

§STATE OF TEXAS
§CALDWELL COUNTY
§CITY OF LULING

THE CITY OF LULING CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE IN ORDER TO ADVANCE THE PUBLIC HEALTH GOAL OF LIMITING FACE TO FACE MEETINGS (ALSO CALLED SOCIAL DISTANCING) TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19). THERE WAS NO PUBLIC ACCESS AT CITY HALL LOCATED AT 509 E. CROCKETT STREET, LULING, TEXAS.

The following members were on videoconference:

Mike Hendricks	Mayor
Melanie Doyle	Council Member
Jackie Campbell	Council Member
Wayne Tresner	Council Member
James Nickells	Council Member
C. J. Watts	Council Member.

Staff Members on videoconference:

Mark Mayo	City Manager
Martha Velasquez	City Secretary
James Rougeou	Finance Director
William Sala	Police Chief
Morris "Buddy" Pearson	Interim Public Works Dir.
Ryan DeCamp	Code Enforcement Officer

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Mayor Hendricks called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for joining us on zoom.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer.

No pledge of allegiance or prayer.

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 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 9, 2020 regular City Council meeting.

b. Consider/Approval of Accounts Payable.

Council Member CJ Watts made a motion seconded by Council Member James Nickells approving the Consent Agenda. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion. (City Council voted verbally by ward.)

4. Citizen Comment Period with City Council.

Any person with business before the City Council, not scheduled on the agenda, may speak to the Council. 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.

There were no citizen comments at this time.

5. Presentation and consideration of GBRA work plan and budget for fiscal year ending 08-31-2021.

Eduardo Montana, Joe Downey, Albert Soto, and Michael Urietta all representatives of GBRA were on zoom discussing the GBRA work plan and budget for fiscal year ending 08-31-2021. He stated that he wanted to kick

off some of the major highlight for their division that they accomplished this year. He stated that they went through the year with no time loss accident and there were no TCEQ inspection deficiencies. He stated that they are about 99% finished with the installation of a new generator at the facility. Eduardo stated that they had 2 operators at the plant upgrade their license from a B to an A, they are hard to get so they are very proud with the accomplishments of these 2 operators.

Eduardo stated that they are coming in with an 11% increase from last year. He stated that is for a salary increase for the two operators that have achieved their class A license. The salary increase also covers an increase to our electricians for the work that is being done at the facility. (An allocation for the time they come to Luling). There are some increases on two lines that are because they use to separate the repairs from Luling and Lockhart but now they are both combined.

Mayor Hendricks asked if the Council had any questions that they wanted to ask of the representatives of GBRA instead of going through line item per line item. Council Member Wayne Tresner asked a question of the filters and it was answered.

Sonny Rougeou stated that the GBRA budget for this year is \$513,478.00 but their fiscal budget year runs different from our budget year, so we had budgeted \$460,000 and what we are going to pay during our fiscal year is about \$491,000 which we will be short about \$31,000 however that payment for the generator will go away next year.

Following all the questions, Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member Wayne Tresner approving the GBRA work plan and budget for fiscal year ending 08-31-2021. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion. (Council voted by ward)

6. Consider/action discussing the 2020 Proposal Tax Rate and Schedule Public Hearings.

Finance Director, Sonny Rougeou stated that he wanted to go over the planning calendar and schedule public hearing and propose a tax rate.

Council Member CJ Watts made a motion seconded by Council Member Melanie Doyle proposing a \$0.5133 proposed tax rate and schedule Public Hearing on September 3, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. by zoom videoconference. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion. (Council voted by ward).

Mayor Hendricks stated that Council Member Jackie Campbell had gotten off due to bad connection, she kept losing connection.

7. Consider/action on a Pay Request No. 14 from Austin Filter Systems on Zedler Mill Bank Reclamation in the amount of \$53,200.00.

Council Member Wayne Tresner made a motion seconded by Council Member CJ Watts approving Pay Request No.14 from Austin Filter Systems on Zedler Mill Bank Reclamation in the amount of \$53,200.00. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion. (Council voted by ward)

Mark stated that this should be our last bill from Austin Filter Systems but we will be getting a bill for the gates which we bid separate. We will get another bill from Freese and Nickells on the engineering part of this project.

8. Discussion on possibly creating a specific food truck site.

Code Enforcement Officer, Ryan DeCamp wanted to see if the Council would be open to the idea of creating a specific food truck site and an ordinance for food trucks. Ryan stated that he has received numerous calls about placing food trucks within the City of Luling, and he would like to designate a zone to place all the food trucks

instead of having them spread all around town. He wanted to know if the Council was open to the idea of having a specific area (zone) for food trucks. Ryan stated that he has a place in mind by the railroad tracks between Oak and Davis Street which is paved but would need water and electricity put in at this location.

CJ Watts stated that food trucks are being seen all around in different towns. She is for the food trucks being in town as long as they are in a safe place where there is good parking.

Council Member James Nickells stated that he hopes that dining in comes back and that he hopes that these food trucks will have the same standards and requirements for permits and all as these restaurants in town. He stated that he would hate for this restaurants to feel like they have been slighted or the food trucks have lacks requirements.

City Manager, Mark Mayo, stated that if Council was open to the idea of designating a specific area, we could provide in those designated areas water and electricity. The vendors would hook up and pay the City of Luling for water and electric usage. We would also require that they take out a permit when they came into our town to set up in the designated area.

Ryan DeCamp stated that they would have high standard requirements.

Sonny Rougeou stated that if the Council was open to the idea of having a specific area for food zone, the requirements and specifics would come before the Council for approval.

Mayor Hendricks asked if the food truck vendors would be required to pay sales tax to which Ryan replied that they would be required to pay sales tax to the City.

The Council agreed to designate a specific food site and gave Ryan permission to get permit and ordinances together and bring back to the Council for review.

9. City Council will amend the order for the City of Luling General Election to be held on November 3, 2020.

Mayor Hendricks stated that we are amending our election order because we postponed our May 2 election to November 3 this year because of this pandemic. Early voting will be start October 13- October 30th. The early voting place will be at the Civic Center instead of City Hall, and voting place on Election Day will be at the Civic Center, Southside Club House and First Baptist Church.

Council Member James Nickells made a motion seconded by Council Member CJ Watts approving amending the order for the City of Luling General Election to be held on November 3, 2020. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion. (Council voted by ward) Council Member Jackie Campbell kept getting knocked off the internet so she signed off.

10. Police Department Monthly Activity Report.

Chief Sala stated that there was nothing to add to the report and none of the Council had questions for the Chief.

11. Adjourn.

City Manager, Mark Mayo, stated that he has appointed Buddy Pearson as Public Works Director. He stated that ever since Josh Farrell left Buddy Pearson has been filling in as Interim Public Works Director and he has been doing a good job.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: _____

Mike Hendricks, Mayor
City of Luling

Martha C. Velasquez
City Secretary