

City of White Sulphur Springs

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on June 21, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Rick Nelson called the meeting to order with the following members present:

Pattie Berg
Ron Coleman
Rick Ellison
Lee Blanchard

A. Call Regular Meeting to Order

B. Roll Call

C. Pledge of Allegiance to Flag

D. Public Comment: Public comment will be accepted on public matters not listed on this agenda and are within the jurisdiction of the City Council and having a significant interest to the public. During a regular session, there will be time after each agenda item for comment about that item.

1. Step up to the podium and state your name and address for the record.
2. Please limit your comments to THREE (3) minutes.

E. Unfinished Business - Items for Discussion and/or Actions

1. Task Order #2 for Great West: Water System PER

Discussion and/or Action

Continued from May 2nd meeting: Agreement for performing work on PER (Preliminary Engineering Report) which is an update and is needed approximately every 5 years as a means of evaluating the City's needs regarding water projects and to qualify for various grants and loans for the work.

The Mayor said that we are still waiting for the attorney with Great West to get everything together for the contractors for the engineer's contract.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to Approve/Ratify Task Order #2, the Agreement, for services to prepare a Water System PER for the City; OR, Move to authorize Mayor to sign when agreement issues are resolved.

The Mayor said that the Task Order #2 is not ready yet.

2. HRDC Housing Study/Action Plan - Tracey Menez and Meagher County Stewardship

Continued Discussion from April 19th and May 2nd and June 6th and Possible Action

Review Letter from Heather Grenier of HRDC withdrawing proposal for Phase 2 at this time.

Accept Public Comment

** Possible Motion: Accept withdrawal of HRDC Phase 2 of Housing Study Proposal.*

Mayor Nelson said that the HRDC study plan is done since they didn't show up to the meeting. The Council agreed that the County does need to address the housing issue. Mayor Nelson had a call from Rebekah Luchterhand stating that Burt Hurwitz would like the City Council and the mayor to attend the meeting with the Stewardship council, the Habitat for Humanity and one other organization that Burt has reached out to. This will be from 1-2pm in the County Courtroom on Tuesday, July 12th. Councilperson Rick Ellison spoke with one of the higher guys with DA

Davidson and they have assistance and grants they can put toward housing incentives. It was noted that we should invite this gentleman to the meeting on the 12th.

3. Acknowledge SEARCH Grant Fund Allocation/Conditions of Award

Discussion and/or Action – continued from June 6th meeting

Review Letter of Conditions related to Notice of Award of SEARCH grant funds through USDA Rural Development Office. Discuss items of concern from last meeting. Authorize Mayor to move forward with acceptance of funding.

Accept Public Comment

Possible Motion: Move to accept SEARCH grant funds and authorize Mayor to accept conditions and move forward with next steps.

The SEARCH Grant was signed and delivered back. The mayor asked if there was a motion to accept the SEARCH Grant funds and authorize the Mayor and accept conditions and move forward with the next step. The mayor said that the SEARCH Grant is \$30,000 with a City match of up to \$30,000 used for the water system PER.

Councilperson Pattie Berg motioned to accept the SEARCH Grant funds and authorize the Mayor to accept conditions and move forward with the next steps. Councilperson Lee Blanchard seconded. Motion passed.

F. Motion/Vote to Adjourn Business Meeting

The Mayor asked the Council if there is a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Lee Blanchard motioned to adjourn the regular meeting. Ron Coleman seconded the motion. All said Aye. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

WORK SESSION (Starts directly after Business Meeting adjourns)

A. Call Work Session Meeting to Order 7:06 pm

B. Council Discussion:

1. Begin Planning/Review of 2022-2023 Budget and Process

Discussion as to 2022-2023 Budget, budgeting process, identify any issues of concern or focus. Plan calendar for process, including scheduling dates for formal budget hearing and passage of budget.

The Mayor said that the Fire Chief, Sam Peeler, sent a letter to the City “thanking the council and the mayor for giving them \$2500 last year to use for training, training supplies as well as funds for 2 sets of bunker gear. The training money was used for meals during a basic wild line class that they held in the Spring as well as the smoke machine and smoke solution. The smoke machine will enable them to smoke up a building so that they can realistically train on interior fire attack and search and rescue in a smokey environment. They would like to ask for the \$2500 again for more training this year. They would like to purchase a rescue dummy to use hand in hand for the search and rescue trainings. Also, the fire department has a need for gas detectors and thermal cameras. They currently don’t have gas detectors and they rely on the county’s gas detectors being available when they need one. They would like to purchase 2 but he said if they could get one detector and one camera, that would suffice. The detectors they need would cost between \$900 and \$1,000 each, they detect 4 toxic gasses and are an invaluable tool for the firefighter to have. They are in the same situation with the cameras, since they City doesn’t have them, they rely on the County or Law Enforcement to have one when they need it. Cameras are necessary because they identify heat sources that the eye