



Town Council

Monday, September 09, 2024 at 6:00 PM
102 W. Bailey Street, Ponder, TX 76259

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

John Bassler called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Those present were:

Council Member Ginger Deussen
Council Member Nick McGregor
Council Member Lael McWilliams
Mayor John Bassler
Mayor Pro-Tem John Estes
Council Member Alan Gorman

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bassler led both.

OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZEN INPUT (Please limit to 5 minutes per person and if you wish to speak on a particular agenda item, please list the agenda item next to your name.)

No one signed up to speak.

CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items on the consent agenda.

ORAL STAFF REPORTS

Gary water rationing about over. Tanks are full for the first time in a few months. Plan is to end rationing on September 15th. Had to pull well 7 but had it back online the same day. He delivered rate analysis to each Council Member to explain the need for a rate increase. Will be asking for the rate increase

PVFD 62 runs. Several members of the FD stepped up to help the PD with first day of school traffic. Members on stand by at the football games. First Lexipol policies are out. Continuing to work to get that online. Next month he will be bringing the PVFD budget to the Council for review. Still need to work on a resolution or ordinance regarding the merger and future contracts.

Library had 522 patrons in August. No storytime in August and are contemplating breaking storytime up for more room. Having discussion about special holiday events. Spoke to Tocker about a renovation grant. This is for the inside of the Library. She needs for the Town to participate also.

Scott Caster - call load is down. Crashes down. Working on some enforcement projects in remington park. Staggered start times and help from the PVFD helped the first day of school go smoothly.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Presentation by the Ponder Police Department in recognition of citizen involvement.

Chief Scott Caster presented Jonathon McLellan a certificate of recognition and a belt buckle for his assistance in apprehension of a suspect on May 11, 2024. Chief Caster read the following statement:

2. Presentation by developers regarding a planned subdivision, Circle M Ranch.

Don Dykstra with Bloomfield Homes presented to the Town Council a map showing his future development. This development is located on the McPherson land west on FM2449. Mr. Dykstra also passed out some catalogues showing what the homes will look like. He stated that he is prepared to work with Ponder regarding water and sewer.

3. Consider and act on approval of a resolution declaring September 2024 Live United Month in the Town of Ponder.

Mayor Bassler read the Resolution aloud (copy and paste original)

Wanted to convey their gratitude.

Motion to accept the Resolution was made by Council Member McGregor, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Resolution accepted with 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

4. Consider and act on approval of a replat of Lot 3 & 4 to Lot 4R Block 13 Original Town of Ponder Addition.

Motion to approve was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member McGregor.

Secondary motion to amend stating approval with Engineer's recommendations dated August 27, 2027, was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes and seconded by Council Member McGregor.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Motion passed with 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

5. Consider and act on approval of Resolution 670-24, entering into agreement with the City of Justin, Town of Dish and City of Krum to contract Local Impact Analytics in order to meet criteria established for federal railroad safety grant funding.

Motion to approve Resolution 670-24 made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council

Member Deussen.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Motion passed with 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

6. Conduct a public hearing regarding the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund Budget.

Mayor John Estes moved to open the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Nick McGregor.

No one spoke for or against the budget.

Mayor John Estes moved to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Alan Gorman.

7. Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 24-19, adopting the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 General Fund Budget.

Motion to approve 24-19 made by Council Member McGregor, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Motion passed with 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

8. Public Hearing regarding the 2025 Tax Rate.

Council Member Alan Gorman moved to open the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Nick McGregor.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Hearing opened with a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

A member of the audience asked about sales tax rates and why the Town does not use the other .25 for sales tax like other cities do.

Mayor Pro-Tem Estes moved to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Alan Gorman.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Hearing closed with a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

9. Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 24-20, adopting an annual Tax Rate for the Town of Ponder.

Motion to approve Ordinance 24-20, approval of the 2025 Tax rate was made by Council Member McGregor, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Motion passed with 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

10. Consider and act on approval of a contract between the Ponder Volunteer Fire Department and the Town of Ponder.

Motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes. Seconded by Council Member McGregor.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Motion passed with 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

11. Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 24-21, approval of the Water Sewer Budget for FY2024-25.

Motion to approve Ordinance 24-21, Water Sewer budget was made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Council Member McGregor.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Motion passed with 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Sales tax .25 addition, water rate increase

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm was made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Council Member McGregor.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Council Member Gorman

Motion passed with 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

APPROVE:

DATE:

John Bassler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheri Clearman, Town Secretary