

CITY OF COOPER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR VIA ZOOM
JULY 13, 2020 – 5:00 PM

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

CITY ATTORNEY: JAY GARRETT

OTHERS PRESENT: EMILY HOWSE, ALLEN HOUCHINS, MICKY JO LAND, JOHNNY LAND, JIM BUTLER, ALEAH BRYAN, CARMON FRAISER, WILL ANDERTON, AND DIANE STEGALL

AGENDA ITEM #1

Mayor Darren Braddy called the meeting to order. The prayer was skipped due to Zoom.

AGENDA ITEM #2

Allen Foster made the motion to approve the June 8, 2020 minutes as written. Donna Thomason seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #3

Public comments from the public was on the table. No public comments were made.

AGENDA ITEM #4

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that Johnny and Micky Jo Land were present to ask the council to waive water tap fees for two new structures that he was in process of building. Johnny has already built one structure in which he has paid the fees for the water tap and sewer tap. Mayor Braddy stated that the property where construction was taking place previously had water and sewer but now there was only sewer access available. Mayor Darren Braddy stated up front that Johnny Land was related to him. Darren stated that he did not want any possible thoughts of nepotism or special treatment in the future. Amanda L'Esperance asked, City Attorney, Jay Garrett if she should abstain from this item due to the fact that she sold the property to Johnny Land. City Attorney Jay Garrett stated that Amanda had no present association due to the fact that the property was sold to the Land's before the issue of waiving fees came about. It was the consensus of the council to charge ½ price for the two water taps. David Phillips made the motion to charge Johnny and Micky Jo Land ½ price for two water taps for the two new constructions that were in process. Allen Foster seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #5

Allen Foster made the motion to table the item of joining the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) until more information was obtained. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #6

The continuation of health insurance coverage with TML was on the table for discussion. Mayor Darren Braddy stated that there was no increase in the premium this year. He also stated that, due to COVID-19 and elective surgeries being low, that TML would be giving a monthly equity credit beginning October 1, 2020. It was the consensus of the council to renew health/dental/vision coverage with TML this year, but to actively search for a more economical source.

David Phillips made the motion to accept continuation of coverage with TML beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021. Willie "Bear" Wilkins seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #7

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council the need to sell some old equipment. Darren stated that the city had an old wood chipper, mosquito fog pump, track loader and dump truck that needed to be sold or salvaged. Mayor Braddy stated that he would check to see what it would cost to repair the dump truck and then decide if it was more cost effective to fix or sell. It was the consensus of the council to advertise all items for bid in local papers. The City would retain the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Donna Thomason made the motion to advertise the chipper, mosquito fog pump, track loader and possibly the dump truck for bid in the local papers. David Phillips seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #8

David Phillips made the motion to table the item of removing the No Parking signs on N.E. 1st between Bonham Avenue and Cooper Avenue until further information could be obtained. Allen Foster seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #9

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that several contractors had approached him and wanted to build on and remodel some of the property and structures that had been donated to the City. The property at 550 S.E. 5th, where the city demolished a dilapidated structure, was one where the contractor wanted to build. The Mason building, located at 110 S.W. 1st, was one that a contractor wanted to remodel and put his business there. It was the consensus of the council to advertise these properties for bid and for City Attorney Jay Garrett to prepare restrictive and detailed contract documents for each.

Donna Thomason made the motion to put the city owned properties up for bid with the right to accept or reject any or all bids and attorney prepared contract documents for each. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Willie "Bear" Wilkins abstained. Vote carried.

AGENDA ITEM #10

David Phillips made the motion to approve the 2021 Delta County Appraisal District Preliminary Budget. Allen Foster seconded. Vote unanimous.

CHANGED TAPE SIDES AT 5:53 PM TAPE METER: 759

AGENDA ITEM #11

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that the stop sign at the intersection of W. Wilson Avenue and N.W. 11th Street that was approved at the June 8, 2020 meeting needed to be adjusted. Mayor Braddy stated that, in reality, it should be made a 3 way stop.

Allen Foster made the motion to allow, City Attorney, Jay Garrett to prepare the ordinance to make the intersection of W. Wilson Avenue and N. W. 11th Street a 3 way stop. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #12

Willie "Bear" Wilkins made the motion to read by caption ordinance #01-07-2020 designating placement of Slow Children at Play signs on South Lake Street and E. Kaufman Avenue. Donna Thomason seconded. Vote unanimous.

City Attorney Jay Garrett read:

ORDINANCE NO. 01-07-2020

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ERECTING "CHILDREN AT PLAY" SIGNS ON THE EAST SIDE OF SOUTH LAKE STREET, WITH ONE SIGN FACING SOUTH ON THE SOUTH END AND THE OTHER SIGN LOCATED AT THE NORTH END OF SOUTH LAKE STREET FACING NORTH, AND AT THE WEST END OF E. KAUFMAN AVENUE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF EAST KAUFMAN AVENUE, FACING WEST, AND ON THE EAST END OF E KAUFMAN AVENUE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF EAST KAUFMAN AVENUE FACING EAST; GRANTING AUTHORITY TO THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THIS ORDINANCE AND ALL INSTRUMENTS REQUISITE IN IMPLEMENTING THIS ORDINANCE; AND AUTHORIZING CITY SECRETARY TO AUTHENTICATE MAYOR'S SIGNATURE TO THIS ORDINANCE AND ANY INSTRUMENTS REQUISITE IN IMPLEMENTING THIS ORDINANCE.

Willie "Bear" Wilkins made the motion to approve ordinance #01-07-2020 for placement of Slow Children at Play signs on South Lake Street and E. Kaufman Avenue. Donna Thomason seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #13

This item was combined with item agenda item #12. No action

AGENDA ITEM #14

Mayor Darren Braddy called to recess into executive session per Texas Government Code 551.074 personnel issues.

Time: 6:03 PM. Tape meter: 874.

AGENDA ITEM #15

Time: 6:41 PM Tape meter: 874

Mayor Braddy reconvened into regular session. David Phillips made the motion to support the employee termination decision. Donna Thomason seconded. David Phillips voted aye, Allen Foster voted aye, Amanda L'Esperance voted nay, Donna Thomason voted aye, and Willie "Bear" Wilkins voted aye. Ayes carried to support the employee termination decision.

AGENDA ITEM #16

Mayor Darren Braddy updated the council on city status and current events.

AGENDA ITEM #17

Monthly budget reports were reviewed.

AGENDA ITEM #18

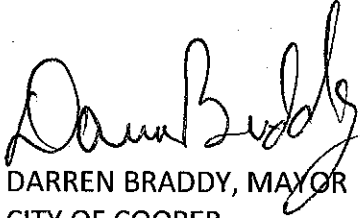
Accounts payable were reviewed.

AGENDA ITEM #19

Willie "Bear" Wilkins made the motion to adjourn. David Phillips seconded. Vote unanimous.

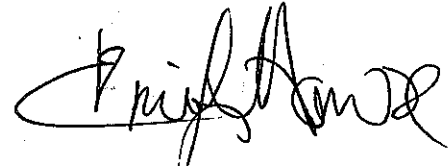
TIME: 6:55 PM

APPROVED:



DARREN BRADDY, MAYOR
CITY OF COOPER

ATTEST:



EMILY HOWSE
CITY SECRETARY