representative:

City Attorney Paul Fukuda

None.

(d) Mayor

Mayor David Rutledge had the following report:

1. He thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier for conducting the last meeting as he was accepting an award for the City.
2. A Declaration of Disaster had been signed by County Judge Gothia and it is to raise awareness. It does read to “Manage to 50”, which means try to limit any event to 50 people or less. He also said don’t be surprised if it is now manage to 10. He said they are

trying to get a handle on this and the City needs to participate any way possible. The City is thinking about taking steps to protect not only our citizens, but the employees.

3. Made a recommendation to cancel the first meeting in April. If the level of awareness is reduced, the City Council will meet on the last scheduled meeting of the month of April. If it still at a heightened state, the City may cancel that meeting also. A notice will be sent out before the meeting is to take place.
4. We have an open meeting and will keep an open meeting, that will not change, unless you have business here please limit your exposure. Please try to conduct business you may have by telephone or e-mail.

7. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve minutes of the March 3, 2020 City Council Meeting

Council Member Reed made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2020 City Council Meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier.

Council Member Harbert said in Item number 3 need to change Mayor Rutledge to Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier.

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.

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Fields.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve the City Bills for the month of February 2020

Council Member Carl Harbert made a motion to approve the City Bills for the month of the February 2020, seconded by Council Member Harrington.

Council Member Fisette said on page 19, the Harvey Project to LJA Engineering, Mr. Jones what specific is that for, what Harvey Projects are we talking about.

Mr. Jones said it is on the drainage ditches.

Council Member Fisette said on page 23, the water meters, the software update.

Mr. Jones said it is the process we are going through right now, trying to get the meters working.

Council Member Fisette asked if the City had any meters working so far.

Mr. Jones said yes there is quite a few working, but Staff is trying to revamp the whole system.

Council Member Fisette said she was under the impression all the meters were down.

Mr. Jones said they may all be down, but Staff can still read them by driving by.
Council Member Harbert said last time he talked to Mike only 50% were still working.
Mr. Jones said the whole system is under review.
Finance Director Karen Morgan said the charge is a window update.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Fields.

(c) *Consideration and possible action on the awarding of an engineering services contract to LJA Engineering for services related to the CDBG-DR flood and drainage improvement project.*

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion on the awarding of an engineering services contract to LJA Engineering for services related to the CDBG-DR flood and drainage improvement project, seconded by Council Member Harbert.

Mr. Jones explained this had already been awarded and this is an ongoing project, but because there are some different increments in it, Traylor & Associates requested the City approve it again. This is a formality and the work has begun.

Mayor Rutledge said they changed the way they bill it.

Mr. Jones said actually it is from three different entities.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Fields.

(d) *Consideration and possible action to appoint Hank Fontenot as the Rabies Control Authority for the purposes of the Rabies Control Act of 1981*

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to appoint Hank Fontenot as the Rabies Control Authority for the purposes of the Rabies Control Act of 1981, seconded by Council Member Harbert.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Fields.

(e) Consideration and possible action to approve the 2020 Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment increase of 0.7267% to be applied to the City's Municipal Telecommunications Right-of-Way Access Line Rates

Council Member Harbert made a motion to approve the 2020 Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustment increase of 0.7267% to be applied to the City's Municipal Telecommunications Right of-Way Access Line Rates, seconded by Council Member Reed.

Mr. Jones explained this is additional amount of money coming to the City, and this fee is paid to the City.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Fields.

8. ADJOURN

Council Member Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m., seconded by Council Member Harbert.

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

MOTION CARRIED.

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

Noes: None.

Absent: Council Member Fields.

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary