

CITY OF COOPER  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR  
JANUARY 13, 2020 – 5:00 PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: DARREN BRADY; MAYOR, DAVID PHILLIPS, ALLEN FOSTER, AMANDA L'ESPERANCE, DONNA THOMASON, AND WILLIE "BEAR" WILKINS

CITY ATTORNEY: LEIGH THOMPSON SAT IN FOR JAY GARRETT

OTHERS PRESENT: EMILY HOWSE, KASEY BRITTON, JENELL PARKER, BEN PARKER, KIM COX, KAREN ATKINS, SUSAN RASER, ELDON FOX, BRENDA GABBARD, JOE ADAMS, DIANE HYATT, KODY WHIPPLE, JIM BUTLER, TINA MARTINEZ, BAILEY BURNS, AND BRENDA STEWART

**AGENDA ITEM #1**

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

**AGENDA ITEM #2**

Donna Thomason made the motion to approve the December 9, 2019 minutes as presented. Willie "Bear" Wilkins seconded. Vote unanimous.

**AGENDA ITEM #3**

Mayor Darren Braddy asked the council to reschedule the March meeting due to the fact that he would not be able to attend on March 9, 2020. Donna Thomason made the motion to schedule the March regular council meeting to March 16, 2020 at 5:00 pm. David Phillips seconded. Vote unanimous.

**AGENDA ITEM #4**

Mayor Braddy presented to the council that Brenda Stewart was present to discuss a possible 380 agreement. He stated that Brenda wanted to develop 10 new structures in the Cooper Development #3 Survey and it was her desire to ask the city to waive water and sewer tap fees and in return the builder would build the road using the chip and seal method, at approximately a \$20,000 cost, when the construction of the structures was complete. Mayor Braddy stated that this agenda item was to see if the council was interested in considering this type of agreement. It was the consensus of the council to look into an agreement of this nature and this item would be put on the next agenda. No action.

**AGENDA ITEM #5**

Mayor Braddy stated that City Councilwoman, Amanda L'Esperance, had prepared documents to present to the council to discuss the possibility of the City of Cooper becoming a Second Amendment Sanctuary City. Amanda stated that this action was to protect the constitutional rights of citizens in the event that the Federal Government passed mandates that would allow law enforcement to confiscate guns from citizens. Mayor Braddy stated that any action put in place from the City's stand point would be a mute point due to the fact that the City did not

govern the County Law Enforcement. It was the consensus of the council to put this item back on the agenda next month.

#### AGENDA ITEM #6

Mayor Braddy presented to the council that the 30.06/30.07 signage on City Hall was at hand. He stated that this item had been previously discussed and was tabled until the State made a ruling on the verbiage. He stated that the State determined that it was the responsibility of the council to determine if they wanted to allow guns to be carried in meetings or not. It was the consensus of the council to discuss this item at the next meeting.

#### AGENDA ITEM #7

Mayor Braddy stated that there were three sections in the animal ordinance that needed to be addressed. He stated that livestock, stray dogs, and dog restraint needed to be amended. He stated that livestock should only be allowed temporary such as a 4-H project. He stated that the city's ordinance on dog restraint goes above state regulations and does not allow tethering. His opinion this needs to be changed. Jenell Parker stated that she and other concerned citizens were the reason the no tethering ordinance was implemented. She stated that tethering makes animals mean.

Allen Foster made the motion to table this item until the next meeting in order to allow the council time to decide what changes needed to be made to the animal ordinance. David Phillips seconded. Vote unanimous.

#### AGENDA ITEM #8

The item of waiving permit fees for school and church was at hand. Mayor Braddy stated that, in his opinion, schools and churches should not be charged a fee. He stated that all inspections would still be done as usual. It was the consensus of the council to include all nonprofit entities such as 501 C 3.

Allen Foster made the motion to waive permit fees for all non profit entities such as 501 C3. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

#### AGENDA ITEM #9

Mayor Braddy presented to the council the need to appoint members to the Cooper Housing Authority Board. He stated that the question of appointing someone who did not live in the city was brought up. Mayor Braddy stated that Cynthia Steward, Bill Martin, and Regina White were the possible candidates for this appointment. Two of these candidates do not live in the city. Kody Whipple, who was in the audience and lives in the city, stated his wish to be on this board. It was the consensus of the council to allow citizens who did not live in the city to be appointed to this board. Mayor Darren Braddy stated that this item should be tabled until further discussion with Malone Oats is done.

Donna Thomason made the motion to table this item until the next meeting. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

**AGENDA ITEM #10**

The item of becoming a member with HGAC Buy was not necessary as the City of Cooper is already a member. No action needed or taken.

**AGENDA ITEM #11**

Mayor Braddy gave updates on leaks, streets, and general projects.

**AGENDA ITEM #12**

Monthly budget reports were reviewed.

**AGENDA ITEM #13**

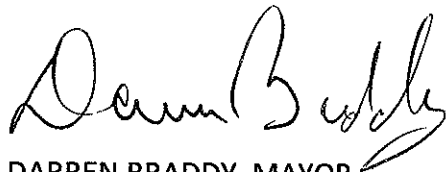
David Phillips made the motion to approve accounts payable. Allen Foster seconded. Vote unanimous.

**AGENDA ITEM #14**

Willie "Bear" Wilkins made the motion to adjourn. Donna Thomason seconded. Vote unanimous.

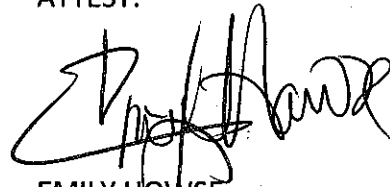
TIME: 6:15 PM

APPROVED:



DARREN BRADDY, MAYOR  
CITY OF COOPER

ATTEST:



EMILY HOWSE  
CITY SECRETARY