

Regular Council Meeting

February 3, 2015

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 7:00pm.

Invocation given by Councilman Andrews.

Pledge of Allegiance led by City Clerk Bedingfield

Welcome extended to all by Mayor Harley recognized Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Pannell.

Present were Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Cameron Andrews, Councilman Randall Wright, Councilman Edward Tucker, Councilman Jonathan Nichols and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings.

Chief Andrews introduced Darren Gray new hire- police officer.

Public Comments

Adoption of Minutes: Motion made by Councilman Wright to approve minutes as written; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

- January 6, 2015 Regular Council Meeting
- January 20, 2015 Council Work Session
- January 28, 2015 Special Council Meeting

Old Business

No items of old business.

New Business

Council and Community Winter Emergency Procedures: Councilman Tucker requested both Fire and Police Chief to brief Mayor and Council on winter emergency procedures. Fire Chief Jones reported that he had spoken with Houston County Fire Chief Jimmy Williams; in the event of winter emergencies, everything is coordinated through EMA. Scenario; educate the public in an event of loss of electricity. Rely on volunteer networks-CERT Team, Volunteer Fire. EMA could activate National Guard if the emergency lasted for a long period of time. This would be coordinated efforts.

Councilman Tucker stated that this is what he wanted everyone to hear.

Chief Jones stated that it would start off locally then you branch out nationally if necessary.

Police Chief Andrews stated that the Police Department would keep staff in perimeter and go out hourly and provide update.

Chief Cooley reported that he has participated in the NIMS training and is ready if an emergency should occur. In addition, informed Mayor and Council that there are pre planned shelters in place; they are being reviewed on a regular basis.

Chief Jones stated that the pre disaster mitigation plan has to be reviewed and voted on again. The mitigation place is up for renewal - August 2015.

Presentation Certificate of Achievement Councilman Wright: Mayor Harley presented Councilman Randall Wright with Certificate of Achievement plaque. Councilman Wright has completed 72 hours of GMA training.

Resolution- Re-Certification City of Ethics: City Attorney Tydings received letter from GMA as a reminder to recertify once again as a city of ethics. Entertain a motion to readopt ordinance and adopt resolution as part of the recertification. Once executed City Attorney Tydings will send a copy of the documents with cover letter to GMA.

Motion to readopt ethics ordinance and adopt resolution made by Councilman Wright; seconded by Councilman Tucker. Motion carried. See Resolution 2015-3.

Point of Information Fire Department Expenditure: Chief Jones reported that the funds were budgeted for both items. The following items are as follows: Farmers Home Furniture \$1,504.97 and Breathing Air Systems for the cascade system \$29,140.00. Chief Jones stated that this serves as a point of information. No motion or action taken.

Councilman Over Departments: Motion made by Councilman Wright to discuss; seconded by Councilman Tucker. Councilman Wright asked for explanation.

Mayor Harley stated that there might be a need to have an alternate and primary councilman over the departments.

Councilman Tucker stated that for the purposes of this discussion, the department head would call one councilman and if the Department Head couldn't reach the primary councilman over the department, then they could call the other councilman over the department. Gives a little bit more of continuity and flow of communication within the council. Just another set of eyes. Councilman Andrews also said gives the department head someone else to contact if one of the councilmembers were out of town. Councilman Tucker stated this is only a recommendation.

Councilman Wright stated that there really isn't a time that someone would be out of pocket; having cell phones means that they can always be reached.

Councilman Nichols likes the idea of having a co-chair, another set of ears and eyes. Also, this can be a trial session.

Councilman Tucker said that this would also be dependent upon the staff, department heads need to be open and if this isn't working let us (council) know. Chief Andrews asked if the department head has to call both or just the chair. Councilman Tucker stated that it would be up to the Councilman over the Department to communicate with the other councilman over the department. This is about communication between councilmembers – not a staff issue.

Motion made by Councilman Nichols to table until the Council Work Session on February 17; seconded by Councilman Wright and amended his prior motion for discussion. Councilman Tucker asked for the department heads to share their views and comments to their current councilman over department. Motion carried.

Council Comments

Mayor Harley recognized Houston County Commissioner Jay Walker.

No other council comments.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date