

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
January 8, 2019

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN SPECIAL SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2019 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. and called roll with the following members present, Mayor Rhonda Williams, Amber Wood, Gerald Young, Kevin Bell and Keith Chitwood. Christina Porath was absent.
2. City Secretary Edie Sims offered the prayer and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.
3. Consent Agenda: a) Discuss, approve or disapprove the minutes from Regular Session held on December 4, 2018; b) Public Works Update; c) City Financial Report; d) Fire Department Report; e) Animal Control Report; and f) Collin County Calls for Service
Collin County did not supply the Collin County Calls for Service. Amber Wood motioned to approve items the Consent Agenda with Kevin Bell seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Consider, discuss and act upon Ordinance 2019-0108-001 granting a non-exclusive franchise for 30 years to Texas New Mexico Power for electric lines and pertinent facilities for this utility
Council was informed the term is normal for this type of utility service. Amber Wood motioned to approve the Ordinance as presented with Kevin Bell seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
5. Consider, discuss and act upon a request to install speed bumps on Willow Lane
Council reviewed the map included with their packet depicting the subdivision where the request for speed bumps had been made. Gerald Young questioned if the existing speed bumps had shown a difference with speeding since their install. Amber Wood stated speeders have slowed down, but most people still go around the speed bumps. Council further discussed the effectiveness of speed bumps and stated they can be effective but not always.
Kevin Bell stated Collin County may be a source to help slow down drivers. Signage needs to be confirmed of correct speed zone and Children at Play signs may be helpful.
Kevin Bell motioned to not install speed bumps but instead to confirm or place signage and contact Collin County Sheriff's Office for traffic patrol. Amber Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Consider, discuss and act upon a request from Frognot Water Supply Corporation to include a portion of water line, currently serviced by the City of Blue Ridge, to be dually certified in the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) in the proposed Frognot SUD boundaries
City Secretary Edie Sims informed the Council of Frognot Water Supply Corporation's intent to become a Special Utility District. Council expressed concern of releasing any designated water supply to another utility.

Kevin Bell motioned to decline the request from Frognot Water Supply Corporation with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Consider, discuss and act upon Resolution 2019-0108-001 authorizing submission of the 2019/2020 Texas Community Development Program application

The grant application is for sewer line improvements. Amber Wood motioned to approve the Resolution as presented with Gerald Young seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Consider, discuss and review Local Government Code Section 22.041 regarding City Council absences and act upon a request for Leave of Absence from Christina Porath

Council received Local Government Code Section 22.041 along with a Leave of Absence request. An attendance for the Council was also presented depicting missed meetings by Council member since May 2018.

After extensive discussion, Council arduously contemplated Ms. Porath's leave request. Kevin Bell motioned to table this item to the next meeting and have time to further consider. Amber Wood seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. State of the City - a reflection of 2017 and goals planned for 2018

City Secretary Edie Sims gave a list of projects completed during 2018 which were planned goals to include: completion of sewer line on Pritchard Drive; working ditches and improving waterways; ongoing road improvements; codification of ordinances is in progress;

The City Staff have planned several goals for 2018 to include: Completion of sewer line on Pritchard Drive; Upgrade/improve Ridgeway Drive; Working ditches and improving waterways; Continue road improvements; Step up Code Enforcement to improve the City's health and safety; Continually seek and apply for grants will be ongoing; Continue educational opportunities for all City staff; Continually seek improvements for citizens; Update employee handbook; Continually improve methods within City Hall; Implement Emergency Plan; Implement a City Plan for growth planning.

Ms. Sims gave an oratory of completed items during 2018 to include: 7 plats and 2 Concept Plan; 7 new home permits; 1 new business; 2 street lights installed on the City's electric system; 58 total building permits; equipment purchases included sewer jet with trailer and dump trailer; upgraded copier/scanner; several water and sewer line repairs; online water course taken by Nick Teague; speed bumps placed on several streets; ditch work on various streets throughout town; installed culverts; completed 344 work orders; Council approved 11 ordinances; paid off loan for City Hall; contracted Sanitation Solutions; contracted with All American Dogs for animal control; reviewed Strategic/Comprehensive Plan; contracted with TXU to extend energy contract thru 2028; processed to become Film Friendly; Council signed 17 contracts; Fire Department had a total of 132 calls inside the City which increased 35% over last year.

Goals planned for 2019 include: improve Ridgeway Drive (through Certificate of Obligation funding); continue improving ditches and waterways; continue road improvements; complete codification; improve Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances; continue Mutual Boundary Agreements with neighboring cities; step up Code Enforcement; depending on audit, upgrade accounting program; apply for Planning Grant; prepare plans and construction- sewer grant through CDBG; continually seek grants and improvement opportunities; implement emergency plan and city wide plan for growth.

Kudos were given to all City employees for the commendable work with only 5 staff members.

10. Citizen Participation. No one spoke during Citizen Participation.


11. Adjournment. Amber Wood motioned to adjourn with Kevin Bell seconding the motion.
Council adjourned at 8:06pm.

APPROVED:



Rhonda Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Edie Sims, City Secretary

