

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF MONTAGUE  
CITY OF BOWIE

On this the 22nd day of March, 2021, the council convened in a regular meeting open to the public as advertised with five Councilors present. Councilor Hefley was absent.

Presiding: Mayor Burris  
Councilors: Bates, Bell, Gunter, Higgins, and Love  
City Secretary Page  
City Manager Cunningham  
City Attorney Rotramble

Mayor Burris called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Bill Calabretta.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Burris opened the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m.

This Public Hearing is on a request from Eddie Biles to rezone approximately 1.5 acres being a Part of Lot 3 and all of Lots 4, 5, and 6, Block 1 Baker Addition from Single Family with Manufactured Housing District to Light Industrial District for construction of multiple rental storage buildings.

Donna Coffman, 410 E. Wilbarger, asked the council to deny the request, along with Jack McDonald. Coffman said this is a residential area and is concerned the development would impact her home equity, along with bringing more traffic and additional bright lighting. McDonald reiterated similar concerns stating it will increase traffic on an already busy street. Eddie Biles, who also owns storage units on Decatur Street, said this new project would go right behind it and there would be no access from Wilbarger only Decatur so it would not impact traffic. "It will look better than an empty lot with weeds and yes, there would be lighting to keep out problems."

Mayor Burris closed the Public Hearing at 6:09 p.m.

**ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**

The council has received iPads. City Secretary Page will now send council packets through email. We recently had the Covid shot clinic and volunteers did a great job of handling the call center.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

We had a Coronavirus shot clinic put on by the City and the Texas National Guard. The National Guard was a combination of an infantry unit and a medical unit. Overall, we have about 20 guardsman processing patients and giving shots. Around 450 shots were given on Tuesday, and Wednesday over 600 shots were given which totals over 1000 vaccines.

Remnants of the February freeze continue to plague our city personnel with problems directly related to the weather but things are winding down. As you probably know, we were declared a federal and state disaster area by FEMA. I am in the process of making application to FEMA to cover our cost during the freeze which includes fixing water leaks, fixing the problems at the water plant, the cost of the warming center for that week and other cost related directly to the freezing weather.

In the agenda, you will see a resolution for us to borrow money to cover our fuel cost for the freezing weather. This is a "JUST IN CASE" resolution which allows us to borrow money "IF" we choose to go that route. The State of Texas is in a frenzied state trying to come up with a solution to the overbilling by ERCOT in which most people think that they overbilled for 32 hours of maximum fuel charges. The Senate has already passed a bill to lower the charges, but the new Speaker of the House initially would not let the House vote on the issue but finally referred it to a committee for a possible hearing. All of this to say that we still do not know what our fuel charges will be for our next bill from Bryan Texas Utilities.

**Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes –March 8, 2021 Regular Meeting; Resolution 2021-08- Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected utility accounts over 15 months delinquent; Resolution 2021-09 - Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected library overdue fines over 15 months delinquent.**

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Gunter, to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

**Consider Planning and Zoning recommendation on request from Eddie Biles to rezone approximately 1.5 acres being a Part of Lot 3 and all of Lots 4, 5, and 6, Block 1, Baker Addition from Single Family with Manufactured Housing District to Light Industrial District for construction of multiple rental storage buildings.**

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to support the P&Z decision to deny the rezone. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Higgins, and Love voting Aye. Councilors Bates and Gunter abstained.

**Consider Planning and Zoning recommendation on request from Jon and Carla Swofford and Jeremy and Nicki Richey to replat all of Lot 7R-1, Lot 10 and Lot 11, Block 6, Revised N. Park Subdivision. Creating Lots 7R-2 and Lot 11R, Block 6, Revised N. Park Subdivision.**

This item will be moved to the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting due to the P&Z not being able to meet.

**Accept 2019/2020 Audit from Mathis, West, and Huffines.**

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to accept the 2019/2020 Audit. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

**Consider awarding Engineering Services to Hayter Engineering for the Community Development 2021-2022 Application Cycle.**

Councilor Bell moved, with a second from Councilor Higgins, to award the Engineering Services to Hayter Engineering for the Community Development 2021-2022 Application Cycle. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

**Resolution 2021-10-A resolution adopted by City of Bowie regarding Declaration of Official Intent Pursuant to Section 1.150-2 of The Treasury Regulation.**

The city decided not to pursue this resolution due to it being taxable.

**Resolution 2021-11-A resolution directing publication on Notice of Intention to issue Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation.**

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Bell, to approve Resolution 2021-11. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

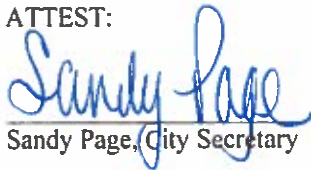
**Update from Public Works Director on Kiwanis Park/Nelson Street Project.**

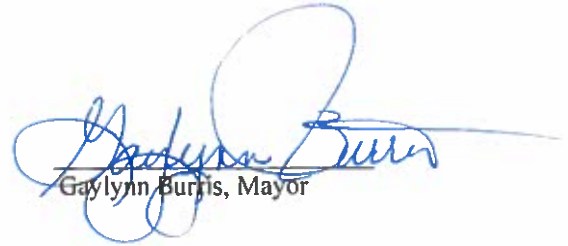
The city and an outside contractor have worked on clearing collapsed culverts, headwalls, and other debris from the drainage channel. When ask about park equipment, there are plans to possibly put-up equipment closer to the pavilion as we see how the spring rains flow through the area. Kiwanis Park area has been cleaned and has 250 ft. of drainage, added rip rap where needed, and built a retention pond. Nelson side of Lamb Street we removed 300 ft. of culverts and dressed drainage ditch. Concrete was poured over culverts left in place, a 16-inch wall, 113 feet of drainage flume, and poured slab for drains and rip rap. We also poured a slab and drain on the north side of Lamb. Pillar and Rock, we removed the collapsed drainage pipe and put up a temporary retaining wall to help get the water out. Bowie Industries donated the hydromulching services. The present project still has a 50-ft retaining wall to complete, a wing wall and rip rap along Lamb behind the Greenlee property. We still have drainage issues from Hwy. 59 eastward. There are still areas that will back up due to volume and smaller outlets. The project was originally budgeted at \$108,000 but looks as if we are going to come in at around \$83,000. Councilor Love ask if there are any plans for phase 2 and was told the problems under Nelson Street have gotten worse. They need to address the culverts at Rock and Pillar, which are all as bad as the ones removed. Based on previous engineer studies, using concrete culverts would run about \$400,000 to \$600,000. It can be done with corrugated piping and concrete walls, which would last about 50 years and run about \$125,000. There is still a lot of water volume going through there and unless you put bigger drainage, which would require

raising the road, we will have an issue at Mill. When ask about Pillar and Rock, that will cost more because the culvers need to be straightened. There are three culverts, so when the water comes straight down the creek it has to turn at a 45-degree angle. It needs to be straightened out so the water shoots straight across. Back in 2015 it was trying to go into one culvert and all that water could do was blow out the road. It is recommended to work on Nelson first, possibly starting in the summer when it is dry and schools are not in session. Councilor Gunter would like to see some beautification to make this area look prettier. He also anticipates they may need additional equipment if they continue this type of repair work.

Mayor Burris adjourned the regular meeting at 6:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Sandy Page, City Secretary

  
Gaylynn Burris, Mayor