

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG  
SCHULENBURG, TX  
July, 6, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers located at 607 Upton Avenue, Schulenburg, Texas. The elected officials present included Mayor Elaine Kocian, Aldermen Greg Thomas, Wendy Fietsam, Ben Herzik, Clarence Ahlschlager, and Larry Veselka. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, and Human Resources Officer, Mason Florus.

Visitors included Reverend Andrew Stafford, Darrell Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, Chairman of Keep Schulenburg Beautiful, Chip Bubela, Colton Bubela with Keep Schulenburg Beautiful, and Iván Velasquez.

Mayor Kocian called role and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Reverend Stafford said a prayer over the meeting and its members.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by alderman Thomas, to accept the Consent Agenda items A and B. The motion passed unanimously.

- (A) The minutes from the Council Meeting held on June 21, 2021
- (B) The payment of current bills

Council received a presentation from Chairman of Keep Schulenburg Beautiful (KSB), Chip Bubela. Keep Schulenburg Beautiful is a nonprofit made up of citizens focused on beautification and environmental conservation for Schulenburg. Mr. Bubela stated that Keep Schulenburg Beautiful is now an official affiliate of Keep Texas Beautiful, they have received their 501C and now have a website.

As a requirement to be an official affiliate, five volunteers were assigned to ride around town and conduct a survey on various parts of the community. The results were as follows:

- Parking lot in Wolters Park needs to be restriped
- The restrooms in Wolters Park needs attention
- The trees in Wolters Park need trimming
- Sidewalks around town need attention
- Some dilapidated houses in town need to be demolished
- Yards around town need mowing

Mr. Bubela stated that keep Texas Beautiful has a "Fall Sweep" from September 11<sup>th</sup> – November 20<sup>th</sup>. This will be a time where Keep Schulenburg Beautiful can do several projects around town. In addition, once projects are complete KSB board members will document the projects and submit the documents to Keep Texas Beautiful. As a result, KSB can then be eligible for grants and other incentives by the state.

Mr. Bubela concluded by presenting four "Keep Texas Beautiful Community" metal signs that he is hoping can be put up by each city limit sign.

Mrs. Walker said she likes that idea but the City would need to get permission from TxDOT before the City puts up the signs.

Mrs. Walker also commented that a lot of the sidewalks that are in bad shape are along major highways and that is another TxDOT issue. She added that the Street Department is currently trimming trees in Wolters Park.

Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, led discussion on the purchase of two compactors that exceed the purchase limit of \$20,000.

Moeller said the compactor located at DFA is over 15 years old and it gets used every day. He said the guys have patched and repaired it as much as they could and its simply time for a new one.

Moeller also stated that the County is requesting a compactor as well. The County currently has 14 dumpsters at the Recycle Center and replacing those with one compactor will save the County and City money.

The cost of the compactor at DFA is going to be \$29,634.86, while the compactor at the County will cost \$28,303.76.

Alderman Ahlschlager stated that the compactors will save wear and tear on our trucks. Moller added it would also be easier on our guys. Plus, the City charges the businesses a rental fee for the compactors so they will eventually pay for themselves.

Alderman Veselka asked if we were good money wise. Mrs. Walker replied that we are. She commented that the City has turned its focus to maintenance instead of construction so there is money left in the budget from not doing certain projects.

Alderman Ahlschlager made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to purchase the compactors. The motion passed unanimously.

Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, led discussion on the purchase of a Trailer Mounted High Pressure Sewer Cleaner that exceeds the purchase limit of \$20,000.

Moeller said the current Jetter Trailer is over 30 years old. It is a vital piece of equipment and it's just too old to function.

Moller informed Council that a new trailer would cost \$69,911. However, Moeller assured Council this is a sensible unit for what the City needs and we'd be purchasing it from a good company that the City has used before.

Alderman Herzik made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to purchase the Jetter. The motion passed unanimously.

Municipal Court Judge, Kayla Peters, Library Director, Thadious Polasek, and City Fire Marshal, Steve Strickland's reports were all included in Council's packets.

Chief Brenek reported that the PD has been really busy with a lot of incidents and multiple cases. Chief announced that Terry "Rusty" Roggenkamp has been promoted to Sergeant. In addition, Officer Parkinson has been helping Sergeant Roggenkamp with Code Enforcement since he is on limited duty due to health reasons.

Chief informed Council that he will be flying to Atlanta Georgia Thursday to testify in a federal case and will fly back Friday evening.

Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, reported the following to Council:

- Electric Department moved a transformer at Perdue, worked multiple outages, replace a pole that was struck by a vehicle off of High Hill Road. They also are continuing to try to fix the problem on the East Summit and East Anderson Line, and they also have been trimming trees.
- The Sewer Department replaced the pump that was damaged from the Winter Storm, they met with Strand on the County Barn Lift Station improvements, and drained 6 boxes of sludge.
- Water Department met with Merser to install a battery backup on the SCADA system, replaced an RPC Valve at the Warehouse, performed connects and disconnects, and replaced a pump at the Pool.
- Street Department trimmed trees all along Highway 90 and are currently trimming all the trees in Wolters Park.
- Parks Department have been prepping fields for tournaments and are trying to keep up with mowing the best they can with all the rain we've had.

City Administrator, Tami Walker, updated Council on the following:

- On June 24<sup>th</sup> Documents were filed at the Courthouse for the Land Swap with KFS Marketing, Elgin Kristinik
- June 25<sup>th</sup> Met with Alderman Veselka and Ms. Shelby in relation to the property she is offering to sell. Property will be surveyed in 3-4 weeks. Also attended a tour of Kallus Sewer Plant with Public Works
- June 28<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup>, Gathering documents for Franklin Legal – Codification of Ordinances and update the ordinance book
- June 30<sup>th</sup> Girl Scouts planted a tree at the Sports Complex by the New Concession Stand. Thanks to Bridget Hrachovy.
- July 5<sup>th</sup> Commercial Lease Agreement received from Ryan Wotipka for the Von Minden (Currently under review and will be on the next agenda if necessary.)

- Strand is looking at the County Barn Lift Station
- Mrs. Walker reserved vehicles for the Festival Parade
- Departments are working on budget
- Prayers for Melissa Shepard for the loss of her father, Elton Kaase
- Mrs. Walker will be on vacation from July 12<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>

Alderman Fietsam inquired if there was any word on the Texan to which Mrs. Walker replied they started today.

Mrs. Walker concluded by stating that a ribbon cutting and open house will take place at Falcon View tomorrow at 3:30

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik, to adjourn the meeting at 6:43. The motion passed unanimously.