

CITY OF BLUE RIDGE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 27, 2019

THE BLUE RIDGE CITY COUNCIL MET IN SPECIAL SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 27, 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, Christina Porath, Keith Chitwood, Amber Wood and Gerald Young.
2. City Secretary Edie Sims offered the prayer and lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.
3. Second Public Hearing to receive public comment on the Proposed 2019 Property Tax Rate for the City of Blue Ridge

Mayor Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:02pm and asked those FOR the proposed tax rate to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams asked those OPPOSING the property tax rate to come forward. With no one coming forward, Mayor Williams closed the Public Hearing at 7:02pm.

4. Consider, discuss and act upon a Concept Plan for a tiny home community

Dawn Dickey was not present to further discuss her Concept Plan presented at the last meeting on August 6, 2019.

Mayor Williams stated she went to Terrell, Texas to preview and existing tiny home community. The homes were placed on concrete pads and this particular community was a 55+ with no children allowed. This particular community was also a gated community and had a separate area for RV's. If this tiny home community moves forward, water and sewer infrastructure would still need to be installed for both permanent homes as well as an RV area.

Amber Wood motioned not to approve a tiny home community with Gerald Young seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Consider, discuss and act upon an incident of damage to an individual's vehicle, occurring at 200 W. Tilton St, from water well cleanout which blew mineral deposits, iron and other underground sediment onto said individual's vehicle

City Secretary Edie Sims explained the incident that occurred on 07/23/2019 when the water well was being pumped. The well workers placed a hose from the water well beside City Hall to the culvert along Tilton Street. The hose was inserted into the culvert to keep the water flowing down the ditches. A large pressure blast caused the hose to come out of the culvert and spewing water from the well onto Margaret Coffey's vehicle which was parked along side the Community Center on Tilton Street. The water had sediment and other deposits which caused damaged to Ms. Coffey's vehicle.

After the incident, Ms. Coffey took her vehicle to a body shop who stated they could not repair the damage. A specialist company, Nationwide Overspray, was contacted who came out 08/12/2019 and chemically cleaned Ms. Coffey's vehicle.

Ms. Coffey stated she is still not satisfied with the results of the cleaning and is concerned rust will continue to eat the paint and into the metal of her car and requested her car be

repainted. Ms. Coffey also contacted the company who performed the well work and discussed the damage that had occurred.

Ms. Sims also informed the Council there are added costs to this issue, not just repainting the vehicle. Ms. Coffey does not have another means of transportation, so if the vehicle is to be repainted, a rental vehicle must be accommodated.

Keith Chitwood motioned to table this item until the City Attorney could be contacted and to find the best cost for repainting. Christina Porath seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Consider, discuss and act upon Ordinance # 2019-0827-001 enacting amendments to the City's Subdivision Ordinance per the 2019 Legislature House Bills 3167 and 2497

The ordinance presented was directed by our City Attorney due to the 2019 Texas Legislature requiring changes to all city's subdivision regulations. Amber Wood motioned to approve the ordinance as presented with Keith Chitwood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Consider, discuss and act upon Ordinance # 2019-0827-002 adopting and enacting a new Code of Ordinances

City Secretary Edie Sims was pleased to present the ordinance adopting and enacting the first codification of City Ordinances. This project has been one year in the making and will make a positive progress into the future. Christina Porath motioned to approve the ordinance as presented with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Consider, discuss and act upon the Ridgeway Drive Roadway and Water Line Replacement project

Engineer Craig Kirkhoff came before the Council and offered an update on the Ridgeway project. The water line installation went very smoothly and the testing for the water came back good whereby the water was made online for all the residents.

The asphalt portion of the project went as planned; however, cracking has been found on the South side of the street. A geo-technician has been contacted to come out and investigate the nature and concerns of the cracks. Cracking was expected a few years into the use of the street, but not this soon.

There are a couple of factors one being a lot of rain, the topography of the area, reflection cracking of the subgrade and soil shifting under 18" beneath the surface. The trees alongside Ridgeway have been recommended to be removed and this has already been planned for. This will help with compaction of the South side of the street. The main question at hand goes to two things: 1) the road bed and topography of the land or 2) workmanship by the contractor.

Mr. Kirkhoff agreed the seal cracking attempt was very sloppy and he is addressing this with the contractor. After the geo-technician's investigation, the shoulders may need to be repacked, the cracks definitely need to be sealed and at the applicable time, the trees need to be removed. Density testing was done during the time of construction.

To move forward, dry density testing can be performed, and the cracks sealed now. The Maintenance Bond will still be in affect for the life of the bond. Mr. Kirkhoff recommends the contractor return and do a better job of seal cracking and the City continue with the tree removal and erosion control. A core test could take 2-3 weeks to get the final results.

Mayor Williams stated she recommends having the core test completed now and get the results in order to have proper accommodations for the life of the street. A bill is currently outstanding in the amount of \$361,035.83 which has been withheld until Council met to further discuss the issues at hand.

Council concurred to pay the bill as the Maintenance Bond will protect the City going forward. Amber Wood motioned to release the funds due for outstanding balance and to have core sampling done with Christina Porath seconding the motion. Motion carried unanimously.


9. Budget Workshop

Council was offered a budget and discussed each line item. Council was also offered a budget with no payroll increases, the tax rate was going down and no requests were being made for equipment purchases. The budget will be further groomed and presented to the Council at the next meeting on September 3, 2019.

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


11. Adjournment. Christina Porath motioned to adjourn with Amber Wood seconding the motion. Council adjourned at 9:12pm.

APPROVED:



Rhonda Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Edie Sims, City Secretary