



Town Council Meeting

Monday, April 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM
102 W. Bailey Street, Ponder, TX 76259

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor 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 Mark Culpepper

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

1. **Approval of the March 10, 2025 and March 24, 2025 Town Council Minutes.**
2. **Acceptance of the March 2025 Financial Statement**

Motion to approve the consent agenda was 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 Culpepper

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

ORAL STAFF REPORTS

James Longbrake, Fire Chief went over his monthly call log for March and reported that he will be meeting with the county next week to begin negotiations.

Gary Morris gave an update on well #4. He also reported that he received the WWTP upgrade permit paperwork and it should be completed by June. James street project had a slow down. Had the bid opening and didn't receive any bids so we will rebid and advertise and the opening is on april 22. Concerning the calcium problem - meters all changed and screens put in. All the tests are coming back good and the meter on that well is still showing 300 gpm. he also gave those customers credit on their water bill.

Mike Anderson, Town Engineer reported that the City of Denton should have us a a draft contract with dealpoints on the contract for water.very soon.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

3. Consider and act on approval of a final plat for Phase I Saddle side (Rockwood MUD #1).

Motion to approve the Final Plat for Saddle side contingent upon satisfying the Town Engineer's recommendations was made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

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

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

4. Consider and act on approval of a Non-Standard Water Service Agreement with Rockwood Municipal Utility District No.1 for retail water service to approximately 354 acres in the Town's ETJ.

Mike Anderson reported to the Council as he summarized in his staff memo, he stated that this is a standard agreement with Rockwood. Key points are narrowed down surface water for the development. Original plan was to drill three wells with a pump station for their development that would eventually be turned over to the town. Last summer we suggested participating and they were in for that as long as it did not hold them up. We were able to potentially get City of Denton surface water and are in the process of contracting that. This agreement states that of their water budget \$ they will help fund the improvements necessary to get the surface water. The rockwood well is almost ready to construct and as long as the Town can move forward and not hold up their project, they would agree to the funding.

Motion to approve the contract subject to the Town Attorney's approval 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 Culpepper

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

5. Consider and act on a request from Syracuse Sausage to extend or permanently approve their Special Use Permit for parking lot.

Motion to table this item until a representative of Syracuse can be present to give reason why they would like to extend their SUP for a temporary parking lot, was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member Culpepper.

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

Motion was tabled with a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

6. Discussion regarding the Ponder Municipal Court.

Council Member Culpepper stated that he brought this to the agenda because he noticed that court does not pay for itself. He stated that he would like to look at potentially outsource that.

Amber Harrison, Court Clerk reported that when she came she had approximately 155 cases that were collections. She met with MVBA collection attorney to contract for collections at no cost to the Town, Current court is about 90% on collections. No Driver's License tickets are a problem. They don't get paid and probably 20 out of 50 have not. She has spoken with Krum Court and they are not interested in sharing because they have such an increase in work there now.

Council Member Culpepper thanked the Court Clerk for her report and asked that she report again in a few months.

7. Executive Session presentation and discussion regarding report findings and funding of Right-of-way purchases for the North-South Connector Road.

Motion to adjourn into Executive Session was 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 Culpepper

Regular session reconvened and no action was taken.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Annual Financial Audit
Public Parking Ideas.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:25 pm was made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

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

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

APPROVE:

John Bassler, Mayor

DATE:

ATTEST:

Sheri Clearman, Town Secretary