

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF MONTAGUE  
CITY OF BOWIE

On this the 13th day of April, 2020, the council convened in a regular meeting open to the public as advertised with all Councilors present.

Presiding: Mayor Miller  
Councilors: Bell, Buckmaster, Higgins, Kent, Love, and Malone.  
City Secretary Page  
City Manager Cunningham

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

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Allen McCauley, Pastor of Faith Baptist Church.

**ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**

Mayor Miller announced because of the coronavirus and social distancing we will be using ZOOM for this meeting. With ZOOM you can log in and be active with the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**REPORTS:**

**1. Economic Development Corporation.**

Janis Crawley gave an update on activity. The EDC has focused on Businesses and Covid19 by answering phone calls on USDA and SB loans. A lot of small businesses are applying for the Paycheck Protection Program, which EDC is helping answer questions. At the Bowie Business Park, WLSCO Properties has broken ground on its office complex. Crawley has been working with new business and expansion on Wise Street and permitting for the new travel center at the intersection of Hwy. 287/FM 1125. They also continue working closely with North Central Texas College on its online and business technology programs. Other projects have included promoting the importance of taking part in the U.S. Census.

**Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes –March 9, 2020 Regular Meeting, March 23, 2020 Regular Meeting, and April 6, 2020 Special Meeting, Resolution 2020-09- Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected utility accounts over 15 months delinquent and Resolution 2020-10- Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected library overdue fines over 15 months delinquent.**

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

**Accept 2018/2019 Audit from Mathis, West, and Huffines.**

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Bell, to approve the 2018/2019 Audit from Mathis, West, and Huffines. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Buckmaster, Higgins, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Resolution 2020-12-A resolution appointing a City Attorney for the City of Bowie.**

Councilor Malone moved, with a second from Councilor Kent, to approve the resolution 2020-12 appointing Che Rotramble as City Attorney for City of Bowie. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Buckmaster, Higgins, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Consider recommendation from Planning and Zoning on request from David McEachern to replat all of Lots 23 thru Lot 28, Block 6, Holman Addition, located at the corner of Madison Street and E. Greenwood Ave. Creating Lot 23R and Lot 28R, Block 6, Holman Addition.**

Councilor Kent moved, with a second from Councilor Malone, to approve the recommendation from P&Z on the replat. Councilors Bell, Buckmaster, Higgins, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Resolution 2020-11- A resolution for City of Bowie to approve the Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Kent, to approve Resolution 2020-11. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Buckmaster, Higgins, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Ordinance 2020-05-An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Bowie, Texas, authorizing the acceptance of payment of utility bill charges and fees by credit card; establishing a processing fee to be collected at the point of sale for the use of a credit card to pay utility bill charges and fees; providing for the collection of a service charge if, for any reason, a payment by credit card is not honored by the credit card company on which funds are drawn; providing a penalty clause, savings/repealing clause, severability clause and an effective date; and providing for the publication of the caption hereof.**

Councilor Malone moved, with a second from Councilor Kent, to table until the City Manager can research another option. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Buckmaster, Higgins, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Consider Sewer Rate increase submitted by City Manager Bert Cunningham.**

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Bell, to postpone the sewer rate increase until the State lifts the pandemic regulations. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Buckmaster, Higgins, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Consider workshop for Council Rules of Procedure.**

Councilor Buckmaster moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to have a workshop after the meeting on April 27, 2020 and with council submitting items they want on the Workshop Agenda to City Secretary Page. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Buckmaster, Higgins, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

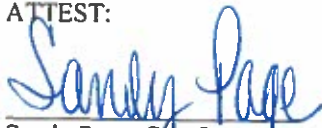
#### **ITEMS OF CONCERN**

City Manager Cunningham gave an update on the following:

1. Old Bowie Lake 8" Line – Thursday the crew put in a shut off valve and took pictures of the standing water behind the dam. Pictures will be taken regularly to compare the level to see if it recedes. After the shutoff valve was put in, a blow-out occurred and had to be fixed. This line has about 12 customers on it and needs to be replaced. Cunningham said there will be a point in time the city may have to drill a water well for those people because it is not worth installing a new line.
2. Water Plant Bleach conversion and UV System -Construction continues on the UV system and the water system is now fully operating on bleach.
3. Street repairs (a.) Mill Street sewer line (b.) Potholes – Engineers have started the environmental study on Mill Street and should start work in late August. At the time no paving is being done due to cool weather. Street department has put out 36 tons of pothole patch material.
4. Central Hospital of Bowie-The Hospital filed for bankruptcy which has stopped not only the sale of those items taken in the tax warrant to pay delinquent taxes, but the foreclosure sale of the building.
5. Smart Meters – We have replaced around 150 modules that are under warranty, but have about a 1,000 to go. The Nexgrid staff is not traveling due to the virus, so we are doing the replacements. Cunningham said the city has been out a lot of labor costs and if the company cannot get the work completed, we may have to look at more stringent measures.
6. City Office renovations at 307 N. Mason Street- Cunningham said the architects were reviewing the bids and will make a recommendation, adding he would like to bring that to the council and let it decide to complete the process. Councilors expressed concern over the economy after the shutdown of the virus.
7. Charter Review Committee-Bert sent the committee the Charter but they will not be meeting until the virus restrictions are over.
8. Budget Process – Budget has already started because of HB2 and the first budget meeting should be about a month away.

Mayor Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Sandy Page, City Secretary

  
Bill Miller, Mayor