

CITY OF COOPER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR
JANUARY 10, 2022

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: DARREN BRADDY; MAYOR, AMANDA L'ESPERANCE, DIANE STEGALL AND ELMO ROBINSON

ABSENT: DAVID PHILLIPS AND ALLEN FOSTER

CITY ATTORNEY: JAY GARRETT

OTHERS PRESENT: EMILY HOWSE, JOE ADAMS, SUSAN RASER, KAREN ATKINS, DONNA THOMASON, VICTORIA BETHEA, SHAUNA HOLLOWAY, JEFF HOLLOWAY, LINDA BARNES, LARRY WILLIS AND WILLIAM DUKE

AGENDA ITEM #1

Mayor Darren Braddy called the meeting to order and Darren also voiced the prayer.

AGENDA ITEM #2

Public comments will be allowed on each topic.

AGENDA ITEM #3

Diane Stegall made the motion to approve the December 13, 2021 minutes as written. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #4

Victoria Bethea, with McClanahan and Holmes, presented the 2020-2021 year end audit. Victoria went over several aspects of the audit. She stated this audit presented a clean opinion of the financial statements. Victoria stated that lack of segregation of duties is an issue but can't be helped due the small size of the City. She stated that all was great. Mayor Darren Braddy thanked Victoria for her presentation. Amanda L'Esperance made the motion to approve and accept the 2020-2021 year end audit as presented. Elmo Robinson seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #5

Mayor Darren Braddy introduced Chris Donnan, with Hayter Engineering, to present the item to approve the bid for the TDA TXCDBG Grant 7220101 for improvements to the Water Treatment Plant. Chris stated that bids were opened on January 4, 2022 and only one bid was presented. Chris stated that the one bid was much higher than what the grant would pay. Chris stated that, in his opinion, the city should reject the bid and rebid this project. With the rejection of this bid it will cause the project to go beyond the time frame for securing bids but Chris assured the council that it should not cause big issues. Chris stated that the city will receive a letter stating the missed time frame but as long as the project is completed by January 31, 2023 there should be no repercussions. The main challenge will be the time it takes to get and find supplies, due the uncontrollable situations caused by COVID and its variants. Amanda L'Esperance made the motion to reject the one and only bid for the TDA TXCDBG Grant #7220101 for improvements to the Water Treatment Plant that was above the limit of the grant itself. Diane Stegall seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #6

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council more discussion of RV Park regulations. After much discussion on this matter, it was the consensus of the council to table this until further information could be obtained. Darren asked Diane Stegall, who is personally contemplating building an RV Park, to put together a list of regulations that she will enforce as a business owner of such facility and present it at the next council meeting.

Elmo Robinson made the motion to table this item until further information could be obtained and presented at the next meeting. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Diane Stegall abstained. Vote to table carried.

AGENDA ITEM #7

Mayor Darren Braddy brought back discussion of changes to the vendors on the square that needed to be looked at. Darren stated that he had been contacted by several vendors that wanted to set up in Cooper. Darren stated that right now only one is setting up regularly and being on the square has not been an issue, but with the increase of food trucks that want to set up there is not enough room for all to be on the square. Darren stated that the park would be the best place for all vendors to set up and charge permit fees to do so. It was the consensus of the council to table this item until further details could be obtained and presented at the next council meeting.

Amanda L'Esperance made the motion to table the item of changes to vendors on the square until next meeting. Elmo Robinson seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #8

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that publishing issues had recently become an issue due to the lack of getting items published in a timely and correct manner. Rhandi Allred, owner of Cooper Review News, apologized to Darren (according to Darren) for her errors and mistakes. Rhandi told Darren (according to Darren) that the Cooper Review News was now her primary and only job and she would be more attentive to ads that needed to be run and she would get them published on time. City Attorney, Jay Garrett stated that he was looking into the possibility of an alternate publishing source in case of uncontrollable circumstances with Cooper Review News. It was the consensus of the council to give Cooper Review News another chance. It was also the consensus of the council to table this until further information could be obtained on approving an alternate publishing source.

Diane Stegall made the motion to table this item until further information could be obtained. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #9

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that Amanda Scott had previously asked if adult baseball teams could use the Delta County Baseball Association (DCBA) fields. Darren stated that this had been previously discussed and was presented again for clarification of details. City Attorney, Jay Garrett, stated that the DCBA could sublet the fields and the city could create an ordinance stating utility financial responsibilities.

Diane Stegall made the motion for, City Attorney, Jay Garrett to put together a utility financial responsibility ordinance for use of the DCBA fields for other than youth, to present at the next meeting. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #10

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that Cynthia Steward and Regina White wished to remain on the Cooper Housing Authority Board. It was the consensus of the council to re-appoint them. Elmo Robinson made the motion to re-appoint Cynthia Steward and Regina White to a two-year term on the Cooper Housing Authority Board. Diane Stegall seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #11

No requests for funds were made this month.

AGENDA ITEM #12

Mayor Darren Braddy updated the council on city status and current events. He stated that the TXDOT 2.3-million-dollar street repair on the square was still being discussed. Darren is still working on getting a five-year plan for topping gravel streets and pot holes were being filled.

AGENDA ITEM #13

Monthly budget reports were reviewed.

AGENDA ITEM #14

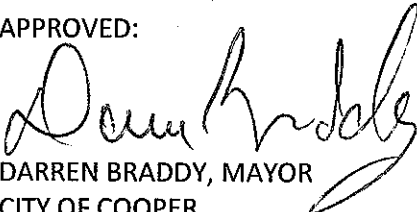
Accounts payable were reviewed.

AGENDA ITEM #15

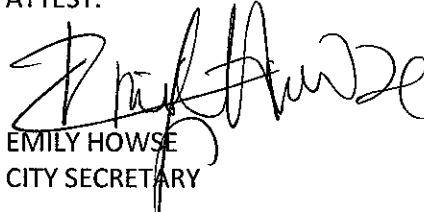
Diane Stegall made the motion to adjourn. Elmo Robinson seconded. Vote unanimous.

TIME: 6:11 PM

APPROVED:


DARREN BRADDY, MAYOR
CITY OF COOPER

ATTEST:


EMILY HOWSE
CITY SECRETARY