

**MINUTES OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL
June 22, 2009**

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vardell called the regular session to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 22, 2009, in the Vivian Cockburn Municipal Building located at 405 Shaffner Street.

ITEM 2 ROLL CALL

Those present were Council Member Crider, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Rouse, Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman and Mayor Vardell. Council Member Ashman arrived at 6:20 p.m.

ITEM 3 INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Police Chief Steve Grube led the invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ITEM 4 MAYOR'S REPORT

None.

ITEM 5 CITIZEN INPUT

Linda Hastings, a resident of Steamboat Estates reported to the Council that there are approximately 8 portable basketball goals laying on the ground in and near the streets in her subdivision. Ms. Hastings stated that she would like to see some restrictions or an ordinance requiring the goals to be placed farther back on property or required to be put away when not in use. She also stated that the sand, rocks and bricks used to keep these goals stationary is scattered all over the neighborhood. She said that the goals block the roadway when they are blown over.

Council Member Wilkinson stated that Town Staff would address the goals that are lying in the road.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman stated that he would like to see her try to speak to the offenders about this. He stated that personal liability is involved and would like for her to try and approach the owners of the goals and reach a solution.

ITEM 6 DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING NEW EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE.

Rodney Dryden, Town of Ponder Insurance Broker presented the Council with insurance quotes from several companies. Council Member Wilkinson asked if the Town employees would be losing any benefits by choosing one of these companies. Mr. Dryden replied no and stated that in fact that BCBS, one of the companies quoted, has over 1000 more doctors in the network than TML. Mr. Dryden explained that he asked for quotes from all insurance companies and then he narrowed the list down to the two best companies. He stated that all of these contracts quoted are good for 12 months and that coverage begins the second after TML coverage is no longer in effect.

Council Member Wilkinson moved to direct staff to look into options 3, 5 and 7 on the quote and meet with other staff members before bringing a recommendation back to the Council. Motion seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Ayes: Council Member Ashman, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Rouse, Council Member Crider and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 7 PUBLIC HEARING AND DISCUSSION OF THE 2008 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT.

No action taken on this item.

ITEM 8 DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING THE PONDER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BUILDING PROJECT.

Mr. Bruce Yeager, Superintendent of Ponder ISD addressed the Council thanking George Belcheff and Rob Morse for their hard work on the platting process.

George Belcheff reported to the Council that the PISD buildings are substantially complete and supports issuing a temporary certificate of occupancy not to exceed 120 days. Mayor Vardell asked if these conditions could be amended if necessary and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman replied that it could.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to issue a temporary certificate of occupancy to the School Board for a period of 120 days awaiting completion of punch list on construction items, completion of platting and fulfillment of “deal points” previously agreed upon between Town Council and School Board. Motion seconded by Council Member Crider. Ayes: Council Member Ashman, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Rouse, Council Member Crider and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 9 DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING THE DRAINAGE AT HIGH MEADOWS NORTH.

Council Member Wilkinson moved to take no action. Motion seconded by Council Member Rouse. Ayes: Council Member Ashman, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Rouse, Council Member Crider and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 10 DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND ACTION REGARDING CODE ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS AND ACTION.

Council Member Wilkinson stated that he wants to see the tall grass and junk vehicles addressed. Steve Grube, Chief of Police stated that he would enforce these ordinances and asked that the Council back him. Council agreed that they would back him.

ITEM 11 CONSIDER AND ACT ON ASSIGNING WANDA DAVIS TO SERVE AS THE LIBRARIAN AND TO ESTABLISH A STIPEND FOR THE ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENT.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to allow Wanda Davis to serve as the Librarian and to pay her a stipend of \$200 per paycheck for the additional duties. Motion seconded by Council Member Ashman. Ayes: Council Member Ashman, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Rouse, Council Member Crider and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 12 DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON PROPERTY ACQUISITION FOR ELEVATED STORAGE TANK.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to adjourn into executive session at 6:45 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Ashman.

Regular session reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

No action taken.

ITEM 13 ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

ITEM 14 ADJOURN.

Council Member Wilkinson moved to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Ashman. Ayes: Council Member Ashman, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Rouse, Council Member Crider and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

APPROVED:

Jeff Vardell, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Sheri N. Clearman, City Secretary