

§STATE OF TEXAS
§CALDWELL COUNTY
§CITY OF LULING

THE CITY OF LULING CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023 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
John Wells	Council Member

Council Member ,Marc Taylor, &
Council Member ,Raymond McGlothlin, were absent.
City Manager, Mark Mayo &
Asst. City Secretary, Jessica Tucker, were absent.
Staff Members present were:

Martha Velasquez	City Secretary
James Rougeou	Finance Director
William Sala	Police Chief
James Pehl	Asst. Police Chief
Jaime Ovalle Sr.	Water Superintendent
Trey Bailey	LEDC Director
Buddy Pearson	Public Works Director

1. Call Meeting to Order.

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

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

(Texas Pledge: Honor the Texas flag, I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible)

Rev. James Gillelan, pastor of Family Worship Center led us in our invocation followed by 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 September 14, 2023 regular City Council meeting, September 28, 2023 Special Council Meeting.**
- b. **Consider/Approval of Accounts Payable.**
- c. **Consider/action appointment/reappointment to the Library Advisory Board for a 2 year term.**

Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member John Wells 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.

Mayor Watts said that she would like to state something during citizen's comments period. For those of you who have not picked up a copy of the ESD#5 pick one up and take it home and review it, this will be on our November ballot. Early voting starts on October 23rd so familiar yourself with this, because this affects City of Luling, City of Lockhart and Caldwell County.

5. Discussion/action a proclamation proclaiming the month of "October" as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Luling, Texas.

Mayor Watts read the proclamation proclaiming the month of "October" as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Luling, Texas.

Micaela Aranda, with Hays-Caldwell Women's Center, thanked everyone for their support. She stated that the numbers have gone up but that is good because that means they know about them and know to go to them. She stated that they could not do the work that they do without the support of the communities that they serve. She stated that there will be a Domestic Violence walk here in Luling on the 29th of October, and that it will start at Blake's. She stated to get the word out so that we can make it more impactful than what we have year to year.

6. Discussion and possible action on Pay Request # 2 for \$42,728.00 from C O & M Water-Wastewater Systems Consultants on Fire Hydrant Replacement.

Sonny Rougeou stated that the contractors have installed a total of 19 hydrants. Last month there were a total of 11 hydrants installed and this month there was a total of 8. Jaime Ovalle Sr. signs off on these invoices because he is out there supervising the contractors. Sonny Rougeou recommends that we approve Pay Request #2 for \$42,728.00.

Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member Lee Rust approving Pay Request #2 for \$42,728.00 from C O & M Water- Wastewater Systems Consultants on Fire Hydrant Replacement. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

7. Consider/action concerning the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the City of Luling for the year ended March 31, 2023.

Finance Director, Sonny Rougeou, stated that we received an unqualified opinion which is the highest opinion that an auditor can present on a set of financial statements. Sonny presented some of the highlights of the City.

- He stated that the City's total combined net position was \$26,531,593 at March 31, 2023. Of this, \$3,470,888 (unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the City's ongoing obligations to its citizens and creditors.
- At the close of the current fiscal year, the City's governmental funds reported combined fund balances of \$2,148,709, an increase of \$281,345.
- As of the end of the year, the unassigned fund balance of the general fund was \$2,192,082 or 34% of total general fund expenditures.
- The City had an overall increase in net position of \$1,235,153, which is primarily due to primarily government revenues exceeding expenses that occurred in the current year.

Sonny stated that we are in good standing. Sonny stated we have about 10 more years of debt that is on the books to liquidate.

Sonny stated that as of the end of December, 2022 (TMRS reports on a calendar year) we had a net of Pension Life Liability of \$775,000.

Council Member John Wells made a motion seconded by Council Member Jackie Campbell approving the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the City of Luling for the year ended March 31, 2023. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

- 8. Discussion and possible action on a Resolution of the City of Luling, Texas, approving a project of the Luling Economic Development Corporation, to wit: a loan of \$12,715.00, to Cen-Tex Smokers LLC., in consideration of establishing a business enterprise in the City; bringing full-time primary jobs to the City and making particular Capital Investments; complying with section 505.158 Texas Local Government Code; providing for two separate readings; open meeting reading and adoption, and an effective date.**

Mayor Watts stated that this is our first reading.

Trey Bailey, EDC Director, stated that this is a requirement from Texas Local Government Code, that any type of incentive or program that we do with retail or service business that is over \$10,000 requires 2 resolution readings and then the adoption before we can execute a performance agreement.

Trey stated that they meet with Cen-Tex Smokers. He stated that this is a local couple that has been working outside the city limits, but have found something inside city limits. They are looking at 4 employees to start off with and then employ up to 12 people. Michael has been featured in Texas Monthly magazine. Mayor stated that the owner of Cen-Tex Smokers was interested in partner up with the welding group at the school and maybe do some internships. Giving back to the community.

- 9. Police Department Monthly Activity Report.**

Chief Sala stated that he had 2 comments. He stated that he gets his administrative assistant back starting Monday.

He stated that he is waiting for 2 of his vehicles that are getting out fitted, and he was notified that they have been damaged by hail when there was a storm last week.

- 10. Adjourn.**

Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member Lee Rust to adjourn the meeting.

Approved: _____

C J Watts, Mayor
City of Luling

Martha C. Velasquez
City Secretary