

CITY OF COOPER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR
MARCH 14, 2022 – 5:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: DARREN BRADDY; MAYOR, DAVID PHILLIPS, AMANDA L'ESPERANCE AND DIANE STEGALL

CITY ATTORNEY: JAY GARRETT

ABSENT: ALLEN FOSTER AND ELMO ROBINSON

OTHERS PRESENT: EMILY HOWSE, CHRIS DONNAN, KAREN ATKINS, SUSAN RASER, DORTHY RUTLEDGE, AND LINDA BARNES

AGENDA ITEM #1

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

AGENDA ITEM #2

No public comments were made.

AGENDA ITEM #3

Diane Stegall made the motion to approve the February 14, 2022 regular meeting minutes and the February 18, 2022 special meeting minutes as written. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #4

Mayor Darren Braddy presented the item of determining the council preference of the refunding bond savings. Darren presented ideas of how to use the savings if the up-front option was agreed upon, but he stated that no decision had to be made at this time for the use of the savings. Darren stated that the council only had to decide if they wanted the up-front use of the savings or apply the savings to the end of the bond term. Darren stated that the amount of savings could not be determined at this time due to the new purchase action has been executed and the interest rate is fluctuating daily due to the overseas crises. Diane Stegall stated that no decision could be determined until other items on the agenda were discussed.

After the other items were discussed, it was the consensus of the council to opt for the up-front savings on the refunding of the bonds and exact use would be determined at a later date.

Diane Stegall made the motion to take the up-front savings of the refunding of the bonds with the use of that savings to be determined at a later date. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #5

Mayor Braddy presented to the council that the city had two CD's, \$17,060.00 and \$57,340.00 which secured the current bonds that the city has. Darren stated that if the current bonds are refunded then the CD's have to be applied to the pay down of the current bonds. The two CD's total \$74,400.00 which is figured into the savings presented by D.A. Davidson. Darren stated that the \$57,340.00 CD would mature on March 25, 2022 and the \$17,060.00 CD would mature June 24, 2022. Darren stated that the city would need to redeem both CD's before they could be applied to the paydown of the bonds. Darren stated that the CD maturing in June would be charged a penalty for early redemption, which according to Linda Barnes with First National would be minimal, most likely under \$20.00.

David Phillips made the motion to redeem both CD's, \$57,340.00 (000005013964) and \$17,060.00 (000005017255), with the penalty for the CD \$17,060.00 which matures in June. Diane Stegall seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #6

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council the item to discuss the use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Darren stated that the city had received \$246,918.70 and would receive \$246,918.70 more this year. Darren also stated that it looks like this money can be used anywhere but the final determination would be finalized in a week or so. Darren stated that water and sewer improvements were already approved for the use of the ARPA funds therefore funds could be used to complete one of the projects that fell short around \$145,000.00 of funding from the TXCDBG TDA Grant #7220101 for improvements to the Water Treatment Plant due to skyrocketing costs.

After much discussion of use of the ARPA funds no action was taken on this item.

AGENDA ITEM #7

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that the item to award rebid for the TXCDBG TDA Grant #7220101 improvements to the Water Treatment Plant for the North Ground Storage Tank Rehabilitation was at hand.

Darren introduced Chris Donnan with Hayter Engineering to inform the council of details with this process. Chris Donnan stated that this project was originally put out for bid and the bids that were received were far beyond the amount of the grant. Chris stated that the rebid was well worth the action. Chris stated that the original bid included the complete project. He stated that the rebid was done by individual projects. Chris stated that this was beneficial to the city due to the fact that not all contractors were skilled for all projects and they would have had to sub contract the projects that they were not able to do which would increase the cost. Chris stated that the individual rebid process was more beneficial to the city, but was still in excess of the grant funds.

Chris Donnan stated that there were 7 bidders for the ground storage tank rehabilitation and O & J Coatings, Inc. presented the lowest bid of \$167,000.00. Chris said that the references on this company had a high approval rating. Chris recommended the council approve O & J Coatings for the North Ground Storage Tank Rehabilitation project.

Diane Stegall made the motion to award the bid of \$167,000.00 for the TXCDBG TDA Grant #7220101 Water Treatment Plant improvements for the North Ground Storage Tank to O & J Coatings, Inc.

Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #8

Mayor Braddy again turned the meeting to Chris Donnan to present the rebid for TXCDBG TDA Grant #7220101 improvements to the Water Treatment Plant for the Clarifier Resurfacing. Chris Donnan stated that there were 2 bidders for the Clarifier Resurfacing project and T & G Services presented the lowest bid of \$117,045.00. Chris said that the references on this company had a high approval rating. Chris recommended the council approve T & G Services for the Clarifier Resurfacing project.

Diane Stegall made the motion to award the bid of \$117,045.00 for the TXCDBG TDA Grant #7220101 improvements to the Water Treatment Plant for the Clarifier Resurfacing project to T & G Services.

Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #9

Mayor Braddy again turned the meeting to Chris Donnan to present the rebid for TXCDBG TDA Grant #7220101 improvements to the Water Treatment Plant for Sluice Gate Replacement. Chris Donnan

stated that the references on this company had a high approval rating. Chris recommended the council approve Rey-Mar Construction for the Sluice Gate Replacement project. David Phillips made the motion to award the bid of \$89,000.00 for the TXCDBG TDA Grant #7220101 improvements to the Water Treatment Plant for the Sluice Gate replacement project to Rey-Mar Construction. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #10

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council Ordinance #01-03-22 which would amend Ordinance #01-10-2010 to reflect changes that were implemented by the State of Texas regarding political sign placement and size. This ordinance would remove the sign size restriction. Diane Stegall made the motion for City Attorney, Jay Garrett, to read Ordinance #01-03-22 by caption. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous. City Attorney, Jay Garrett, read:

**ORDINANCE NO. 01-03-22
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COOPER, TEXAS, AMENDING
ORDINANCE NO. 01-10-2010 MADE ON OCTOBER 12, 2010 RELATING
TO POLITICAL SIGNAGE AND PLACEMENT REGULATIONS OF
SAME; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING NO PENALTY;
AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

David Phillips made the motion to approve Ordinance #01-03-22 amending Ordinance #01-10-2010 removing the political sign placement and size restriction. Diane Stegall seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #11

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council to reappoint Betty Roseman to the Cooper Housing Authority Board for a two-year term to expire in January 2024. David Phillips made the motion to reappoint Betty Roseman to a two-year term on the Cooper Housing Authority Board for a two-year term to expire January 2024. Diane Stegall seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #12

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council the Spring and Fall clean up week dates for approval. Diane Stegall made the motion to approve April 2, 2022 through April 9, 2022 as Spring clean up week and September 10, 2022 through September 17, 2022 as Fall clean up week. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #13

Mayor Darren Braddy presented to the council that Judy Falls had requested funds in the amount of \$500.00 for the band, Facing East with Jacie Ballard, to perform a concert to be approved from the Frankie McKinney Arts Alliance Fund. The application that was signed by the board members, excluding Judy Falls, did not state where the concert would be held. It was the consensus of the council to approve this funding only if the concert was to be held within the city limits of Cooper. David Phillips made the motion to approve \$500.00 for the concert performed by Facing East with Jacie Ballard be paid from the Frankie McKinney Arts Alliance Fund if the concert will be performed within the city limits of Cooper. Diane Stegall seconded. Vote unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #14

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

AGENDA ITEM #15

Monthly budget reports were reviewed.

AGENDA ITEM #16

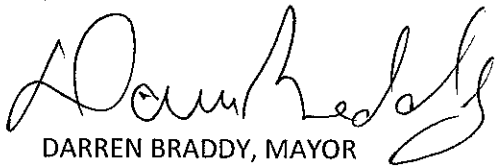
Accounts payable were reviewed.

AGENDA ITEM #17

David Phillips made the motion to adjourn. Amanda L'Esperance seconded. Vote unanimous.

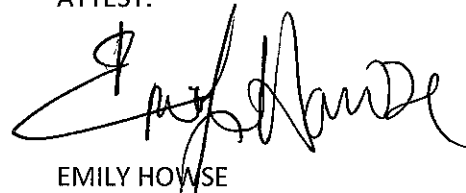
TIME: 6:06 PM

APPROVED:



DARREN BRADDY, MAYOR
CITY OF COOPER

ATTEST:



EMILY HOWSE
CITY SECRETARY