



CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, August 20, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Council Chambers – 301 South Harrison St. San Augustine, TX 75972

TEL: (936) 275.2121 / FAX: (936) 275.9146

MINUTES

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM.

PRESENT

Mayor Leroy Hughes
 Alderman Marcus Hafford (arrived late)
 Alderwoman Pamela Teel
 Alderman Juan Diaz
 Alderman Herman Wilson
 Alderman Dan Fussell
 City Attorney Wade Flasowski
 City Manager Jeaneyse Mosby
 City Secretary Jeremy Lynch

- A. Prayer
- B. Pledge To the Flags
- C. Welcome Guests

2. CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS

At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the Council. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting. Please limit to three minutes each.

Jackie Bell invited all to the 9/11 event to be held on September 11 at 5:00 PM in the district courthouse. This year's event will recognize not only first responders but also Glenda Harrison.

Theresa Larkin stated that she was present on behalf of the Whippoorwill residents to see what progress had been made concerning the potential sale of Whippoorwill to the Co-op.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

Motion to approve minutes of previous meetings made by Diaz, Seconded by Teel.
 Voting Yea: Teel, Diaz, Wilson, Fussell

Motion passed.

A. 7/16/24 Regular Meeting

4. ADMINISTRATION - DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Activities/Updates/Announcements/Items of Community Interest

A. Update on Police Department Activity - Chief Jonathan Sowell

Chief Sowell introduced Officer Cody LeVassar to the Council. Judge Cox swore in Officer LeVassar and Chief Sowell presented him with his San Augustine Police Department badge.

Chief Sowell then gave the update on the police department's activity for the month of July, 2024. Activity included: 28 reports filed, 9 felony arrests, 5 misdemeanor arrests, 6 occasions of assisting other agencies, 329 calls for service answered, 3 auto accident report filed, 29 citations written, and 219 warnings issued. An over-a-year-long narcotics investigation was executed and completed.

B. Update on Municipal Court Activity - Judge Jeff Cox

Judge Cox reported the Municipal Court Activity for month of July, 2024. There were 29 citations received, with fines and court costs collected totaling \$2505.00. \$1039.00 was remitted to state, \$1466.00 was kept by the City.

C. Update on Main Street Program - Shelby Curtis

City Manager Jeaneyse Mosby gave the Main Street report. The Smithsonian exhibit is being installed today. It will open to the public on Saturday, August 24, and will be available until October 6. Opening day will feature a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a celebratory cannon-firing, followed by a full day of activities. Windows into History will also be launched, a new permanent feature that will provide ongoing educational opportunities. Council members should have received invitations to a private reception on Friday, August 23, 5:00-7:00 PM, which will offer a first look at both the Smithsonian and local exhibits.

D. Update on Library Activity – Celeste Rainey

Celeste Rainey reported on the library's activities for July 2024. 691 people visited the library during July. 54 new library cards have been issued this year. The library is hosting groups of homeschoolers and kids from the school to participate in tours and other activities. Celeste and Mary Frances are going to be helping with the Smithsonian tours. The library and Evergreen Resources will be sharing a booth at the Sassafras festival. The library will also be participating in Trunk or Treat and the Christmas parade.

E. Update from City Manager - Jeaneyse Mosby

Mrs. Mosby reported that there is a metering issue with the new WhatABurger that is trying to set up in town. The City's lines and meter were checked by Texas Metering Device, and everything checked out, so more investigation is being done to determine why their usage is showing so high.

Asher Foster is no longer working for the City. Joshua Yorgensen has been hired in his place.

Different areas of the town have been spruced up in anticipation of more tourists brought in by the Smithsonian event.

Concerning the Co-op potentially purchasing Whippoorwill, Mrs. Mosby has been in contact with the Co-op but doesn't want to rush the process. She did receive clarification that whatever the City charges the Co-op, the Co-op will then pass that charge evenly to all the customers they take. She still recommends that all City customers west of Whippoorwill also be included in the potential sale. She urged the Council to keep in mind that a future sale would force all such customers to move from the City to the Co-op and pay whatever charge was levied by the Co-op.

Concerning the financial breakout provided, there were discussions about the PCA, usage charged for the month, and line loss, as well as the money being set aside to offset significantly higher bills in the future.

Ms. Hines brought a letter by City Hall inviting the Council to their board of directors meeting with the hospital on Friday, August 23 at 10:30 AM. There will be a presentation to potentially put an emergency siren in San Augustine and Broaddus.

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

A. Split Council Election Terms to End in Alternating Years Starting After 2026 Election

Mrs. Mosby explained the details of splitting the terms and why it might want to be done. Discussion followed. No motion was made.

B. Road Closure Street for Main Street

Mrs. Mosby explained that the stretch of Columbia street from North Harrison to Montgomery would be shut down for 4 hours for the Smithsonian opening ceremonies.

Motion to approve the street closure made by Diaz, Seconded by Hafford.
Voting Yea: Hafford, Teel, Diaz, Wilson, Fussell

Motion passed.

C. Resolution Authorizing Signatories for GLO-MIT Project

Mrs. Mosby explained that this resolution was a correction adding the City Manager as a signatory for one of the resolutions passed at a previous meeting.

Motion authorizing signatories for GLO-MIT project made by Wilson, Seconded by Hafford.
Voting Yea: Hafford, Teel, Diaz, Wilson, Fussell

Motion Passed.

- D. If Proposed Tax Rate Exceeds the Voter Approval Rate or the No New Revenue Rate (whichever is lower), Take Record Vote to Place Proposed Tax Rate/Increase on Future Agenda and Set Public Hearing for September 17, 2024


Mrs. Mosby explained that the No New Revenue rate was lower this year. Discussion followed.

Motion to approve the No New Revenue tax rate made by Diaz, Seconded by Fussell.
Voting Yea: Hafford, Teel, Diaz, Wilson, Fussell

Motion passed.

6. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 PM.



Leroy Hughes, Mayor



Jeremy Lynch, City Secretary