



Town Council

Monday, February 12, 2024 at 6:00 PM
102 W. Bailey Street, Ponder, TX 76259

NOTICE

THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF PONDER, TEXAS, WILL CONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION AT 6:00 P.M., IN PONDER TOWN HALL, AT 102 W. BAILEY STREET, PONDER.

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Those present were:

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

ABSENT

Council Member Brandy Couch

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bassler led both.

OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZEN INPUT

Mark Culpepper, 201 Lakewood Ln in Ponder spoke to the Council. Mr. Culpepper stated that he is from Boyd, TX and works for engineering company out of Dallas. History: Daughter moved to Ponder a year ago, then they decided to come out also. Was on City Council in Boyd for 10 years, wife is retired and looking for something to do. He and his wife are interested in being involved in the community. He has been where the Council is now and is here to help in any way that he can. They are engaged in the community and want to be involved.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the January 8, 2024 Town Council minutes.
2. Acceptance of the January 2024 financial Statement.
3. Approval of Ordinance 24-04, Calling for a General Election.
4. Approval of Resolution 24-05, Consent to the creation of the Rockwood Municipal Utility District.
5. Consider and act on approval of Resolution 24-06, releasing certain property from the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction of the Town of Ponder.

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

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

Motion to approve the consent agenda passed with 4 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ORAL STAFF REPORTS

Gary Morris reported that they have found a better source for new well than previously talked about. Not purchasing the 75K land. Well driller said that it wasn't a good location. Will rill a new replacement well and according to the driller will get more water at this location. Hopefully, we can begin on it by May and completed by August.

Scott - rocking along, moved into the new building. Pretty smooth transition community outreach at the library doing self defense and will be doing outreach each month at the library. 19 people attended. Will also be teaching interaction with Police for drivers at the ISD. Drug take back will be in April and a blood drive soon also.

Kelly - had the book sale. went very well. Saturday was amazing. six new families that came into the library and got library cards. Annual report was turned in. It was a beast and will hopefully be approved. It will take about six weeks before we hear back. crochet class will be meeting on Tuesdays and children are welcome. New plumbing at the library and have LED lights there also. Raved about the situational awareness class. Next big project is the summer reading program. It will be good and they will have several different programs going on. She will be asking the Council to come and read.

Andrew went over the statistics that he had delivered to the Council and also reported that they received a grant to purchase a new brush truck.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

6. **Racial profiling reported by Police Chief, Scott Caster.**

Chief of Police Scott Caster stated that he is statutorily obligated to report racial profiling numbers and present to the Council. He stated that the numbers are in the packet.

7. **Consider and act on approval of a letter of approval for the licensing of Ponder Volunteer Fire Department, Inc for an emergency medical services provider license.**

Motion to discuss made by Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Seconded by Council Member McWilliams.

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

Nick McGregor asked if this was to work into an ambulance service to which Andrew Economedes answered yes.

Motion to approve made by Council Member Estes, Seconded by Council Member McWilliams.

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

Motion passed with 4 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

8. **Consider and act on approval of Resolution 24-08, notice of intent to issue Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation.**

Town Secretary, Sheri Clearman stated that this CO is combination tax and revenue bond for the North/South Connector Road for PISD and some Water/Sewer projects as well.

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

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

Motion passed with 4 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

9. **Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 24-07, abandoning ROW as shown in Exhibit A of said Ordinance.**

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

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

Gary Morris stated that Town Staff did not recommend abandoning the ROW

Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor stated that he didn't have any information on this item and asked that someone give some background. The owner of the lot said that it was a vacant ROW between two pieces of property that he owns.

Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor asked about infrastructure, to which Gary Morris replied that there is a water meter on that lot.

Council Member McWilliams asked how long he had owned the property. The owner stated that he bought it last year. He would like to replat that into one parcel.

Council Member McWilliams asked Gary Morris why he was opposed. Gary explained that the Town abandoned a row on the east side of town that we now need and also said that we never know if we will need it or not.

Council Member McWilliams asked if the ROW was a concern when he purchased the property to which the owner replied that he always intended to combine the properties.

Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor spoke about the 1/2 acre minimum. He stated that he is thinking about future development and wants to consistently make sure that people who are going to replat, know about this. The lot owner asked what that meant and said that his plans are for himself and grandkids, not to develop. Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor's main concern is giving up the access and needing it in the future and having to renegotiate it and asked if the owner would be opposed to it being tabled until next month. He stated that it was supposed to be on last month, but was removed for attorney review. Council Member McWilliams stated that he would feel more comfortable if we tabled until next month.

Motion to table until the March meeting was made by Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor,
Seconded by Council Member McWilliams.

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

Motion passed with 4 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

10. **Consider and act on approval of an interlocal agreement between the Betty Foster Public Library and Denton County.**

Motion to approved made by

Motion to approve the agreement between the Betty Foster Public Library and Denton County was made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Council Member Estes.

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

Motion passed with 4 yeas, 0 nays and 0 absentions.

11. **Consider and act on approval of the Ponder Economic Development Corporation FY2023-24 Budget.**

Motion to approve the EDC annual budget was made by Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor,
Seconded by Council Member McWilliams.

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

Motion passed with 4 yeas, 0 nays and 0 absentions.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

ROW Abandonment

Water bill relief

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 6:50 pm was made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor.

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

Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

APPROVED:

DATE:

John Bassler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheri Clearman, Town Secretary