

City of Danbury
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 5, 2022

Notice is hereby given of the Regular Council Meeting of the Danbury City Council to be held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2022, at Danbury City Hall, 6102 5th Street, Danbury, Texas, at which time the following items of business will be considered:

Call To Order 6:30 PM

Council Present Keith Woods, Rocky Hicks, Butch Peterson, Jon Williams, Chris Holcomb

Staff Present Kristina Watson, Lennie Miner, Carrie Long, and Chief Rhyne

Pledge

Prayer: Rocky Hicks

Public Comment

Ted Kamal – He is with (Inaudible) Government Solutions. He has sent the City an agreement to consider using his company to find sales tax and franchise fees not currently receiving. He works with Angleton, Galveston and Santa Fe which are in our area. His company only gets paid when they find us money. He has been doing this for twenty years.

1. Discussion and Consideration of Retaining Curtis Craig (CPA) to Prepare the 2021-2022 Annual Audit. (Melinda Strong)

Motion by__ Butch Peterson to hire Curtis Craig to do annual audit.
Seconded by__ Keith Woods

Passes

2. Discussion and Consideration of Minutes Approval for March 17, 2022.

Jon Williams stated he has to assume the numbers are correct since there are so many.
Carrie said she typed the minutes and she listens to the recording to verify the numbers.

Motion by__ Chris Holcomb to accept the March 17, 2022 minutes
Seconded by Keith Woods

Passes

3. Discussion and Consideration of Revising Ordinance No. 20-19. (Establishing A Municipal Police Force) (Rocky Hicks/Chris Holcomb)

No Action

4. Discussion and Consideration of Approving Project Using the American Rescue Plan Funds. (Kristina Watson)

Kristina Watson - KSA presented an estimated cost plan for different projects that the City had been considering. KSA went over costs for projects that we are wanting done. Equipment vehicle purchase is needed due to the backhoe is out of service quite a bit of the time. Jon Williams asked how often the backhoe is used. Kristina said it is used for multiple purposes. The backhoe is down a lot and it has a bad hydraulic leak. The bobcat is used for small jobs when the backhoe is down. Repairing the headworks was chosen because it can be used in conjunction with dredging completion.

Melinda Strong - GrantWorks fee is set. Engineering fees are built in.
Rocky Hicks asked what fencing is included. Kristina said it is for three lift stations.
Melinda Strong - she is sending to GrantWorks tomorrow, 5/6/22.

Motion by_Keith Woods to accept proposal for the ARP money.
Seconded by__Chris Holcomb

Passes

5. Discussion and Consideration of Approving Fee Schedule for BBG Inspections.
Melinda Strong - We need an approval to update our pricing to use BBG. We are currently still using SafeBuilt fees. Need to keep in mind the amount of time it takes staff to handle paperwork. On most of it we currently charge \$5.00 extra and when SafeBuilt charges .33 per sq.ft. we charge .35 per sq.ft.
Jon Williams asked why we would let someone submit plans that we know won't be accepted, it's a waste of time.
Melinda Strong – People insist on using their plans.
Jon Williams – We shouldn't need inspections for water heaters. We need a lot more time to review.
Keith Woods – we should charge 10-15% additional to cover administrative costs.

Motion by_Keith Woods to accept fees and add 15% additional for city handling
Seconded by__Butch Peterson

Passes

6. Discussion and Consideration of All Culvert Requests To Be Approved by the City Engineer Prior to Submittal to the County Engineer. (Butch Peterson)

Melinda Strong called Llarrence Turner – he said the maximum he would need is three hours and his charge would be \$175.00 an hour.
Chris Holcomb – Why don't we have an ordinance?

Keith Woods – If it is over 50 ft. we need it looked at by an engineer.
Butch Peterson – we need a standard for the city. Hire engineer to create guidelines. We need something to protect city.
Melinda Strong – Send it to Art Pertile then create an ordinance for council to approve.

Tabled

7. Discussion and Consideration of Donations on Water Bills. (Chris Holcomb)

Chris Holcomb – Ordinance 14-11 includes both parks so increase park donation to \$4.00 for both parks – will generate funds to help maintain ballpark.
Butch Peterson – Very few people in the city use the ballpark.
Rocky Hicks – Skrabanek Park generates income.
Chris Holcomb – One other option is to drop the library and add ballpark.
Charon Stolz with the library – Donations pay for maintenance inside the library and programs. Angleton library is the only library owned by the county. It is up to Friends of the Library, Treasurer MaryAnn Martin’s discretion of how to spend the donation money.
Melinda Strong – Council came up with donation funds to keep city from having to pay.
Sue Powell – we are all for trying to help the ballpark but the city is taking on more responsibility for example making sure it is locked every night, etc. How would you divide up responsibilities between city and those using it.

Tabled

8. Discussion and Consideration of Allowing Local Homestead Exemptions and/or Over 65/Disabled Exemptions.

Melinda Strong – On the agenda so that council would have the information and can be thinking about it.
Mr. Womack – There is an Ordinance #78-86 already in effect that says we already have a \$10,000 exemption for 65 and older. It’s just that no one knows about it.
Jon Williams will ask Kristin Bulanek to come to the council meeting on May 19, 2022 for questions and answers.

Tabled

9. Discussion and Consideration of Retaining a Certified Public Accountant for Monthly/Quarterly Audits.

Motion by__ Rocky Hicks to hire Chris Hill to review financials.
Seconded by__ Keith Woods

Passes

Executive Session: Entered: 7:30 PM End: 9:40 PM

10. Discussion and Consideration of Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee: City Secretary
Executive Session under Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to deliberate the appointment, employment, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: Police Chief

11. Executive Session under Texas Government Code Section 551.074 to deliberate the appointment, employment, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: City Secretary

General Business Continued:

Council Present: _____

12. Discussion and Consideration of Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee: City Secretary

Motion by__ Rocky Hicks to hire Erin Nolan pending background investigation.
Seconded by__ Keith Woods

Passes

Adjourn/Dismiss 9:56 PM

Mayor Melinda Strong

Minutes Approved On May 19, 2022
ATTEST: _____
Cynthia Sharp, Deputy City Secretary