

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
April 20, 2015**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, April 20, 2015, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers located at 607 Upton Avenue, Schulenburg, Texas. Elected officials present included Mayor Roger Moellenberndt and council members Rodney Gresser, Douglas Behlen, Roland Kalina and Larry Veselka. Alderman Brenda Rehak was absent. City Staff present included City Administrator, Tami Walker, Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, and Candace Berger. Visitors included Andy Behlen, Mike Zweschper, Mike Perez, Jimmy Carter, William Zeluff of the Schulenburg Sticker and Jimmy Gambino and Lance Zandonatti of Center Point Energy.

Mayor Moellenberndt called the meeting to order. Candace Berger led the group in prayer and the Mayor led the Pledge.

There were no Presentations by Citizens.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to accept the Consent Agenda items as follows (a) minutes of the regular meeting held on April 6, 2015, and (b) payment of current bills. The motion passed unanimously with Alderman Rehak absent.

Marcia Hrcir, Executive Director of the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce announced to the council that the 2nd Annual Sausagefest was a huge success. "Put polka, pivo, and pig together and you can't go wrong" is Andy Behlen's expression of the event. An estimated 12-15 hundred attended the event with participation increases from 13 teams in 25 events last year to 25 teams in 60 events this year. Beer sales were up 60% and estimated \$15,000.00 was made. Additional events being discussed for next year include a sausage stuffing race, wiener dog race and fun run. Marcia thanked the City Council for \$10,000.00 of HOT money for the event - \$2800.00 was spent on bands and \$7500.00 on advertising.

Michael Zweschper, President of the Schulenburg Festival Association, was present to request \$25,000.00 in HOT monies for the upcoming Schulenburg Festival. This money will be used for advertising, signage and banners, promotional events, website design and the rodeo. The Festival Association is trying some different marketing ideas this year including selling tickets early, giving away rooms at local hotels, etc. One new sponsor this year is Beachgate Condos out of Port Aransas. Additionally, they are attempting to diversify their community contributions to include the following: \$600 BGCCV Steak & Shake; \$500 to St. Rose Benefit Dance; \$250 to Deputy Santa Program; \$100 to Sharks Swim Team; \$250 to Relay for Life; \$1000 to Shriners' Children's Hospital; \$1000 to the band, \$1000 to the Junior Livestock Show for T-shirts and animal purchase, \$300 Sports Complex for electrical at concession stand; \$600 for ticket booths at Sports Complex, \$1200 to SISD for light pole at tennis courts, \$3500 to

Little League for backstop project, \$800 to PD for body camera, \$5000 to Chamber to renovate float, \$2000 to pool for picnic tables and benches, and approximately \$2500 for erosion control in the southeast part of the park to be performed by Garden Company. They are still gathering ideas on ways to improve the ventilation at the pavilion. This year's lineup includes Restless Heart and Roger Creager on Friday night and Pat Green and Texas Unlimited on Saturday night. Koozies are being distributed at many neighboring events to help advertise the event. Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Kalina to give \$25,000.00 of HOT monies to the Festival Association. The motion passed unanimously with Alderman Rehak absent.

The current AT&T Mobility plan for city provided work phones was discussed at length. Alderman Kalina stated that with new plans available he believed the city could possibility save money. The city currently has 10 phones on the plan that are not in use and belonged to employees not having been replaced or in case one goes bad. The current bill is about \$1200 a month. By paying a monthly fee of \$25 to each employee to use their personal phone was also discussed. This idea was not ideally accepted with employees then being subject to calls 24/7 when they are not on duty. Texting was also discussed. The electrical superintendent is required to have this feature so messages can be received from LCRA regarding outages. After much discussion, it was decided that at this time, to clean up the current bill by removing the unused phones and adding them as positions are filled.

The performance of Bureau Veritas was discussed at length with particulars on fees and "working with local contractors". Council was clear that cost recovery was necessary. Particular codes selected for inspection was discussed. Liability for not abiding by code requirements were also discussed with the Council agreeing that the City does not want to be liable for non compliance. Administrator Walker suggested a meeting TDLR instead of BV to determine the liability if we do not comply with state law. Alderman Behlen wants to see all fencing permitted and inspected. Maintenance permits for the replacement of water heaters, a/c systems and meter loops are of particular concern. Local electrician Jimmy Carter spoke to the Council regarding his work or current refusal to do any more work in the City of Schulenburg under this inspection company. He stated that he refuses to construct to code requirements because he believes the requirements are unnecessary. He does not believe the government should have the right to tell people what they need in their homes. More particularly he referred to the wiring of a home where GFI outlets are required in all rooms under the new code. This prevents the electrocution of someone should they attempt to stick an object into the socket. He also complained about the arc-fault breakers required today. At one point, he stated that if someone was so stupid to stick something in the outlet, "they deserve to die". In the end, Council decided that perhaps a meeting with BV and two council members, namely Douglas Behlen and Roland Kalina or in one's absence Larry Veselka, should be set up. Alderman Behlen stated his schedule would require the meeting to be held in June on a Friday.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to grant the establishment of a Civil Assets Account for the Police Department with Chief Brenek as

the signer on the account and a non-interest bearing account with the City Administrator, Mayor and Mayor Pro-tem as the signers on the account for the CDBG funds for the Ground Storage Tank Project and the Downtown Revitalization Sidewalk Project through the city's depository – Fayetteville Bank. The motion passed unanimously with Alderman Rehak being absent.

In a motion made by Alderman Kalina, and seconded by Alderman Veselka the City Council agreed to suspend action on the Center Point Energy 2015 Annual GRIP Adjustment for the South Texas Division thus delaying the implementation of the proposed increase by 45 days and making it effective mid July. The motion passed unanimously with Alderman Rehak absent.

Under **Reports from Officers**, the following reports were submitted:

Water Department: line locates, connects and disconnects; meter change outs; read meters; collected monthly bacteriological samples for TCEQ; completed and sent off quarterly level disinfectant reports for TCEQ; mowed and weed eaten at pool, overhauled chlorine machine, finished painting pool and filled, hooked up chlorination equipment in chlorine room and greased pump; drained sand trap at Main Pump House; flushed dead end main at small American Legion Hall; worked on signal problem at Well 10; worked on communication problem at Water Plants #2 and #3 due to lightning storm; and Texas Tanks cleaned and inspected the main water tower, the north elevated storage tank, the ground storage tank at Water Plant #1 and the ground storage tank at Water Plant #2 as required by TCEQ.

Wastewater Department: mowed grass at both plants; hauled four loads of sludge from Babylon Plant; jetted lines at Meadow Creek upper and lower sections, alley 100 block Black and Baumgarten, Highway 90 at Prime, Demel Avenue, Frank's behind Mish Mash Mall with a total of about 2800 feet; repaired manhole in 200 block of Kellett alley; and did 28 minor SSO repairs for 2015-2016 plan.

Street Department: shredding and mowing around town; continue to help garbage department by driving and unloading truck each day; patching potholes around town; will start to reconstruct Paulus Street between Herder and East Avenue; pick up brush when citizens pay the \$25 removal fee; and hauled containers to Altair.

Electric Department: connects, disconnects and meter change outs, read meters; built a new line feeding a new customer out between St. John and Moravia; set a new pole at Texas Rustic to relocate service to allow for construction of new building; installed a new collector in substation for new metering system.

Park Department: regular maintenance (mowing, weed eating, clean restrooms); picked up animals and placed in dog pound when needed; St. Rose Tournament complete last weekend; preparing for Turtle Wing Foundation event April 25th; and cleaning up at Rodeo Arena.

Administration: Meter reading/billing complete – personal cut-offs need to be maintained; Monogram Foods Sewer System Infrastructure has received a TDA Texas Capital Fund program award of \$750,000; meeting with citizens listening to concerns related to Code Enforcement and city services; expanding community interest and research on ways to save and move the Compress located on Banks property off James Avenue; attended meetings on 4/1 and 4/20 with LCRA – Don and Kate, city council workshop on 4/13, met with Mike Zweschper on festival items on 4/17 and department head meeting on 4/20.

Police Department: job vacancies have been reposted; academies to graduate students in the next 30 days; we keep in contact with academies in Victoria and Wharton.

At 8:48 P.M., the City Council of the City of Schulenburg adjourned into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code Section 551.086 concerning the City's Electric Distribution System costs including wholesale power costs and deliberation regarding competitive electric matters. Council members reconvened into regular session and ordered the consultant to return to a future meeting with load release information.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 P.M. The motion passed unanimously with Alderman Rehak being absent.