

**MINUTES OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Poole called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

ITEM 2 ROLL CALL

Those present were Council Member Bates, Council Member Cockburn, Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman (via Zoom), Council Member Lynch and Mayor Poole.

ITEM 3 INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.

Mayor Poole led both.

ITEM 4 OPEN FORUM

Dave Ross who is the owner of Ranchman's addressed the Council. He stated that he has closed his restaurant indefinitely. He can not make payroll and will be planning to open fully after the pandemic is over.

Ryan Dugger addressed the Council asking if they would consider a change to the Pool setbacks in our zoning ordinance.

ITEM 5 CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to approve August 10, 2020 minutes, August 2020 Financial Statement, August 2020 PD Activity Report, August 2020 PVFD Activity Report, Resolution 20-09 Atmos Mid-Tex Settlement and Amended Order of Election. Motion seconded by Council Member Bates. Ayes: Council Member Lynch, Council Member Cockburn, Council Member Bates and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 6 PRESENTATIONS OF STAFF REPORTS.

Gary Morris reported that the sewerline project has begun. Robert Genova reported that he still has one felony fugitive at large.

ITEM 7 PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION FOR THE UNITED WAY OF DENTON COUNTY.

Mayor Poole read aloud the following proclamation.

***PROCLAMATION
TOWN OF PONDER, TEXAS***

WHEREAS, *United Way of Denton County is unparalleled in the power to convene partners, providers, and resources to address the needs of neighbors in crisis; and*

WHEREAS, *United Way of Denton County has been identifying Denton County's needs and responding to them for over 65 years; and*

WHEREAS, *United Way of Denton County works with a network of nonprofits across Denton County to address needs, including feeding those who face food insecurity;*

preparing children for success in school, work, and life; and connecting those in crisis with resources to pay bills and stay in their homes; and

WHEREAS, *United Way of Denton County is committed this year more than ever before to bring people together to help our communities recover and thrive;*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I Matthew Poole, Mayor of the Town of Ponder, do hereby proclaim September 2020 LIVE UNITED Month and ask you to join United Way of Denton County board, donors, volunteers and partners in calling on all residents of the Town of Ponder to LIVE UNITED.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 14th day of September in the year 2020.*

ITEM 8 PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21

Council Member Bates moved to open the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Lynch. Hearing opened to public with no remark.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Bates. Hearing closed.

ITEM 9 PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21.

Council Member Bates moved to open the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Lynch. Hearing opened to public with no remark.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Member Cockburn. Hearing closed.

ITEM 10 CONSIDER AND ACT ON AWARDED A BID FOR THE TOWN OF PONDER WWTP FM156 BNSF RR 10" SANITARY SEWER CROSSING TO DICKERSON CONSTRUCTION INC.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to award the contract to Dickerson Construction in the amount of \$218,400. Motion seconded by Council Member Lynch. Ayes: Council Member Bassler, Council Member Cockburn, Council Member Bates and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 11 CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPROVAL OF THE TAX RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman moved to approve the tax rate at 0.702652/\$100 valuation. Motion seconded by Council Member Bates. Ayes: Council Member Lynch, Council Member Cockburn, Council Member Bates and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 12 CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPROVAL OF THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21.

Council Member Bates moved to approve the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21. Motion seconded by Council Member Lynch. Ayes: Council Member Lynch, Council Member Cockburn, Council Member Bates and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 13 CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPROVAL OF THE WATER/SEWER BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21.

Council Member Bates moved to approve the Water/Sewer budget for Fiscal Year 2020-21. Motion seconded by Council Member Lynch. Ayes: Council Member Lynch, Council Member Cockburn, Council Member Bates and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 14 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA.

Water Rates
Boyscout

ITEM 15 ADJOURN.

Council Member Bates moved to adjourn at 6:24pm. Motion seconded by Council Member Lynch. Ayes: Council Member Lynch, Council Member Cockburn, Council Member Bates and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

APPROVED:

Matthew Poole, Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

Sheri N. Clearman, Town Secretary