

Thursday, November 16, 2023, Regular Meeting 6:30 PM

The City Council of the City of Robert Lee, Texas met in Regular Session at the City Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Jason Moran Council Members: Josh Tennison, Mike Stephens, Jonathan Torres, City Attorney Jeff Betty

Absent: Council Members Brantly Robertson, Tracy Grantham

Call to Order, Quorum Determined, Meeting Declared Open at 6:31 PM

Proclamations & Presentations

Citizen Comments

Consent Agenda

- A. Minutes – October 19, 2023
- B. Code Enforcement & Animal Control Report
- C. Municipal Court Report
- D. Financial Report

Motion by Council Member Jonathan Torres to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Council Member Mike Stephens. Vote 5-0, motion carries.

Regular Agenda

- A. 27-23 Water Ordinance 2nd Reading
Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison. to approve of the 2nd reading of Ordinance 27-23, Water Taps & Rates. Seconded by Council Member Mike Stephens. Vote 3-0, motion carries.
- B. Theft of Services - 306 E 2nd Street
No motion or Discussion, item discussed in Executive Session
- C. Prevention of Water Theft and Damage to the Water System – Discussion
No motion or Discussion, item discussed in Executive Session
- D. Agreement - City of Robert Lee & Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department

The City Council exits the regular session into executive session to discuss Items A-D at 7:35 PM.

The City Council returns from executive session at 8:41 PM.

Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to authorize the mayor to complete negotiations with the Robert Lee Volunteer Fire Department and finalize the agreement per their discussion in Executive Session. Seconded by Council Member Jonathan Torres.

Discussion: By law, the City cannot provide insurance or workers' compensation for the Volunteer Fire Department. Due to this loss, the city would like to contribute a minimum of \$6,000 per year for public purposes exclusively to the fire department. If at the half-year mark, the VFD can request more money so long as it's available, but they will have to provide statements on how the money was used to ensure it is being used properly per the law. This money can be used in a variety of ways so long as it is being used to benefit the public, ie equipment, training, and even utilities for the building. Special Requests can be made at any time for additional funding so long as the funds are available.

Vote 3-0, motion carries.

E. USDA- Grants

Discussion Only: Jason Luna with the USDA was present to inform the council on opportunities for grants and loans that the City can utilize to improve a variety of the City's infrastructure, such as facility upgrades, equipment purchases, and/or water and wastewater projects.

F. Insurance Quotes- Health, Dental & Vision

Discussion: The City would like to move away from TML Health for something more cost-effective. Several insurance options were presented to the council through Blue Cross Blue Shield for deliberation.

Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to replace TML Health with other insurance options. Seconded by Council Member Jonathan Torres. Vote 3-0, motion carries.

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- G. Code of Conduct Policy- ARPA Requirement
Motion by Council Member Jonathan Torres to approve of Resolution adopting a Code of Conduct Policy for the ARPA grant. Seconded by Council Member Josh Tennison. Vote 3-0, motion carries.
- H. ARPA - Financial Management Policies & Procedures
Motion by Council Member Mike Stephens to approve of the Resolution adopting a Financial Management Policy and Procedures. Seconded by Council Member Josh Tennison. Vote 3-0, motion carries.
- I. 2024 City Hall Holiday Schedule
Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to approve of the 2024 Holiday Schedule. Seconded by Council Member Mike Stephens. Vote 3-0, motion carries.
- J. Closed Bid Tax Deed 245- Lucas Martinez
Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to approve of the bid for Tax Deed 245 for Lucas Martinez for \$2,950.00. Seconded by Council Member Jonathan Torres. Vote 3-0, motion carries.
- K. Closed Bid Tax Deed 323- Ray Sawyers
Motion by Council Member Jonathan Torres to approve of the bid for Tax Deed 323 for Ray Sawyers for \$8,000.00. Seconded by Council Member Josh Tennison. Vote 3-0, motion carries.
- L. Alcohol Regulations Ordinance - Repeal Ordinance 1141 & 1220 - 2nd Reading
Motion by Council Member Mike Stephens to approve of the 2nd reading of Ordinance 28-23, Repealing Alcohol Regulation Ordinances 1141 & 1220. Seconded by Council Member Jonathan Torres. Vote 3-0, motion carries.
- M. 29-23 - Budget Amendment - 1st Reading
Discussion: In water sales, a new line item has been requested to separate Bulk Water Sales from normal water receipts. In the sewer budget, the project for the new tap on Vicki would expend the entirety of the Sewer R&M fund, so money has been requested to be moved in from Contributed Capital and have a line item added specifically for this project.
Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to approve of the 1st reading of Ordinance 29-23, Budget Amendment. Seconded by Council Member Mike Stephens. Vote 3-0, motion carries.
- N. Property 7405 - Bid Cancellation
Discussion: A bidder canceled their winning bid for a property since it was taking longer than they intended. The council has the option to either allow Texas Community Groups to move to the next bidder or resubmit the property for bids in the next bidding cycle.
Motion by Council Member Mike Stephens to allow Texas Community Groups in the event of a cancellation to move to the next available bidder. Seconded by Council Member Josh Tennison. Vote 3-0, motion carries.

Reports

Mayor

Secretary – Report will be at the Special Meeting.

Superintendent – 37 work orders completed, 12 water disconnects, 3 minor leaks repaired, 1 sewer stop cleared, 2 data logs captured, serviced 3 residents that were missed at curbside pickup. Road repairs are ongoing, weather permitting, and winterization has been completed. The next projects will include installing the new Christmas lights, addressing water draining issues, and tree trimming.

Request for Future Agenda Items

Agreement Between City of Robert Lee & Volunteer Fire Department

USDA – Apply to the Community Facilities Program for a new backhoe.

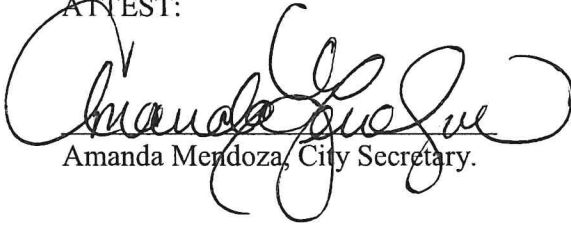
Insurance Plans

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Adjournment

Motion by Council Member Josh Tennison to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting at 9:18 PM. Seconded by Council Member Jonathan Torres. Vote 3-0, motion carries.

ATTEST:



Amanda Mendoza, City Secretary.



Jason Moran, Mayor