

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
OCTOBER 19, 2015**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, October 19, 2015, at the Council Chambers located at 607 Upton Avenue, Schulenburg, Texas, at 7:00 P.M. The elected officials present included Mayor Roger Moellenberndt, Aldermen Rodney Gresser, Douglas Behlen, Roland Kalina and Larry Veselka. Alderman Brenda Rehak was absent. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Blaschke-Walker and Megan Bartos.

Visitors included William Zeluff of the Schulenburg Sticker, Tim Sanders of BEFCO, Alana Wyatt, Jeff Proske and Ronald Ryba of the SVFD, Michelle Jordan and Ivan Velasquez.

Under Presentations By Citizens, Mayor Moellenberndt presented a handmade thank you card from the Champion Valley Boys and Girls Club.

Alana Wyatt, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Adjustments presented that the committee unanimously granted Betty and Phillip Tucker the requested setback variance.

Items (a) through (b) are Consent Agenda items with no separate discussion unless a Councilmember requests further information.

- (a) The minutes from the October 5, 2015 regular meeting were presented for approval.
- (b) Current bills were presented for approval.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Kalina to approve Consent Agenda items (a) through (b) with clarification of Sheridan Environmental being the wood chipping service. The motion passed unanimously.

Michelle Jordan, Executive Director of Texas Emergency Services Retirement System made a short presentation on their services which are as follows:

- Pension benefits improve retention
- Cost-effective means for volunteer departments to belong to a professionally managed fund
- Community support for taking care of volunteers
- Benefits local volunteer fire and EMS personnel.

Ms. Jordan also presented an award to the Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department. Accepting the award were Jeff Proske, SVFD Chief and Ronald Ryba. Ms. Jordan noted that the SVFD was one of the first departments to join the system in 1986.

Alderman Veselka requested council take action on item number 8 before item number 7 on the agenda.

Mrs. Walker noted that there are no changes to the original documentation besides switching companies and adding a fee schedule. Alderman Kalina asked about the monies going to the SVFD. Mr. Proske clarified that the monies will eventually come back to the city in forms of payments for loans, etc. He also mentioned that this current company is actually offering better rates. Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Behlen to accept the amendment to an ordinance previously passed authorizing the Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department for reimbursement of costs associated with providing services to persons, entities and insurance companies. The motion passed unanimously.

Tim Sanders of BEFCO presented the bids for the handrails for the Downtown Revitalization Project TCF Project #7214172:

- Janda's Welding for \$37,780.00
- M&C Fonseca Construction Company, Inc. for \$46,056.00
- Tamco Fence for \$46,783.70

Alderman Behlen expressed concern that the new project look like the previous block project. Mr. Sanders assured that they should be identical with the exception of the handrails will be galvanized instead of being primed and painted because of the paint chipping. He noted that there will be subtle changes in the design of the railings but that is due to new ADA regulations passed in 2012.

There will be a pre-construction meeting on Friday, October 23. Alderman Gresser questioned the timeline and was assured that it would be no more than 90 days. Mr. Sanders also noted that there would be minimal impact for businesses; the construction would occur in sections compared to long stretches.

Alderman Kalina made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to award Janda's Welding, Inc. for the handrails for the Downtown Revitalization Project TCF Project #7214172 with a bid of \$37,780.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Kalina to set a workshop date for the Navidad Valley Community Connection for Wednesday, November 4 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Multipurpose Room. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Behlen questioned the filing fees on the fee schedule. Mrs. Walker noted that running ads in the newspaper gets expensive especially when it has to be run more than once. Alderman Behlen suggested that the fees be raised to \$75 in lieu of the \$50 that was recommended.

Mrs. Walker also made a clarification that the roll off additional charges will be impeded after a one week (7 day) rental.

Megan Bartos did a short presentation on credit card fees. It was stated that in the state of Texas, it is illegal to have a surcharge on credit card transactions. However, for municipalities and school, they are allowed to incur a convenience fee to non face to face transactions such as online payments and payments made over the phone. It has to be a flat fee, not variable. Council unanimously decided that if it is legal to have two (2) flat fees any transactions under \$10, \$2.50 will be added to the bill and if it is over a \$100, a \$5.00 fee will be incurred. The payments include any utility, municipal court, garbage collection, permits, limb & leaf, etc. paid online or over the phone.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Behlen to adopt the schedule of fees that were updated, changed and to be filed in the City Secretary's office. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka to approve the electric ordinance clarification to the large commercial rate class. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Department activities included:

- Line locates, connects and disconnects. Meter change outs.
- Read meters.
- Dug up service tap to 1007 Upton Ave. because of low water pressure.
- Changed out ETM at Water Plant #3.
- Repaired 6" water main break at 103 E Summit.
- Changed chlorine cylinders at Water Plant #2 & #3.
- Repaired door at library.

Wastewater Department activities included:

- Hauled 6 loads of sludge from Babylon Plant and 2 loads from Kallus Plant.
- Helped with water leak at Sports Complex.
- Jetted sewer line in 600 block of Black Street.
- Replaced pump at County Barn Lift Station.
- Repaired water leak at Babylon Plant (2" non potable line).
- Helped Street Department pave.
- Poured concrete on South Street sidewalk where we placed sewer line and apron on Kellett Street from water leak 3 months ago.

Street/Garbage Department activities included:

- Picked up brush when citizens pay the \$25 for removal.
- Shredding around town.
- Patch potholes in different areas around town.
- Finish paving Anderson Street, Paulus Street, Foster's Branch Subdivision and seal coat by BWI and Wolf Street.
- Place speed bumps in Meadow Creek Subdivision.
- Picked up bucket truck in San Antonio for Electric Department.

- Set up for the upcoming town clean up at limb and leaf site.
- Started working on curb and welded handrails at Sports Complex.

Electric Department activities included:

- Connects and disconnects.
- Continue installing new meters for new system.
- Working on Highway 90 project, pulling rotten poles when they are replaced.
- Reading meters.
- Trimming limbs out of power lines.

Park Department activities included:

- Regular maintenance (mowing, weed eating, clean restrooms)
- Picked up animals and placed in dog pound when needed.
- Helped Water Department fix leak.
- Helped Street Department pave.
- Fixed water leak at Sports Complex.

City Administrator Tami Blaschke-Walker reported on several items. They are as follows:

- October 6th Conference call hosted by Monogram Foods; including City of Schulenburg, Langford & Associates, Akers & Akers, and representatives from Monogram Foods
- October 7th Met with Elgin Kristinik – Sports Complex
- October 8th Attended the State of LCRA in La Grange
- October 15th Conference Call hosted by Monogram Foods
- October 17-24th City Wide Clean-Up
- October 19th Meeting at Fire Station with Fire Chief, Jeff Proske & TERS Executive Director, Michelle Jordan
- October 23rd Pre-Construction Meeting – sidewalk project
 - There was a small article and map in the most recent Schulenburg Sticker about the one way traffic on Halloween. So far, there has not been any kind of negative responses. Alderman Behlen asked about volunteers to command the entrances.
 - Ronald Bohac's retirement is effective December 31, 2015.
 - The sewer project at the underpass is wrapping up.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.