

HARRIS CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2017

I. Call to order

Mayor Miller called to order the regular meeting of the Harris City Council at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

City Clerk Dargay conducted roll call. The following members were present: Mayor Miller, Councilmembers Sculley and Williams. Councilmember Rossini was absent. Clerk Dargay announced a quorum of the Council was present.

IV. Consent Agenda

Councilmember Sculley made the motion to approve the January 9, 2017 Regular Meeting minutes and the Accounts Payable. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

V. Public Comment

No public comment.

VI. Consulting Staff Reports

- **People Service Report - written report**
- **Park Committee - Chair Monica Hult**
- **City Engineer – Chuck Schwartz**

Councilmember Rossini arrived at 7:15 pm

VII. Regular Agenda

- **Sheriff Duncan - 2016 Crime Report** - Sheriff Duncan and Michelle Jacobson were present to present the Council with the 2016 crime report. Theft and burglary were up in 2016. Michelle stated that these are often a crime of opportunity and if people would keep their garage doors closed and their doors locked, this would reduce the number of these types of crimes. The number of other Part 1 crimes remained similar to 2015.
- **Joe Carlson - Fire Department** - Joe wanted to talk to the Council regarding a rift that he felt existed between the Council and the Fire Department. He felt that the lack of communication was the biggest issue, especially when it came to meetings regarding the future of the fire dept. Mayor Miller advised Joe that the Council needs to get input from the League and the City Attorney regarding legal and liability issues and once these issues have been addressed, the fire department will be asked to come to future meetings to begin the discussion of how best to move forward.
- **PeopleService contract increase** - The Council discussed the annual increase. Councilmember Payne made the motion to approve the signing of the letter of agreement with the increase. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- **NBAHA Gambling Permit Renewal** - NBAHA has applied for a renewal of their gambling permit for The Fuse. Councilmember Sculley made the motion to approve the renewal application. Councilmember Payne seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- **American Legion Gambling Permit** - The Legion has applied for a gambling permit for two events - on April 8 and on October 14, 2017. Councilmember Williams made the motion to approve the permit. Councilmember Sculley seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Firefighter Resignations - Carley & Jacob Blomberg** - The Blombergs have moved out of Harris and are resigning from the fire department. Henry Gregoire advised that the fire department has received all of the gear, equipment, keys and pagers from the Blombergs. Councilmember Sculley made the motion to accept the resignations of Carley and Jacob Blomberg. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- **Repeal of Firearms Ordinance** - Councilmember Rossini advised that the Planning Commission has recommended to Council that they repeal the current firearms ordinance. Sheriff Duncan advised that the deputies enforce the state statutes if there is no local ordinance. There is no statute regarding noise from firearms, but the complaints should be directed to the Sheriff's office and they will send a deputy to check the complaint. Councilmember Rossini made the motion to approve Ordinance #2016-10 repealing Section 131.16 of the Harris City Code. Councilmember Sculley seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

VIII. Staff Reports

- **Planning Commission - John Rossini**
 - TCB Importing has applied for a CUP for the storing of imported cars. A public hearing has been set and this issue should come before the Council at the March meeting.
 - The rental ordinance is done and now needs a public hearing. This has not been scheduled yet.
- **Fire Dept - Chief Joe Carlson -**
 - Social Media policy - The fire department is working on their own social media policy and will try to bring it to Council in March.
 - Joe is requesting PO's for some annual testing. Kirvida can do the pump tests for #4101 & #4105 in August at a cost of \$775. Alex Air can do the compressor testing in September for approx. \$600. ERS will do the flow testing on the air packs at a cost of \$940. They also need to repair the 3" tank to pump valve on the pumper. Kirvida's estimate for this repair is \$838. Councilmember Rossini made the motion to approve these four requests for a total of \$3,153. Councilmember Payne seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 - Joe asked the Council if they could set an amount under which they wouldn't need to get multiple quotes for expenditures... he suggested \$500. The Council requested the Clerk to check to see how other cities handle this issue.
 - Brian Swanson and Joe Carlson discussed the Relief Ass'n pension increase request. They have not had an increase since 2010. Kevin Sedivy, of the State Fire Marshall's office, explained one way that the Council could handle the pension increases. They could set a funding ratio of, for example, 110%. The Auditor could figure out how much to increase the pension to get it to the 110% level. The Council would still have to approve these raises, they would not be automatic. He also suggests a dollar amount cap to avoid large swings in the ratio. They will get numbers from the auditor and bring additional information to the March meeting.
- **Public Works - Alan Teich - written report -**
 - Alan would like the Council to consider purchasing a new city truck within the next year. They use it mostly for salting/sanding the roads. Alan is going to look into pricing for the March meeting, to give the Council an idea of the cost.
 - Alan also requested that the fire department shovel their sidewalk when it snows so that he can pull that snow away with the grader. He doesn't want to risk damaging the sidewalk by scraping it with the grader.
 - We need to replace some street signs that were stolen. The cost will be approximately \$300. Councilmember Sculley made the motion to approve the purchase of replacement signs. Councilmember Rossini seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- **City Treasurer - Marlys Balfany - written report**
- **City Clerk - Joanne Dargay - written report -**
 - The Clerk had done some research on new microphones for the Council Chamber. The current microphones are not going to last much longer. The Council suggested that the Clerk check the state contract website and see if there are any additional companies that could be researched, then bring the information back to the March meeting.
 - The Clerk asked the Council to approve additional comp hours for the next two months because there are extra meetings, prep time for the meetings and extra work with the Treasurer on vacation. Councilmember Rossini made the motion to approve up to 25 comp hours in February and March. Councilmember Sculley seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

IX. Mayor and Council Reports

X. Adjourn

Councilmember Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Payne seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. There being no further business, Mayor Miller adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

City Clerk Joanne Dargay

Mayor Diane Miller

Date Approved