

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF SNYDER

JULY 12, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Snyder, Texas was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Stephanie Ducheneaux and was held with the following members present:

Councilmember Sarah Jamison
Councilmember Mitch Hickman
Councilmember Steve Highfield
Councilmember Tom Strayhorn
Councilmember Carson Matthies
Attorney for the City, Bryan Guymon

Absent:

Councilmember Vernon Clay

ITEM I. INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Steve Highfield.

ITEM II. RECOGNIZE VISITORS:

Mayor Stephanie Ducheneaux recognized the following visitors:

Bill Crist, The Snyder News; Kristy Tyra, Oncor; Linda Molina, Snyder Chamber of Commerce; Ella Helms, Snyder Chamber of Commerce; Frank Saletta, Llano Escondido, LLC; George Dozier, Ridgeback Asphalt, LLC; Jordan Bryan, Ridgeback Asphalt, LLC; Luis E. Torres, Ridgeback Asphalt, LLC; Doug Dowler, DCOS; Melody Weaver, Snyder; Tony Wofford, Snyder; Terry Martin, Snyder; Martha Martin, Snyder; Steve Rich, Snyder; Nayley Cabrera, Snyder; Edvarado Murillo, Snyder; Gayle Summers, Snyder; Sheila Eckert, Snyder; Jillian Hardy, Snyder; Bill Robertson, DCOS; John Stewart, Snyder; Jennie Sorrels, Snyder.

ITEM III. VISITORS/CITIZENS FORUM:

Doug Dowler, DCOS, requested he be placed on a future meeting in August to request funding from the American Rescue Plan. The city could be receiving \$2.7 million in funding. He wants to use a portion of the funding to bring Broadband Fiber to Snyder and partner with a retail strategy firm to establish a retail partnership between the Snyder Chamber of Commerce and merchants on the square to revitalize downtown Snyder.

Gayle Summers, Snyder resident, asked the council to keep in mind the citizens of Snyder when voting on agenda items.

ITEM IV. BIDS:

1. Councilmember Sarah Jamison made the motion to approve the updated Sole Source Purchase Agreement with Andritz Separation, Inc., for Belt Press Equipment and Repair for the Sewer Department in the amount up to \$225,907.00.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mitch Hickman and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.

Noes: None.

2. Councilmember Mitch Hickman made the motion to award the bid for seal coating to Ridgeback Asphalt, LLC for \$345,132.18.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steve Highfield and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present votes yes.
Noes: None.

ITEM V. MINUTES:

1. Councilmember Sarah Jamison made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting June 7, 2021.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steve Highfield and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.
Noes: None.

2. Councilmember Sarah Jamison made the motion to approve the minutes of the Special Council Meeting June 22, 2021.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mitch Hickman and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.
Noes: None.

ITEM VI. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Councilmember Sarah Jamison made the motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance No. 2096 repealing Ordinance No. 1085 establishing fees for permits and various services with removal of the roofing and fencing permit requirements as captioned below:

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 1085, THE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES FOR PERMITS AND VARIOUS SERVICE PERFORMED BY THE CITY OF SNYDER, AND ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE REFLECTING THE AMENDMENTS OF SECTION C PART 2 DEMOLITION AND CLEANUP. REVISING THE FEE AND SERVICE SCHEDULE, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "THE BUILDING AND RELATED SERVICES FEE ORDINANCE", ADDING SECTION F, PROVIDING A MEANS OF RECOUPING ADDED COST TO THE CITY FOR CONDUCTING CERTIFIED FIRE INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE PUBLIC, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mitch Hickman and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Sarah Jamison, Mitch Hickman, Steve Highfield, and Tom Strayhorn.
Noes: Councilmember Carson Matthies.

2. Councilmember Steve Highfield made the motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance No. 2097 regarding the request by Edvardo Murillo to rezone 1603 Avenue T from a R-2 Limited Multi-Family Residential Zone to a C-2 Commercial Zone.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carson Matthies and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers Sarah Jamison, Mitch Hickman, Steve Highfield, and Carson Matthies.
Noes: Councilmember Tom Strayhorn.

3. Councilmember Sarah Jamison made the motion to adopt on second reading Ordinance No. 2098 regarding the request by Ashley Smith to rezone 1800 19th Street from a M-1 Light Manufacturing Zone to a R-3 General Residential Zone.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Carson Matthies and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.

Noes: None.

ITEM VII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion regarding 2021-2022 Budget. - Patricia Warren presented to the council the revenues and expenditures to expect in the upcoming budget. She also discussed personnel and capital needs in each department. The budget includes \$8,101,155 in the General Fund, \$9,904,625 in the Enterprise Fund (\$7,160,115 Water and Sewer: \$2,744,510 Sanitation), \$411,025 in the Internal Service Fund (Garage), \$450,000 in the Motel Fund, and \$73,445 in the TIF Fund. The proposed budget for all funds is \$18,940,250 with a decrease of \$409,770 from last year. The proposed budget also includes a \$5.00 increase in sanitation rates and a \$5.00 increase in gate fees at the landfill.
2. Discussion and possible action regarding First Amendment to Tax Abatement between the City of Snyder and Llano Escondido, LLC. - Frank Saletta, Llano Escondido, LLC, requested the council extend the current tax abatement agreement he has with the city. The tax abatement agreement was approved in August of 2020 with a deadline of construction to be complete by September 1, 2021. He is requesting the tax abatement agreement be extended to December 1, 2022, while he continues to line up financing. City Attorney Bryan Guymon advised the first amendment to the tax abatement agreement will be presented to the council at a future meeting in August.

No action was taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: TIME: 6:55 P.M.

Convene into Executive Session in accordance with Tex. Gov't Code §551.071 consultation with attorney. Snyder Chamber of Commerce's use of Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Funds.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION: TIME: 7:19 P.M.

Councilmember Tom Strayhorn made the motion authorizing City Attorney Bryan Guymon to employ a private firm to audit the financial records of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sarah Jamison and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.

Noes: None.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding Snyder Chamber of Commerce's use of Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Funds. - During a previous council meeting, Snyder Chamber of Commerce President Linda Molina stated that the chamber had used HOT funds to pay for activities such as fireworks and Christmas decorations which are non-allowable expenses. Linda Molina addressed the council and stated that the Snyder Chamber of Commerce and Scott Joslove from the Texas Hotel and Lodging Association had reviewed the chamber's spending since 2018 and determined that the chamber had raised enough money through sponsorships that it did not use HOT Funds to pay for fireworks. She said the chamber will be changing its policies and procedures to improve transparency.

No action was taken.

4. Discussion regarding the American Rescue Plan. – The council discussed ideas for how to allocate the \$2.7 million dollars in funding the city could receive from the American Rescue Plan through the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) as part of the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund distributions. City Manager Merle Taylor said he would report back to the council when more information becomes available as details from the federal government about how the funds may be spent are still pending.
5. Discussion regarding the Deep Creek Final Closeout Report submitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. - City Manager Merle Taylor advised the council that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concluded it was no longer cost effective to continue the Deep Creek Feasibility Study. The city provided a total cash contribution of \$126,574.80 of which a total of \$97,933.32 was used towards the city’s share of the project. The remaining balance of \$28,641.48 will be reimbursed back to the city.
6. Councilmember Sarah Jamison made the motion to approve the Tax Deeds for Trust Property in the City of Snyder from Texas Communities Group:

Property Description	Legal Description	Winning Bidder
TAX DEED Parcel 11824; NE Corner of the end of Avenue R, Snyder, Texas 79549	Lot Two (2), in Block Three (3), of the Chambers Addition, to the City of Snyder, Scurry County, Texas	Enoc M Sanchez \$300.00
TAX DEED Parcel 13583; 301 24 th St, Snyder, Texas 79549	Lot Seven (7), Block Thirty-two (32), Grayum & Nelson Addition to the City of Snyder, Scurry County, Texas	Jonathan, Darling \$650.00

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Tom Strayhorn and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.
Noes: None.

7. Councilmember Tom Strayhorn made the motion to approve the monthly financial report for May.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mitch Hickman and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.
Noes: None.

8. Councilmember Tom Strayhorn made the motion to approve the monthly financial report for June.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sarah Jamison and passed with the following vote:

Ayes: All members present voted yes.
Noes: None.

ITEM VIII. INFORMATION:

1. Monthly Personnel Report.
2. Budget Schedule.
3. Next Regular Council Meeting August 2, 5:30 p.m.

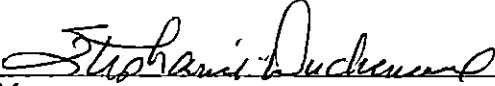
ITEM IX. ADJOURNMENT:

1. Councilmember Sarah Jamison made the motion to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Steve Highfield and passed with the following vote:

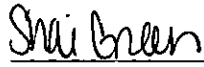
Ayes: All members present voted yes.
Noes: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Secretary

Approved: August 2, 2021.