

Regular City Council Meeting
February 27, 2023

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF MONTAGUE
CITY OF BOWIE

On this the 27th day of February, 2023, the council convened in a regular meeting open to the public as advertised with four Councilors present. Councilor Bates and Gunter were absent.

Presiding: Mayor Burris
Councilors: Love, Post, Shaw, and Sproles
City Secretary Page
City Manager Cunningham

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

Invocation

Invocation was given by Pastor John Little

Items of Community Interest

None

City Manager Report

The city has paid off the note for the Vac Truck, Excavator, PD Tahoe patrol car, Ambulance replacement, FD tools, small dump truck, and tree chipper. This was a 5 year note and our goal now is to not acquire new debt unless we have to.

Jay Evans, Chance Gilmore and I had a conference call with Nexgrid. Nexgrid is the company we purchased the meter reading communication equipment from about 5 years ago and it has never worked properly. We are only reading electronically about 70% of the water meters. This means we are reading by meter readers about 600 meters a month. Nexgrid was very understanding and they are willing to do whatever is necessary to get out water meters up to being 95% read electronically. We have set up a weekly conference call between Jay and Chance and Nexgrid to measure our progress. One of the main problems we are having is that repeaters we have ordered are caught up in supply chain issues and we are not getting this much needed new communication equipment in a timely manner. Also, when covid hit, Nexgrid was paying another company, Anixer, to replace communications nodes that were not working properly. They only liked about 500 nodes out of 2500 that they were installing, and they left and did not come back after the covid subsided. Nexgrid is paying Anixer to come back and install the last 500 nodes. I am demanding that Nexgrid make our system work or live up to their guarantee. Incidentally, our electric meters are reading at above 99%. Which should tell you that a meter that is 6 feet off the ground will read easier than a meter that is on or underground. I will have another report for you about this at the next meeting.

I took our Solid Waste Grant to Nortex last week and got a phone call last Wednesday that we needed to add one thing to the application for it to be complete. Hopefully, we will score well on the application and we will get to buy a new dump trailer before next fall.

We are doing the final paperwork on the CDBG Grant which will be a new 6" water line on Wichita and Hutchinson Streets on the south side. We should be bidding that contract within the next month or two. The final deadline for the RAISE Grant application to rebuild the bridges on Rock & Pillar Streets, on Mill Street, and Cooper Street is tomorrow. I sent ours in on Saturday.

On Thursday and Friday of last week I attended a TCMA City Manager's conference in Granbury. Seminar subjects on leadership, organization, public/private partnerships and a legislative update from the State Capital. There have been over 4000 bills filed in the legislature and another 4000 are expected to be filed before the March 10th deadline. Many of the filed bills directly affect cities and we will be very active against bills that are bad for us.

We are paving the Police Department parking lot. We sold several pieces of old unused equipment and vehicles and used the funds to pay for this fairly inexpensive project. This gave our street department a start for this year's paving program.

Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes –February 7, 2023 Regular Meeting; Resolution 2023-08 Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected utility account receivables over 15 months delinquent; and Resolution 2023-09- Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected library overdue fines over 15 months delinquent.

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Sproles, to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried with Councilors Love, Post, Shaw, and Sproles voting Aye.

Resolution 2023-10- A resolution designating authorized signatories for the City's TxCDBG application and grants.

Councilor Shaw moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to approve Resolution 2023-10. Motion carried with Councilors Love, Post, Shaw, and Sproles voting Aye.

Resolution 2023-11 – A resolution to adopt necessary civil rights and fair housing policies associated with the City's TxCDBG Grant.

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Post, to approve Resolution 2023-11. Motion carried with Councilors Love, Post, Shaw, and Sproles voting Aye.

Resolution 2023-12 – A resolution authorizing continued participation with the ATMOS Cities Steering Committee; and authorizing the payment of five cents per capita to the ATMOS Cities Steering Committee to fund regulatory and related activities related to ATMOS Energy Corporation.

Councilor Shaw moved, with a second from Councilor Love to approve Resolution 2023-12. Motion carried with Councilors Love, Post, Shaw, and Sproles voting Aye.

City Wide Garage Sale set for April 28th – 30th.

This has been set by ordinance to always have the last full weekend in April.

Public Comments

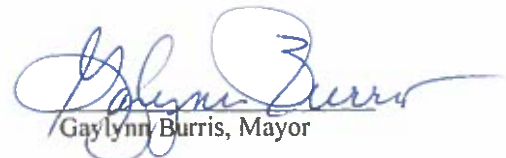
None

City Manager Cunningham told council that the City Attorney charges to come to meetings, so if he feels we don't need them they will not come. If council would like an attorney at a meeting just let us know and we will have one there.

Mayor Burris adjourned the regular meeting at 6:15 p.m.

ATTEST:


Sandy Page, City Secretary


Gaylyn Burris, Mayor