

**MINUTES OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL
November 8, 2012**

REGULAR SESSION

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scott McCarty called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

ITEM 2 ROLL CALL

Those present were Council Member Howard, Council Member Finley, Council Member Cockburn, Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman and Mayor McCarty.

ITEM 3 INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

Mayor McCarty led both.

ITEM 4 OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZEN INPUT.

Veronica Kronvall, resident of Ponder stated that a common practice for calculating sewer fees in area cities was to take four of the cold weather months and drop the highest, then average them and that is the fee that you would pay for sewer all year. Her sewer bill doubles in the warm months when she is watering her yard.

Ms. Kronvall also stated that she does not believe the setback for drilling is far enough. There are three more wells being drilled close to a housing addition behind Remington Park. She does not believe the setback protects the neighborhood. Fumes and dust are going to reach the citizens. She also suggested that instead of the few Council Members making all of the decisions, that the Town send out a survey and see what people think is a good number of feet for a setback.

ITEM 5 CONSENT AGENDA.

Council Member Howard moved to approve the September 13 & October 11, 2012 minutes and the October 2012 financial statement. Motion seconded by Council Member Cockburn. Ayes: Council Member Howard, Council Member Finley, Council Member Cockburn and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 6 DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATED TO A WATER BILL FOR JIM KOHL.

Gary Morris explained to the Council that Mr. Kohl has an unusually long service line. There was a leak in the line that went unnoticed for some time and accrued a large bill as a result.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to deduct the average of a normal bill for Mr. Kohl and take his \$300 payment that he already made and the Town absorb the remainder. Motion seconded by Council Member Howard. Ayes: Council Member Howard, Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman, Council Member Cockburn and Council Member Finley. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 7 DISCUSSION REGARDING THE MINIMUM SIZE FOR APARTMENTS LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF PONDER.

Carolyn Farmer, Director of P&Z addressed the Council. She went over the current requirements for apartment sizes. Ms. Farmer explained that there is a land owner who wants to building apartments and would like to know if the Council would be open to lowering the square footage requirements by 100 feet per apartment.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman stated that he did not believe that reducing the size would compromise the quality of the apartments. Mayor McCarty stated that he does not believe that changing the size is a big deal. The Council discussed and agreed that they would be in favor of the reduction in apartment size with the submittal of a site plan.

ITEM 8 DISCUSSION REGARDING GEORGE OWNENS DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

Mike Anderson with Belcheff & Associates addressed the Council. Mr. Anderson put together a cost estimate and would like to set up a meeting with Denton County to see exactly what funds are available for this project. He also suggested that the Mayor write a letter to Denton County requesting a meeting.

ITEM 9 CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPROVAL OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to approve a budget amendment to move \$60,000 from TexPool to the General Fund for use on the Bank Building renovation. Motion seconded by Council Member Howard. Ayes: Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman, Council Member Howard, Council Member Cockburn and Council Member Finley. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 10 ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

Give Gary Morris authority to make adjustments to water bills.

Look at the Ordinance and requirements for MF zoning.

Brooks property zoning.

Historical Board discussions

ITEM 11 ADJOURN.

Council Member Howard moved to adjourn at 7:05 pm. Council Member Cockburn seconded. Ayes: Council Member Howard, Council Member Finley, Council Member Cockburn and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

APPROVED:

Scott McCarty, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Sheri N. Clearman, City Secretary