

§STATE OF TEXAS
§CALDWELL COUNTY
§CITY OF LULING

THE CITY OF LULING CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 509 E. CROCKETT STREET, LULING, TEXAS.

The following members: present:

C. J. Watts	Mayor
Jackie Campbell	Council Member
Lee Rust	Council Member
Marc Taylor	Council Member
Raymond McGlothlin	Council Member
John Wells	Council Member

Staff Members present:

Mark Mayo	City Manager
Martha C. Velasquez	City Secretary
Luke Cochran	City Attorney
James Rougeou	Finance Director
William Sala	Police Chief

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Mayor Watts called the meeting to order and welcomed all visitors.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Jackie Campbell led us in invocation. We said the pledge of allegiance to the American and Texas flag.

3. Consent Agenda- *All consent agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Information concerning consent agenda items is available for public view.*

a. Approval of Minutes of the July 14, 2022 regular City Council meeting.

b. Consider/Approval of Accounts Payable.

Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member Marc Taylor approving the Consent Agenda. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

4. Citizen Comment Period with City Council.

Any person with business before the City Council may speak to the Council at this time. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting. Comments will be limited to three (3) to five (5) minutes per person.

Eddie Moses, 207 W. Austin. He stated that he knows that we need to conserve water, and that we are in Stage 3, Lockhart is in stage 2 and we supply water to Lockhart. He asked why we are in stage 3 and he stated that our water comes from the river not a well. Eddie stated that we spent a lot of money to back up our river and we can't use our water. He doesn't understand why we are in Stage 3.

5. Consider/action discussing the 2022 Proposal Tax Rate and Schedule Public Hearings.

Sonny Rougeou stated that he supplied the Council with a couple of sheets on the certified roll for 2022 compared to the 2021 values. Our taxable values are up 27% compared to last year. Sonny stated that for 2022 the no new revenue tax rate stands at \$.4122 per \$100 the 2022 voter approval rate stands at \$.4274 per \$100. .4276% and final rate 2022 demerits tax rate is .5594 per \$100.

Sonny stated that it our recommendation that we go with the proposed rate of .4274 per \$100 which is below the voter approval rate of .4276 and if we collect 90% of what our budget is based on, it would generate \$1,476,776 in tax revenues, over budget by \$76,776. The taxable value is \$156,916 compared to last year \$138,126.

We need to schedule a public hearing and we can adopt the tax rate at the public hearing.

Council Member John Wells made a motion seconded by Council Member Ray McGlothlin to adopt the proposed rate of \$.4274 tax rate. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion. We took a vote per ward with ever Council and Mayor voting in favor of the motion.

Scheduled public hearing was scheduled for Thursday, September 1, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

6. Consider/action an ordinance of the City of Luling, Texas, amending various sections of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Luling to reflect the recent adoption of the 2018 International Codes; Providing for a Repealer clause; Providing for a Severability clause; Providing for an effective date.

City Manager, Mark Mayo, stated that if Council remembered at last month's Council meeting when we brought the codes to you, we would be doing some book cleaning. Mark stated that next time we adopt the building codes it will be a simpler process.

Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member Ray McGlothlin approving ordinance of the City of Luling, Texas amending various sections of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Luling to reflect the recent adoption of the 2018 International Codes; Providing for a repealer clause; providing for a severability clause; providing for an effective date. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

7. Consider/action a review and possible revisions of Article 4, Water Conservation, Section 110-131 through Section 110-138.

Mark Mayo, City Manager, stated that our ordinance that we have in our books at this time is a water conservation ordinance and was put in place back in 1998 before any of us that serve at the Council at this time were on the Council. Mark stated that back when this ordinance was put in place we had water wells and would take surface water out of the river. This ordinance was based off the Edward Aquifer J-17 which is not where we take out water.

Mr. Moses was talking about us being in Stage 3 and Lockhart being in Stage 2. Luling's stage 3 and Lockhart's stage 2 are the same. Mark stated that we are not looking at changing what happens when you get to Stage but what keys those stages.

Lembo Allen stated that Ben Flores and Seth Powell with the Golf Course Association are present. The golf course get their water from a well which is the Carrizo Wilcox. He stated that last year the golf course purchased an irrigation system for the golf course; they are trying to save what grass they have at this time. They looked into the well and source where Luling gets its water. Luling gets its water from GBRA, and Joe

Downey, who works for GBRA stated that they haven't triggered any restrictions on water usage. We want to adopt using GBRA instead of J-17 water well in the Edward Aquifer. We want Luke Cochran, City Attorney to draft the trigger levels of GBRA drought contingency plan and also for customers to be allow to use water wells. Lembo stated that we aren't asking for any of the stages to change just what triggers the restrictions. Lembo stated that he would like to revise/amend the Water Conservation trigger and also if this is accepted they would like to also suspend the stage 3 restrictions pending the execution and implementation of this new ordinance.

City Manager, Mark Mayo stated that he had spoken with City Attorney; Luke Cochran about changing the trigger points and then suspends the enforcement of the stages until it is rewritten. GBRA is capable of producing 2.5 million gallons of water a day, when we renegotiated the contract with GBRA (it was in the old contract as well) that the City of Luling's needs would be met first before any water is sent to Lockhart. We are guaranteed 2.5 million gallons a day. GBRA stated that as long the water is following over the dam and before it enters the ocean at the bay there will not be any water restrictions.

Council Member Lee Rust made a motion seconded by Council Member Jackie Campbell that our triggers identify with GBRA and Plum Creek on water wells inside city limits.(The ordinance would have some previsions that apply to the water supply by the City water utility that exempts other sources of water) and that enforcement of the water restrictions be suspended until ordinance is amended. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

8. Police Department Monthly Activity Report.

Chief Sala stated that he doesn't have much to add. They are still 4 officers short and have developed a little bit of interest with ACOGS academy. We have 3 cadets that have been out riding with us, but class won't be out until November. New changes in state law, dispatchers have to be certified in basic CPR and telephonic CPR certification on August 25th which will be hosted by the Sheriff's Department.

Chief Sala thanked Council for their participation in National Night Out. He stated that the ministerial alliance did a good job getting the word out and putting the event on and he thinks he will continue doing it this way.

There will be no permit loads allowed to make a turn from 183 to 90. The truck route will be on Hackberry.

9. Adjourn.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: _____

C J Watts, Mayor
City of Luling, Texas

Martha C. Velasquez
City Secretary