

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 5, 2017

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2017 AT THE BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY CENTER, LOCATED AT 200 W. TILTON, BLUE RIDGE, TEXAS 75424 AT 7:00 P.M. WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION.

1. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Roll was called with the following members present, Mayor Rhonda Williams, Amber Wood, Gerald Young, Allen Cunyngham and Kevin Bell. Christina Porath was absent at roll call but arrived at 7:16pm.

Jeff Graham, candidate for Justice of the Peace Precinct 2, introduced himself with his work history and asked for all to vote at the Primary Election. Early voting begins February 20 - March 2 and March 6 is Election Day.

3. Consent Agenda: a) Discuss, approve or disapprove the minutes from Regular Session held on November 7, 2017; b) Public Works Update; c) City Financial Report; d) Fire Department Report; e) Animal Control Report; and f) Collin County Calls for Service

Council was informed the City did not receive item f - Collin County Calls for Service. Kevin Bell motioned to approve the Consent Agenda minus item f with Allen Cunyngham seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Consider, discuss and act upon changing the January Council meeting to January 9, 2018 due to holidays

Amber Wood motioned to approve changing the January regular Council meeting to be held January 9th. Kevin Bell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Public Hearing to consider, discuss and act upon a Preliminary Plat for property located within the City of Blue Ridge's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction off CR 632 approximately 0.25 miles north on CR 632 from FM 981, also known as Abstract A761 James Rutherford Survey, Tract 51, containing 8.653 acres

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:07pm and asked those FOR the plat to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams asked those OPPOSING the plat to come forward. With no one coming forward, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:08pm.

Amber Wood stated she wanted to have recorded the concerns of the residents near this area. The other land owners were sold property restricting subdivisions under 10 acres; however, the property being discussed was not given the same restrictions. Kevin Bell stated Blue Ridge is going to grow and the City cannot stop the growth. Allen Cunyngham stated he has lived in Blue Ridge for 49 years and Blue Ridge is very different now than it was then and this trend will continue.

Council was also reminded the plat is correct according to our regulations and therefore the Council is obligated by State Law to approve. Kevin Bell motioned to approve the plat as presented with Gerald Young seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Consider, discuss and act upon reviewing Request for Proposals for solid waste collection, announce awarding the nomination of proposer and discuss dates for negotiations of a contract

Council reviewed the RFPs presented for solid waste collection along with a spreadsheet which compared both proposers information.

Alford Services, Inc. was represented by Douglas and Cindy Alford, owners and operators, who stated their interest in serving the City of Blue Ridge. Currently Alford Services serves the City of Gunter; however Gunter did not go through a Request for Proposals process. Alford Services also offers recycling, but this service was not requested in the RFP.

Sanitation Solutions, Inc. was represented by Josh Bray, President and Owner and Woodie Brantley, Manager Business Development, who serves 60 cities with multiple transfer stations. Sanitation Solutions also offers direct hauls of sewer sludge. One city was lost due to a bid snafu in the 11 years of operations.

Alford stated he is in the area and can offer recycling on 1st and 3rd Fridays, but the City would need to participate as recycling is difficult for rural pickups only.

Kevin Bell stated he would like to see cost of recycling. Both companies were asked if resources were in place to take care of the City of Blue Ridge with both companies replying yes.

Christina Porath motioned to go into negotiations for a contract with Sanitation Solutions with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

If negotiations are not made with Sanitary Solutions, Alford Services will be contacted.

7. Consider, discuss and act upon Ordinance #2017-1205-001 enforcing and bringing into compliance dangerous buildings or structures

The ordinance presented works with the International Property Maintenance Code which was passed last month. This ordinance gives enforcement to bring dangerous buildings or structures into compliance. Amber Wood motioned to approve the ordinance as presented with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Consider, discuss and act upon sponsoring 3 Blue Ridge High School students for a trip to Washington, DC as part of a Student Advisory Council

Council expressed concern of funding the students, although very worthy, as all groups will be requesting funding. Allen Cunyngham stated the students have done something exemplary to have a trip to Washington offered, but the City is separate from the School. Mr. Cunyngham also stated if the students cannot afford the trip, they may need to receive funding from the school.

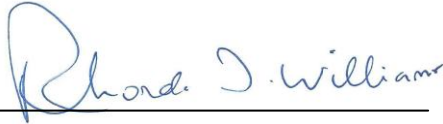
Other questions were raised regarding the issues for the students to take to Washington as well as how these students were chosen for this task. Amber Wood stated the Council was not given enough information to go forward. The Council agreed they would like to have more information and know how this would benefit the City.

Mr. Figueroa, High School Principal and requestor of the sponsorship, has been asked to attend a future meeting to further discuss this item. Amber Wood motioned to table this item to a future meeting with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Citizen Participation. No one spoke during Citizen Participation.

10. Adjournment. Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Kevin Bell seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 7:33pm.

APPROVED:

Handwritten signature of Rhonda Williams in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Rhonda Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Edie Sims in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

Edie Sims, City Secretary