

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF MONTAGUE  
CITY OF BOWIE

On this the 10th day of June, 2019, the council convened in a regular meeting open to the public as advertised with all Councilors present.

Presiding: Mayor Burris  
Councilors: Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, Love, and Malone  
City Secretary Page  
City Manager Cunningham  
City Attorney Jennings

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

**Public Comments**

Dillon Steen asked the city leaders to “Fuel the positive” and not spend so much time on the negative. He told how social media can be good, but it also can be a negative. We need our leaders to step up, instead of fueling the fire, fuel the positive. If we put half the effort of complaining into the positive it would be great. Steen also added the next Community Wide Clean-Up will be July 27.

**Announcements**

Final testing of the tornado sirens is complete and all are working. The 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month @ 5:00 p.m. will be the audible testing.

Amon Carter Lake will re-open tomorrow morning.

Chamber of Commerce will host the “Chair Affair” this Friday at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

**City Manager Report**

Cunningham addressed social media posts which made negative comments about street repairs and included what he called “false information.” The street department does have a plan for street repair and they are trying to follow it, but the rain continues to cause delays. A new paving list will be presented during budget discussions and expects it will include several of the present projects they have not completed this year. Councilor Bishop asked if we would ever go back to using hot mix. Cunningham said the city got away from that several years ago, but added the present crew is not trained for that process.

The city has applied for a loan from the Texas Water Development Board to replace all of the undersized and leaking sewer lines in town and we expect to hear something by the middle of this month.

Our water line replacement program is proceeding along. Dean along with Joe and his crew have just about finished replacing a 2” water line in the alley between Gray and Roach Street. This will help with water pressure and water quality for the whole area. Next on the list is the new development between Lovers Lane and Bowie Street.

We expect to get the Vector Truck in the next week or two. It should make sewer stop up calls a one-person job in the coming months and years.

Cunningham and Mayor Burris met with Bryan Texas Utilities. Based on projections, we will probably have another rate reduction within the next two to three years based on the cost of energy. BTU has bought into a 250-Megawatt Solar Array with extremely low generation cost and they will pass the savings on to us when the new generation comes on line.

City Secretary Page and I have been having telephone conferences with iCompass dealing with the Meeting Manager Software. In about a month we should be able to produce our agenda and meeting minutes with the software. This software goes hand in hand with the software for broadcasting our meeting over our website. Diana Higgins is working with iCompass to get the meeting broadcast ready for its initial test also.

**Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes –May 13, 2019 Regular Meeting; Resolution 2019-13- Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected utility accounts over 15 months delinquent; Resolution 2019-14- Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected library overdue fines over 15 months delinquent.**

Councilor Buckmaster moved, with a second from Councilor Malone, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Nortex-Mitigation Plan Project Update.**

We met in Jacksboro last month. The program will not be finished until the first of the year. We can not get grants until the mitigation plan is complete.

**Second reading of Ordinance 2019-05-An ordinance of the City of Bowie, Texas, adopting a Water Conservation & Drought Contingency Plan; establishing data, information, and policy for water conservation programs; criteria for the initiation and termination of drought response stages; establishing restrictions on certain water uses; establishing penalties for the violation of and provisions for enforcement of these restrictions; establishing procedures for granting variances; and providing severability and an effective date.**

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Bell, to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2019-05. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Resolution 2019-15. A resolution transferring property described as Lot 5R, Block 52, Riley Subdivision, a part of Block 52, Stallings Addition, City of Bowie, Montague County, Texas, to the Bowie Economic Development Corporation.**

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Kent, to approve Resolution 2019-15 with the verbiage "if the property is not used for a public purpose on or before December 31, 2023, the property automatically revers back to the City of Bowie." Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Request from Bowie Economic Development Corporation for approval of Performance Agreement and Infrastructure Incentive for Victron Energy, Inc. Project #20190304CS.**

Councilor Bishop moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to approve the Performance Agreement and Infrastructure Incentive for Victron Energy, Inc. Motion carried five with Councilors Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Love, and Malone voting Aye. Councilor Kent abstained.

**Ordinance 2019-06-An ordinance amending Chapter 3, Article 3.100 Building Code, Section 3.103 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bowie, Texas; moving the Code Enforcement Fee Schedule for the rates to appendix "C" of the Bowie Code of Ordinances; Amending certain fees; providing a savings clause, a repealer clause; and providing an effective date.**

Councilor Malone moved, with a second from Councilor Bell, to approve Ordinance 2019-06. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Consider the purchase of a Dispatch Console System for the Police Department.**

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Kent, to approve the purchase of a Dispatch Console System. This will be approximately \$44,000. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

Councilor Buckmaster moved, with a second from Councilor Malone, to add the 4-year extended warranty to the Dispatch Console System. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

**Montague County Tax Appraisal District;**

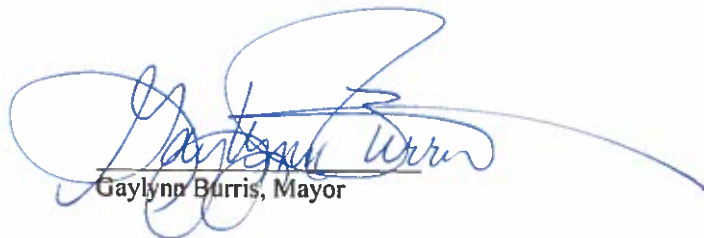
**a. Approve proposed 2020 Budgets.**

Councilor Malone moved, with a second from Councilor Bishop, to approve the Montague County Tax Appraisal District 2020 Budgets. Motion carried with Councilors Bell, Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, Love, and Malone voting Aye.

Mayor Burris adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Sandy Page, City Secretary

  
Gaylyn Burris, Mayor

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF MONTAGUE  
CITY OF BOWIE

On this the 24th day of June, 2019, the council convened in a special meeting open to the public as advertised with the Mayor and four Councilors present. Councilor Bell and Love were absent.

Presiding: Mayor Burris  
Councilors: Bishop, Buckmaster, Kent, and Malone  
City Manager Cunningham  
City Secretary Page  
City Attorney Jennings

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

**1. Presentation from Schneider Engineering on electricity.**

Steve Moffitt, Jason Wiesepape and Ramsey Cripe from Schneider Engineering gave a discussion on rate design and market questions. Moffitt explained the difference between the retail market and the public power market. In the retail market customers can choose a retail electric provider which is overseen by the PUC. The customer has no choice in what company provides the distribution wires. A public power has oversight by local boards and councils. Moffitt explained that public power rates can be more stable over time and easier to understand with revenues remaining local, while the retail market can be hit with volatility in its prices. He said retail market costs often complicate the true energy price. The City of Bowie operates as a public power utility. There was much discussion on demand rates and how those are used to recover fixed cost components. Cripe discussed how wholesale price transmission charges are calculated and said they look at this about every three months, but added with a fixed power rate there are not a lot of variables. Wiesepape added they do not recommend changing the WPTC more than once a year to provide customers with a more stable bill. Moffitt also added many people are installing solar panels at their homes to save on their own usage. He explained some cities are adjusting their rates to provide a fair recovery by every customer on the system, calling it the next wave of rate design. The cooperative world also is already adjusting customer fees for those who put in solar.

**2. Presentation from Kim Haralson, Chief Appraiser, Montague County Tax Appraisal District.**

Kim Haralson gave a brief overview of the changes prompted by Senate Bill 2. This will be the last year tax entities can approve a tax rate that is eight percent above the effective rate without being subject to a rollback election. In 2020 the figures will change to 3.5% and anything above that will be an automatic rollback. Truth in taxation brings about new changes to websites which require specific tax information and history on them. The appraisal district will also be responsible for sending out various notifications in letters, which will be expensive, as they send out about 103,000. The bill did eliminate the public notice requirement for publishing an entity's final tax rate in its newspaper. Haralson said she is still attending training and will be working closely with all the entities to get them through the changes.

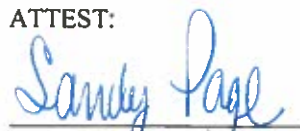
**3. Discuss revision of the fees associated with utility accounts, including late fees, reconnect fees, deposits, etc. Code of Ordinances Chapter 11, Article 11.500 Utility Billing Procedures.**

Councilor Buckmaster questioned making changes in the late fees on utility bills. After discussion and different ideas, Councilor Kent said he would like see how the five-day grace period approved about two months ago impacts late fees before they make any changes. Finance Director Carrie Moore will be bringing back information at the next regular council meeting.

No action was taken at this meeting.

At 8:13 p.m., with no further business to discuss, Mayor Burris adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:

  
Sandy Page, City Secretary

  
Gaylynn Burris, Mayor