

THE CITY OF EASTLAND
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

November 16, 2020

EASTLAND, TEXAS §

EASTLAND, COUNTY §

The City Commission of the City of Eastland, Texas, met in Open Session at Eastland City Hall as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours in advance and prior to the meeting.

CITY COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chairman	Larry Vernon
Commissioner	Ben McNabb (arrived 6:06 p.m.)
Commissioner	Cecil Funderburgh
Commissioner	Zac Darr
Commissioner	Richard Rossander

PERSONNEL PRESENT:

City Manager	Ron Duncan
City Secretary	Roma Holley
Chief of Police	David Hullum
Planning & Zoning Director	Tony Stubblefield

Guests: Julie Elrod, Tom Bailey

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Larry Vernon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh offered the invocation and Chairman Larry Vernon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SUBJECT NOT LISTED ON THIS
AGENDA (Limited to Five Minutes Per Speaker)

There were no comments from the public.

IV. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 19TH, 2020 AND
OCTOBER 20TH, 2020 MEETINGS

Commissioner Richard Rossander made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh, to approve the Minutes of the October 19th, 2020 and October 20th, 2020 meetings. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes:	Commissioners Darr, Funderburgh, Rossander
Nays:	None
Absent:	McNabb

V. FINANCIAL REPORT

City Manager Ron Duncan stated that the sales tax collections continue to increase beyond expectations. This was the second highest September sales tax in 10 years. Hotel/Motel occupancy taxes are beginning to get back on track although they have a long way to go.

No action at this time.

VI. EEDI Annual Report by Tom Bailey

Director Tom Bailey gave a brief overview of the EEDI Budget for the year. He then provided updates on several ongoing projects:

Internet

Richard Barron Group – Zoom meeting last week.

Totelcom – Working on pole accessibility survey and hope to be finished by the end of Nov.

El Reno – Almost finished moving to the back of the Business Park. Making improvements to the location and planning to use some of the green fence.

Oncor – Electricity in the Business Park

Bill Whaley is using the load information from Bartee Metal Buildings and US Sand & Gravel to get us the best financial option.

Bartee Metals – The filed **ROW abandonment** has been sent to EHT for inclusion in the 5 acre field notes. Once complete, Bartee will move its current manufacturing and sales operations to the new site. Until the new facility is finished, Bartee will operate its sales and manufacturing from the Morgan Building.

Red Star – The new travel center is really turning into something special! This is going to be a first-class operation that will create jobs and bring in a lot of sales tax.

Kirkland-Mighty Molding- Development Agreement is fully executed and Eileen is preparing documents.

U.S. Sand & Gravel – The Development Agreement has been fully executed and Eileen is preparing the legal documents.

Anipro Feeds- This is Jonathon Haralson's group who moved into the Quonset building at the Morgan site. Jonathon reports business is going well and the facility is meeting their needs.

Blake Fulenwider Dodge/Jeep - Everything is looking good at the new dealership

We will soon have about 80 jobs in the Business Park. We are making great progress.

Victor Cornelius Building – We are looking for a good viable business opportunity that will utilize this choice building.

Woodlands Nursing Center - This project is almost complete and looks great. We provided the street leading into it.

Maverick Logistics – has built a new facility on Joe Beaty Road and is growing rapidly.

Maverick Town Homes – are quickly becoming a reality. This will be 28 new homes for the people that are moving into Eastland to take advantage of the growing job market.

Rural Health Clinic – They are only waiting on state inspections and paperwork before they can open it. We provided the land and the parking lot.

Mayor Vernon thanked Mr. Bailey for all of his hard work in promoting Eastland and the progress that is evident.

VII. The Board of City Commissioners May Discuss and Take Action on the Following Agenda Items:

1. Discussion and Consideration to Reappoint Terry Trout to Serve on the Board of Directors of the Eastland County Appraisal District for 2021-2022

Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Rossander to approve the reappointment of Terry Trout to Serve on the Board of Directors of the Eastland County Appraisal District for 2021-2022. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darr, Funderburgh, McNabb, Rossander
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

2. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution 2020-14 Designate Planning Director to Approve Certain Plats

City Manager Ron Duncan stated they saw this in the Local Government Code and it seems like this will be a reasonable way to make minor adjustments to plats and serve as a convenience to our customers.

Planning and Zoning Director Tony Stubblefield advised the commissioners this caveat would allow him to provide a more streamlined process for individuals and businesses who are seeking to develop property here in Eastland, who need to make minor changes before progressing to the next step.

Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ben McNabb to approve Resolution 2020-14 to Designate the Planning Director to Approve Certain Plats. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darr, Funderburgh, McNabb, Rossander
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

3. Discussion and Consideration of Appointment of Directors for the Eastland Economic Development Board

Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Rossander to approve the appointment of Carolyn White and Mark Pipkin to the Eastland Economic Development Board. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darr, Funderburgh, McNabb, Rossander
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

4. Discussion and Consideration of Appointment of Appointment of Members to the Board of Adjustment

Commissioner Zac Darr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh to approve the appointment of Gena Camacho to the Board of Adjustment. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darr, Funderburgh, McNabb, Rossander
Nays: None
Absent: None

5. Discussion and Consideration of Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Response Plan

City Manager Ron Duncan advised the commission that we basically just need to update the Plan to reflect current dates. There is also one minor wording change to the Normal Operation plans.

Commissioner Cecil Funderburgh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Rossander, to approve the updates to the Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Response plan. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darr, Funderburgh, McNabb, Rossander
Nays: None
Absent: None

6. Discussion and Consideration of Approval of a Statement added to the Procurement Policy.

City Manager Ron Duncan stated that this Policy was approved in September but it did not contain language regarding ACH (Automatic Clearing House) payments. The language is necessary for us to obtain the insurance that is required to deal with issues for fraud/theft using the computer systems. The insurance is also necessary to obtain some grants.

Commissioner Zac Darr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ben McNabb, to approve the addition of the statement. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Darr, Funderburgh, McNabb, Rossander
Nays: None
Absent: None

7. Discussion and Consideration of the First Reading of Ordinance 20-866, *AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF EASTLAND, TEXAS AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 692, NUISANCES, OF THE CITY OF EASTLAND; EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF ENFORCEMENT TO A HALF MILE OUTSIDE OF THE CITY LIMITS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.*

City Manager Ron Duncan directed the attention of the commission to the copy of the map in front of them that shows our one-half mile ETJ (Extra Territorial Jurisdiction). The ETJ is basically property that is one-half mile outside our city limits. This ordinance is aimed at providing the ability to enforce the Nuisance Ordinance (692) within the ETJ of one-half mile as allowed by the Texas Local Government Code. Currently, the City enforces up to the city limits for all nuisances. The intent is to address the nuisance issues that are near the gateways of our city.

After a lengthy discussion Commissioner Zac Darr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Rossander, to table this item til more research is conducted. Mayor Vernon tabled the item.

VIII. City Manager's Briefing

City Manager Ron Duncan reported that the elevated storage tank has been repaired. There was significant water loss but this was unavoidable. We have had unexpected expenses to the HVAC unit here at City Hall which led to electrical issues that will be addressed at some point.

Another CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) relief fund report has been submitted. It asked for our projected spending through December.

GLO-CDBG-MIT: Project Planning: we are waiting for more information on this project.

USDA GRANTS: the grant for the SCBA and the Fire Command Vehicle has been completed.

EASTLAND MUNICIPAL AIRPORT UPDATE: We have another meeting being scheduled regarding the startup of the project.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant: is 96.07% complete. The switch has been made and it is operational. We are in the midst of training and making sure that everything is working correctly.

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS: We are waiting on permission from the Texas Water Development Board to begin the bid process.

IX. Code Enforcement Report

Planning and Zoning Director Tony Stubblefield reported the Code Compliance Report for August. There were 24 open cases at the beginning of the month, 21 new cases were opened and 27 cases were closed which ended the month with 18 cases open. One lien was filed for \$214.38

X. Police Report

Chief Hullum noted that there were over 2140 calls for service in the fiscal year which averages 178 per month. 444 reports were generated along with 132 arrests. 135 cases were filed with the District Attorney. They wrote 1216 citations and 3450 warnings were issued. Chief Hullum stated that their focus is Compliance and not Revenue. He stated the numbers for October are above average. 187 calls for service and 36 reports were generated along with 14 arrests and 15 cases filed with the District Attorney. They wrote 124 citations and

388 warnings were issued. He spoke about the success of Halloween and their participation in the BOO IN THE GARDENS. They passed out 450 bags and lots of candy.

XI. Adjournment

Commissioner Richard Rossander made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Zac Darr, to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED

Larry Vernon, Chairman
Board of City Commissioners

ATTEST

Roma Holley, City Secretary