

THE CITY OF WOODBRANCH VILLAGE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 27, 2016

The City of Woodbranch Village council met in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., Monday, June 27, 2016, in the City Hall Building at 58A Woodbranch Drive, New Caney, Texas, 77357. The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Vera Craig. Roll call showed as being present City Attorney Leonard Schneider, Councilman Scott Essmeier, Mayor Vera Craig, Councilman Mark Kroll, Councilman Joe Krispinsky and Councilwoman Debbie Lawson. City Secretary Charlotte Smith was present to take the minutes of the meeting. Councilman Melvin Mixon was not in attendance. Mayor Vera Craig led the meeting with a prayer, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

REGULAR MEETING (7:00 P.M.)

#5. Sign in Sheet and Resident Comments

Judy Judy – resident requested the status of a complaint she filed with city hall concerning a resident’s recreational vehicle being illegally connected to the water and sewer system. Mayor Craig stated it was currently being investigated.

#6. CONSENT AGENDA

#6a. Approve Minutes from the May 23, 2016 – Public Hearings and Regular Meeting

Copies of the minutes are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6b. Approve Minutes from the June 13, 2016 – Special Meeting

Copies of the minutes are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6c. Approve Financial Statement General Fund – May 2016

Copies of this statement are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6d. Approve Financial Statement Water & Sewer Fund – May 2016

Copies of this statement are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6e. Approve Financial Statement Debt Service – May 2016

Copies of this statement are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6f. Approve Bills for the General Fund – June 2016

Copies of the bills are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6g. Approve Bills for the Water & Sewer Fund – June 2016

Copies of the bills are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6h. Approve Bills for the Debt Service Fund – June 2016

Copies of the bills are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6i. Approve Court Report – May 2016

Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6j. Approve Police Report – May 2016

Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6k. Approve Road & Ditch Report – May 2016

Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#6l. Approve Storm Water Management Report – May 2016

Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

The motion to approve items 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, 6e, 6f, 6g, 6h, 6i, 6j, 6k and 6l was made by Councilman Mark Kroll. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Essmeier, motion carried.

#7. Approve Operator's Report – May 2016

The motion to approve the report, as submitted, was made by Councilman Mark Kroll. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Debbie Lawson, motion carried. Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary's office.

#8. Marty Murray – resident requesting assistance with drainage issues affecting his property

Mr. Murray expressed his frustration with flooding issues at his residence. He provided video of the flow of water coming across his property and reported the efforts he has made to prevent his home from flooding. Mr. Murray gave some history of the area provided to him by longtime residents. Mr. Murray suggested drainage be improved on Holly Lane, behind his residence, and that it might improve his situation. Mr. Murray stated that he has had his property resurveyed, planned to relocate his fence and reclaim property that the residents to the west of him were allowed to build a fence on years ago. Mr. Murray stated that he wished to redirect the flow of water and was not concerned about flooding his neighbor's property as he has flooded over 9 times in the last year. No action was taken on this item.

#9. Charles Canestaro – resident requesting assistance with the removal of a magnolia tree that is growing on his property in the easement

Mr. Canestaro stated that he purchased the home at 107 White Oak in 2012 for his daughter. Mr. Canestaro requested assistance with the removal of a magnolia tree that is growing on his property in the easement. Mr. Canestaro stated that his neighbors across from him have complained to him that it is leaning across the street, will take out power lines if it falls and possibly cause damage to their private property. Mr. Canestaro stated that he was told the easement was 20' a couple of months ago and the city would remove the tree if it was determined to be in easement. Mayor Craig informed Mr. Canestaro that the city could not expend public funds on private property. There was a brief discussion regarding the determination of easement with the City Secretary and City Attorney. Mayor Craig stated the city would research the easement issue and contact him with an answer. No action was taken on this item.

#10. Christine Shelton – resident at 157 Maple Lane requesting permission to live in a recreational vehicle while doing repairs on flood damaged home

Mrs. Shelton requested council allow her family to pull in their 5th wheel to live in while construction is being done to their flood damaged home. The motion to approve a variance to ordinance 246-2015, regarding how long a resident can use a 5th wheel, and extending the allowance to 90 days, was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Debbie Lawson, motion carried.

#11. Consider and discuss the proposed 2016 Ad Valorem Tax Rates for maintenance and Operations and Debt Service
No action was taken on this item.

#12. Consider, discuss and/or approve the bid submitted for fence repair at the sewer treatment plant

The motion to approve the bid submitted, for \$4,228.00, was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Joe Krispinsky, motion carried.

#13. Consider, discuss and/or approve the bid submitted for the automatic transfer switch for the generator at the sewer treatment plant

The motion to approve the bid submitted, for \$2,285.00, was made by Councilman Joe Krispinsky. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Essmeier, motion carried.

#14. Consider, discuss and/or approve the proposal from O'Malley Strand Associates, Inc. for the TCEQ permit renewal

The motion to approve the proposal submitted, for \$15,000.00, was made by Councilman Joe Krispinsky. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mark Kroll, motion carried.

#15. Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meetings Act TEX. GOV'T VODE 551.074 – To discuss personnel matters –

(A) – to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, duties, of a public officer or employee – Officer Terrell Duckett, Officer Phillip Frear, Officer Domingo Montelongo, Officer Eric Pitts, Officer Morris Scott, Chief Andre Singleton, Officer Ann Wilkins (Vera Craig, Mayor)
Council went in to closed session at 7:43 p.m.

#16. Reconvene and take possible action

Council reconvened in to regular session at 8:12 p.m. The motion to accept the resignation of Chief of Police, Andre Singleton and to release from duty Officer Domingo Montelongo and probationary Officers Terrell Duckett and Phillip Frear, was made by Councilman Joe Krispinsky. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Essmeier, motion carried.

Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meetings Act TEX. GOV'T VODE 551.074 – To discuss personnel matters – to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, duties, of a public officer or employee – (Vera Craig, Mayor) Council went in to closed session at 8:25 p.m.

Council reconvened in to regular session at 8:31 p.m. The motion to contact Texas Municipal League for any requirements for the appointment of an interim Chief of Police was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Debbie Lawson, motion carried.

#17. Consideration, discussion and possible action to authorize staff or the Mayor to send out request for qualifications for police chief and/or authorize the mayor to contact/contract with Texas First Group or others for interim police chief services

The motion for the Mayor to seek options for appointing an interim police chief, and/or options for filling the position of chief of police, was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mark Kroll, motion carried.

#18. Item of Community Interest – (Hear announcements concerning items of community interest from the Mayor, Councilmembers, and City staff for which no action will be discussed or taken.)

Councilman Scott Essmeier announced the fire department will be doing the fireworks show for the City of Roman Forest on Monday, July 4, 2016.

No other announcements were made.

#19. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Joe Krispinsky, motion carried.

