

THE CITY OF WOODBRANCH VILLAGE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 26, 2015

The City of Woodbranch Village council met in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 26, 2015, in the City Hall Building at 58A Woodbranch Drive, New Caney, Texas, 77357. The 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, Councilman Melvin Mixon, Mayor Vera Craig, Councilman Charles Bordelon, Councilman Joe Krispinsky and Councilwoman Debbie Lawson. City Secretary Charlotte Smith was present to take the minutes of the meeting. Councilman Melvin Mixon led the meeting with a prayer, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

REGULAR MEETING (7:00 P.M.)

#4. Sign In Sheet and Resident Comments

Terry Kinler – resident, at 185 Maple Lane, expressed his concerns for people speeding on his street.

Mira Badel – resident, at 422 Eastwood, expressed her concerns for the recent water and sewer rate increase.

Monty Galland – his name was removed as it is on the agenda.

James Jackson – resident, at 169 Linnwood, expressed his concerns for the recent water and sewer rate increase.

Mary McFarland – her name was removed as it is on the agenda.

Christine Shelton – resident, at 157 Maple Lane, expressed her concerns for people speeding, 4 wheelers not obeying stop signs and driving recklessly and concerns for the water and sewer rate increase.

Tony & LeaAnn Geraci – resident, on Linnwood, expressed his concerns for the policing of the stop sign at Roman Forest Blvd and Railroad Avenue.

#5. Annette Dobson – resident requesting audience with council regarding garbage collection, water & sewer rate increase, deed restriction enforcement and clarification of the ordinance adopted to govern garage sales

Ms. Dobson approached council with questions, and complaints, regarding garbage collection services and the new containers being used. Ms. Dobson stated she received several different answers, from Riverside Waste, regarding service changes when she called them. Mayor Craig, and Councilmembers, offered detailed explanations of the services offered, and agreed to by the City, and how it would affect the citizens and agreed that the City could have done a better job at communicating the implementation.

Ms. Dobson mentioned she would have liked to attend past meetings but was not aware when they took place until after the fact. City Attorney Leonard Schneider explained the posting requirements. Mayor Craig, and Councilmembers announced the City will put signage out to encourage attendance for future meetings.

Ms. Dobson expressed her concern for the lack of deed restriction enforcement and asked for some clarification regarding the nuisance and abatement ordinance and why it was not being enforced. City Attorney Leonard Schneider, along with Mayor Craig, explained that the ordinance adopted could be improved upon and the City was in the process of doing a review and edit of a proposed ordinance to be considered at a future meeting of council.

Ms. Dobson asked for clarification of the garage sales ordinance. Mayor Craig read aloud parts of the ordinance, in answer to her questions, regarding how often a resident can hold a garage sale.

Ms. Dobson expressed her concern for the maintenance of the City easements. Mayor, and Councilmembers, informed her that the City will be reviewing bids, submitted by vendors, later during the meeting as the City was displeased with the level of service they were getting from the current vendor.

Ms. Dobson expressed her concern for the water & sewer rate increase and asked for explanation as to why it went up so drastically. Mayor Craig read aloud the long term needs of the City, submitted by the City Engineer, regarding the necessary improvements and repairs needed to the City's aging water and sewer system.

Ms. Dobson questioned Mayor and Council about the proposed Lilliput Development. Mayor Craig provided information regarding the development and stated the developer will be putting in a water and sewer system independent of the City.

#6. Mary McFarland – resident requesting audience with council regarding deed restriction enforcement

Mrs. McFarland expressed her concern for the lack of deed restriction enforcement for junk cars, travel trailers, and illegal burning. Mrs. McFarland also mentioned her concern for speeders and people running the stop sign at the intersection near her home and asked why we did not utilize our police department to enforce the deed restrictions and stop people from burning illegally. Councilman Scott Essmeier gave suggestions to help her report illegal burning issues to the New Caney Fire Department. Mayor Craig stated that she would have the police department be more visible in the City to help deter the speeders.

#7. CONSENT AGENDA

#7a. Approve Minutes from the September 14, 2015 – Public Hearing & Special Meeting

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

#7b. Approve Minutes from the September 15, 2015 - Special Meeting

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

#7c. Approve Financial Statement General Fund – September 2015

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

#7d. Approve Financial Statement Water & Sewer Fund – September 2015

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

#7e. Approve Financial Statement Debt Service – September 2015

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

#7f. Approve Bills for the General Fund – October 2015

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

#7g. Approve Bills for the Water & Sewer Fund – October 2015

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

#7h. Approve Bills for the Debt Service Fund – October 2015

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

#7i. Approve Court Report – September 2015

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

#7j. Approve Police Report – September 2015

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

#7k. Approve Road & Ditch Report – September 2015

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

#7l. Approve Storm Water Management Report – September 2015

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

The motion to approve items 7a, 7b, 7c, 7d, 7e, 7f, 7g, 7h, 7i, 7j, 7k and 7l was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Joseph Krispinsky, motion carried.

#8. Approve Operator's Report – September 2015

The motion to approve the report, as submitted, was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Melvin Mixon, motion carried. Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary's office.

#9. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the invoice submitted by Severn Trent for the repair of water well no. 1

The motion to approve the invoice submitted was made by Councilman Melvin Mixon. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Debbie Lawson, motion carried.

#10. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the pursuit of financing for the above ground water storage expansion project

The motion to continue the pursuit of financing, for the above ground water storage expansion project, was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Charles Bordelon, motion carried.

#11. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on Resolution 1026-15 – granting permission to MUD 4 to annex 20.9 acres of the City of Woodbranch Village ETJ into the MUD 4 District boundaries (Leonard Schneider, City Attorney)

The motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Joseph Krispinsky. The motion was seconded by Councilman Melvin Mixon, motion carried.

#12. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on resident Bruno Wilganowski's request for a re plat of his property located in Woodway Forest

No action was taken on this item.

#13. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on Ordinance 250-2015- an ordinance denying the distribution cost recovery factor rate increase request of Entergy Texas, Inc. filed on September 4, 2015 (Leonard Schneider, City Attorney)

The motion to approve the ordinance was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Melvin Mixon, motion carried.

#14. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on Ordinance 251-2015- an ordinance proposing nuisance and abatement regulations (Vera Craig, Mayor)

No action was taken on this item.

#15. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the bid(s) submitted for lawn care and maintenance of city property and easements

No action was taken on this item.

#16. Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meetings Act TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.071 - To receive general legal advice on the water supply contract with East Montgomery County Municipal Utility District No. 7 and proposed assignment of contract (Leonard Schneider, City Attorney)

Council went in to Closed Executive Session at 8:23 p.m.

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

13(A) - to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, duties, of a public officer or employee – Terrell Duckett – seeking full time paid position and Kelly Hiett and Phillip Wayne Frear – seeking reserve positions (Melvin Mixon, Police Department Liaison and Andre Singleton, Chief of Police)

#18. Reconvene and take possible action

Council reconvened in to open session at 9:33 p.m. The motion to hire Terrell Duckett for the full time paid position, Kelly Hiett and Philip Wayne Frear for the reserve positions, all hired contingent on a 6 month probation, was made by Councilman Melvin Mixon. The motion was seconded by Councilman Scott Essmeier, motion carried.

#19. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on moving the November regular meeting to allow for the Thanksgiving Holiday

No action was taken on this item.

#20. Announcements and requests for future agenda items

Councilman Scott Essmeier announced the New Caney Fire Department will hold their annual Halloween Open House from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday, October 31, 2015 at the station located on FM1485.

#21. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m. was made by Councilman Scott Essmeier. The motion was seconded by Councilman Joseph Krispinsky, motion carried.