



Town Council Meeting

Monday, March 10, 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
Mayor John Bassler
Mayor Pro-Tem John Estes
Council Member Mark Culpepper

ABSENT

Council Member Lael McWilliams

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.)

Kelliye Ward, a resident of 224 King George stated to the Council that she is here about water issues and sprinkler system problems. She said that she does not have enough water pressure to run her sprinklers, and the repairman changed out the heads and still don't work well. Since January she has had a repairman to her home six times and still can't get her washer to complete a cycle. She stated that the water is not safe and would like some resolution. Ms. Ward also shared some photos that she had taken of the residual that is in her water.

Linda Hastings, a resident of 227 King George, reported to the Council that she has the same problems as Ms. Ward. She stated that the water is too expensive and that she can't drink it or water her plants with it and that it smells like chlorine and rotten eggs. She reported that she spent \$700 watering her yard this summer. Ms. Hastings also said that she has spoken with Gary and he said that there is nothing he could do. She would like some answers. Ms. Hastings said that Scottie Vickers told her that the residual in her water was minerals.

Cindy Trussell, a resident of 219 King George, reported to the Council that her grandkids saw particles in the water that she poured them and that the water has stopped up the seep holes in her commode bowl. She does not want to drink the water.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of the February 2025 Financial Statement.**
- 2. Approval of the February 10, 2025 Town Council Minutes.**

Motion to approve the February Financial Statement and the February 10, 2025 minutes was made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Council Member McGregor.

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

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

ORAL STAFF REPORTS

Gary Morris - replied to the water customers who spoke in open forum. He said that well 7 has had some calcium issues and that they are working to rectify this. They have injected calciquest and this should help with the calcium build up. He also reported that they are and will continue to flush the lines so as to get the fresh treated water into the lines. He said that the calcium was also affecting the water system equipment. He said that customers may see particles for a while that are coming from the inside of the waterline as the water swishes through them. Mr. Morris offered for those affected, that we could come get a meter read and turn on their outside faucet and flush it. There would be no charge to the customer for this water.

Scott Caster - no new to report. He will be answering any questions about his racial profiling report if needed.

Andrew Economedes - the PVFD had 121 calls on the year with 59 of those being in February. He reported that there are two new volunteers in the academy, one beginning EMT school, one completing EMT school, and one completing the Academy.

Kelly Goudeau - Library repairs are moving along and look fantastic. Had 429 visitors to the library in February. She finished her annual report and sent it in on Friday. Summer reading program begins on June 3.

Sheri Clearman - 2023-24 financial audit was completed last week and library repairs are underway.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- 3. Public hearing to hear comment on the Future Land Use Plan & the Master Thoroughfare Plan for the Town of Ponder.**

Motion to open the public hearing was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member McGregor.

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

Mayor Bassler asked if there was anyone there to speak for or against the item in the public hearing.

Ed Finley of Ponder asked when the property would revert to the zoning on the future land use plan. Sheri Clearman stated that this is just a plan on paper. Roman Boitsov stated that the plan does not instigate zoning changes. Those must be done by the owner.

Motion to close the public hearing was made by Council Member McGregor, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes.

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

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

4. Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 25-07, amending the Comprehensive Land Use Plan by amending the Future Land Use and Master Thoroughfare Plans.

Motion to approve Ordinance 25-07, amending the Comprehensive Land Use Plan was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member Culpepper.

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

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

5. Presentation of the EDC Park Master Plan in relation to EDC property.

Anita Beard with Dunaway & Associates made a presentation of the EDC Park Master Plan on the EDC land.

6. Consider and act on approval of a contract between the Town of Ponder and Denton County for election services.

Motion to approve the contract between the Town of Ponder and Denton County was made by Council Member McGregor, Seconded by Council Member Culpepper.

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

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

7. Consider and act on approval of Resolution 25-08, authorizing membership and payment to the Atmos Cities Steering Committee.

Motion to approve Resolution 25-08 was made by Council Member McGregor, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

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

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

8. Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 25-09, updating the speed limits within the Town of Ponder.

Chief Scott Caster reported that this ordinance does not lower any of the speed limits. This adds Remington Park PH 4 & PH 5 and Clairmont Estates streets that have never been added to the Town schedule. Council Member McGregor asked if the study was completed that the ordinance refers to. Chief Caster said that the study was done when the ordinance was originally passed and that we are only updating streets in the ordinance. Council Member Culpepper asked what it would take to lower speed limits in neighborhoods. Chief Caster replied that a speed survey would need to be completed.

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

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

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

9. Review of the Ponder Police Department Annual Racial Profiling Analysis Report.

The Ponder Police Department submitted their Annual Racial Profiling Analysis Report for Council review.

10. Update from Mayor Bassler regarding the February 21, 2025 meeting with TXDOT relative to speed limit on FM2449 west, and future improvements to FM2449 and SH156 within the Town limits of Ponder.

Mayor Bassler reported that he met with TXDOT on February 21, 2025. He stated that they are not anywhere close to improving and widening SH156 and FM2449 and that when they widen SH156, it will require a large portion of Town Hall and the Ponder Bank building to be taken in and removed. He reported that they have ordered a speed study for FM2449 west of SH156 to try and reduce the speed limit and that they will consider traffic signals at certain intersections if the Town requests them.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Update on water issues Steamboat Estates

Annual Financial Audit

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:13 was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Estes, Seconded by Council Member McGregor.

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

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

APPROVED:

DATE:

John Bassler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sheri Clearman, Town Secretary