

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG  
SCHULENBURG, TX  
MAY 2, 2016**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, May 2, 2016, 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, Brenda Rehak and Larry Veselka. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Blaschke-Walker, Chief Troy Brenek and Megan Bartos.

Visitors included Lisa Mederos of the Schulenburg Sticker, Ivan Velasquez, James Brossmann, Andy Behlen, Arnold Stoever, Jennifer Martin, Nancy Hay, Matt & Kathy Quinlan, Chad Zimmermann, Stanley Pesek, Mildred Hrachovy, Juanita Buxkemper, Melissa Henderson, Marcia Hrnrcir of the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce, Lance Zandonatti of Center Point Energy and Elroy Dieringer

Under Presentations By Citizens, Mayor Moellenberndt read a thank you letter from Judge Dan Mueller graciously thanking Chief Troy Brenek for letting him use the Council Chambers. There was a civil case Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> that required more room than the County Building could accommodate.

Mayor Moellenberndt read an invitation for the Schulenburg Area Food Pantry 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration May 11, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. It is an open house and food drive.

Mayor Moellenberndt read a thank you card from June Berger thanking the City for dedicating March 19<sup>th</sup> as Berger Day in memory of Whip Berger.

Mayor Moellenberndt mentioned the passing of Gerri Jochen who was on the Board of Adjustments for a number of years. He appreciated her service to the City.

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

- (a) The minutes from the April 18, 2016 regular meeting were presented for approval.
- (b) Current bills were presented for approval.

Alderman Kalina made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to accept the Consent Agenda items (a) through (b). The motion passed unanimously.

Marcia Hrnrcir, Executive Director of the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce, did a presentation on this year's Sausagefest. She stated that an estimated 2500-3000 people were in attendance which is four times more than the first year. The 17 nonprofits profited \$26,500. There were 31 teams and 70 entries. As a result of the success, the Chamber of Commerce was able to donate \$1,000 to the Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department.

Mrs. Hrnrcir publicly thanked the Council for the HOT Funds. They were used to their fullest potential and in return, the Sausagefest was a success. She also thanked the North Main

businesses for closing early or closing altogether. Most of all she appreciated the help and partnership of the City crews.

She also announced that there are a couple rumors circulating that she would like to clarify. Firstly, the Sausagefest will not be a two day event. Secondly, it will not be moved to Wolters Park. The committee absolutely loves downtown Schulenburg's charm.

City Administrator Tami Blaschke-Walker wanted to thank the Chamber of Commerce for the luncheon provided to all the City employees; even the few employees that were not directly involved in the preparation were able to attend. The Chamber also provided lunch to the ladies in the office.

Stanley Pesek, member of the Knights of Columbus, thanked the City for past support and their donation of HOT funds for their tournaments. Without the funds, the tournaments would not be possible. He presented two applications for Hotel Occupancy Tax Funds. One is for the Schulenburg Festival Coed and Men's Softball Tournament and the other is for the Texas State K of C Softball Tournament.

The state softball tournament will be held June 11-12 with 18 to 22 teams. They have reserved approximately 20 to 35 rooms in local hotels.

This will be the 35<sup>th</sup> year for the Schulenburg Festival Men's Softball Tournament. Coed will be Friday night and will have approximately 8 teams. The Men's tournament starts Saturday morning at 8. There will approximately be 28 to 34 teams. Mr. Pesek noted the HOT funds help with advertising, field rent, lights, security, liability insurance, port a can rentals, rooms for umpires and EMS.

Alderman Behlen questioned if the amounts requested are what was budgeted for this year. Mrs. Blaschke-Walker did not research the amounts but did know that was the same amount requested as last year.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka to grant the Knights of Columbus the requested Hotel Occupancy Tax Funds. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Blaschke-Walker recommended the City suspend the Center Point Energy 2016 Annual GRIP Adjustment rate increase. With the suspension, the rate increase will be delayed 45 days. Lance Zandonatti of Center Point Energy clarified that the rate increase will take effect no matter what, it just delays the increase until July 14<sup>th</sup>. With the school bond election going on, it will give a little leeway in rate increases in case the bond passes.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Rehak to suspend the Center Point Energy 2016 Annual GRIP Adjustment for the South Texas Division. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Blaschke-Walker announced that due to health issues and not being able to fulfill election duties on May 7<sup>th</sup>, Janet Machac resigned as Alternate Election Judge.

The council wanted to publicly thank Janet for her many years of service.

Alderman Rehak made a motion, seconded by Alderman Kalina to accept the resignation of Alternate Election Judge, Janet Machac. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Blaschke-Walker mentioned that Alana Wyatt reached out to Pauline Segura to fill the position of Janet Machac as Alternate Election Judge. Pauline Segura is very familiar with the whole process of elections.

The council wanted to thank Pauline Segura, a former City employee, for stepping forward on such short notice.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka to accept the appointment of Alternate Election Judge, Pauline Segura. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Kalina was appointed as the Navidad Valley Community Connections (NVCC) city representative and in doing so, he has had a walkthrough of the Civic Center with some of the other members. They presented a wish list and in return the City had Monte Akers, the City's attorney, draw up a proposed lease. However, after presenting the lease agreement to the NVCC committee, it was decided the lease agreement was a little harsh and not what the committee is looking for.

Alderman Behlen commended the committee because this is a great project for the community. He feels there is a huge contradiction between the lease and wish list presented. His biggest concern is the free electricity. If one would take this month's utility bill and multiply it by twelve months, the total amount would equal an estimated \$33,000 in utility bills.

Nancy Hay, a NVCC committee member, noted that there would be nominal rent. They have intentions to insulate and lower the ceiling to help with the utilities. She noted that they will one way or another move forward and she feels the lease agreement presented lacks support to the citizens. The City approached them on the opportunity to use the Civic Center and it obviously needs upgrades. She was under the impression that there would be another meeting but thinks it is taking too long for correspondence.

Alderman Kalina had a previous conversation with Mrs. Blaschke-Walker and it was thought that a public hearing would be appropriate for a situation as this one. Mrs. Blaschke-Walker noted that a few other organizations use the Civic Center and they would like to know how it would affect their calendar of events.

Alderman Rehak was concerned that this agreement would limit Schulenburg to one hall rental, which would be the KC Hall. Nancy Hay clarified that they would still do rentals which they would manage and receive the revenue.

Nancy Hay proposed that the Council get together with their committee to hash out the details before a public hearing. She also publicly thanked the VFW for letting them use their location currently.

Alderman Kalina made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to take no action on the lease agreement between the City of Schulenburg and the Navidad Valley Community Connections but move to schedule a workshop Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Multi Purpose Room. The motion passed unanimously.

Municipal Court Judge, Alana Wyatt's report was presented. Council approved.

Chief of Police, Troy Brenek reported on the following items:

- Sergeant Hengst apprehended a suspect on foot that had a warrant out in another county.
- Officer Cody Weiser and I will be attending a training in Hallettsville. We loaned their department equipment and in return we get to take advantage of the training.
- Received \$2500 from Wal-Mart.
- Received \$6300 from a group seizure that took place in the City.
- Received an approximate grant of \$3900 from the NRA.

Alderman Behlen questioned the protocol on traffic light outages. He feels the intersection of Hwy 90 and Hwy 77 is the worst and should be managed when there is a power outage.

Chief Brenek clarified that they do a call out, put a call in to TxDOT and try to utilize their Facebook page to inform citizens.

Mrs. Blaschke-Walker has had an ongoing conversation with Mayor Moellenberndt about implementing an answering service. Along with the traffic lights, the businesses along the interstate do not have any kind of source of contact. The City guys out on call, fixing the problem are not going to answer every phone call that comes in.

Alderman Behlen suggested a prerecorded reverse 911 call that could possibly go out to help with whatever the situation may be.

Water Department activities included:

- Line locates, connects and disconnects. Meter change outs.
- Backfilled a newly installed fire hydrant at North Main and Highway 90 Loop.
- Repaired three separate water leaks on service line feeding the Civic Center.
- Backwashed filters at Pool and added muriatic acid.
- Worked on Water Loss Audit.
- Washed bleachers at Pool, mowed and weed eated all three Water Plants and all Well sites.
- Made new 1" water tap for the Garden Company Market Place & Café.
- Darren and Travis attended a 20 hour course on Basic Waterworks in San Marcos.

Wastewater Department activities included:

- Hauled 6 loads of sludge from Babylon Plant.
- Mowed both Wastewater Plants and Lift Stations.
- Pressure washed 1100 foot line under Bumper Crop.
- Cleaned head works at Kallus Plant.
- Helped with hauling of brush.
- Helped patch holes around town.
- Mowed downtown area.

Street Department activities included:

- Picked up brush when citizens pay the \$25 for removal.
- Patched holes.
- Worked on ditch by City Market.
- Trimmed trees.
- Repaired doors at Swimming Pool.

Electric Department activities included:

- Connects and disconnects.
- Continuing to install new meters.
- Trimmed limbs off of service.
- Installed electrical under the pavilion for exhaust fans.
- Replaced light fixtures in the City Hall Multi-Purpose Room.
- Repaired street lights.

Park Department activities included:

- Regular maintenance (mowing, weed eating, clean restrooms)
- Picked up animals and placed in dog pound when needed.

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

April 18	Conference call with Langford & Associates, Prime Products, Alderman Roland Kalina
April 20	Meeting with Prime Products – Follow up meeting with Aldermen Roland Kalina and Larry Veselka
April 25	Early voting started
May 2-3	Mandatory two – 12 hour days (7:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.)
May 5	Final Inspection – Ground Storage Tank

Mrs. Blaschke-Walker also noted that the swim team is gearing up for their season. They reached out to say thanks to the water department for getting the pool ready. Clarence Hartensteiner and Sammy Kutac have been getting the pool house ready.

Alderman Gresser questioned whether there would be enough lifeguards for this year's pool season. Mrs. Blaschke-Walker noted that it should not be an issue.

Mayor Moellenberndt wrapped up the meeting by thanking the three incumbents and said it has been great working with them.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.