

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
January 18, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, 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, Gregg Thomas, Wendy Fietsam, Larry Veselka, Ben Herzik, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included, Darrell Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, Darren Guentert with the Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department, Paul Zapalac with the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce, Rodney Kalich with the Schulenburg Sausage Fest, Paddy Magliolo with the Schulenburg EDC, and Iván Velasquez.

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

Darren Guentert, with SVFD, gave a presentation on The Shattered Dreams Program. Mr. Guentert announced that there will be a "mock accident" scene set up in front of the high school and the fire department is requesting that they be allowed to close College Street in front of the school and one block of Lyons south of College.

Mr. Guentert said the roads would need to be closed down from 8:15 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. He stated that the event is open to the public and he invited Council to attend and extended an invitation to the ceremony in the new gym as well.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik, to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

- (A) The minutes from the Regular Scheduled Meeting on December 6, 2021
- (B) The payment of current bills
- (C) Quarterly Investment Report as of December 31, 2021

Mrs. Walker led discussion on an Interlocal Agreement between Fayette County Texas, and The City of Schulenburg. She elaborated that the Commissioners Court met on January 13, 2022 and the signed agreement for the City hauling the Compactor at the County Recycle Center is before Council to be ratified.

Alderman Fietsam made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to accept the agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

Paul Zapalac with the Chamber of Commerce presented Council with plans to paint a mural on the Downtown Restrooms. Mr. Zapalac explained that students from University of Baylor's Art Program would do the work. Weather permitting, they could start at the end of January and the work should be completed in four days.

Alderman Ahlschlager asked why we would include "Schulenburg, Home of the Painted Churches" when there are no painted churches in Schulenburg. Mr. Zapalac replied that although the painted churches are in the surrounding area, they bring in over 20,000 visitors to Schulenburg every year and are a vital part of Schulenburg's identity.

Alderman Ahlschlager made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to allow the Chamber to paint the mural. The motion passed unanimously.

Rodney Kalich with the Schulenburg Sausage Fest approached Council to ask for HOT Funds. Mr. Kalich stated that the festival will be April 2 and as it's growing the festival needs more money for a bigger tent, more port-a-poddies, and more hand washing stations.

Mr. Kalich said the Sausage Fest is asking for \$18,000. Alderman Veselka asked Mrs. Walker how much the City budgeted. Mrs. Walker replied \$15,000. Alderman Veselka inquired if the Sausage Fest gave back the \$15,000 from last year and if we have enough money in HOT Funds. Mrs. Walker answered yes to both questions.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik to grant the \$18,000 to the Schulenburg Sausage Fest. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on a License Agreement for Encroachment between the City of Schulenburg and Schulenburg Real Estate Ventures, LLC.

Mrs. Walker explained that the new owner of Colonial Nursing Home contacted City Staff about existing generators that encroach on City Property. The City Attorney and legal from Schulenburg Rel Estate Ventures LLC., determined that a License Agreement is better suited than an encroachment agreement.

Mrs. Walker suggested to Council that this item be tabled for a later meeting. Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to table the item.

Lynn Lantrip of Solid Waste Services (SWS) presented Council with his plans for providing consulting services if the City wishes to go out for an RFP on sanitation services.

Mr. Lantrip exclaimed that he has over forty years in the sanitation industry and he and his partner, who has experience in local government, started SWS 4 years ago. Lantrip sates that "he knows every trick in the book" that private sanitation companies put in their contracts and the City will benefit greatly from SWS' services.

No action was taken on this item.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on joining with Fayette County Elections Office, who will be conducting a Special Constitutional Amendment Election on Saturday, May 7, 2022.

Mrs. Walker stated that the City and School have joined together and contracted with the County in the past. If the City contracts with the County, early voting will occur in La Grange. However, there may be other locations for early voting announced at a later date. Should the City contract with the County, Election Day voting will take place at the County Building located on Paulus St.

Mrs. Walker stated that the County does an excellent job running elections and suggest the City contract with the County.

Alderman Fietsam made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to contract the May 7, General Election with the County. The motion passed unanimously.

Municipal Court Judge, Kayla Peters, Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, and Library Director, Thadious Polasek's reports were all presented in Council's Packets.

Operations Manager Darryl Moeller reported the following:

Swater Department repaired a line at 510 Wolf, cleared a sewage back up at Prosperity Bank, and repaired a leak at 201 Anderson.

Electric Department put up and took down Christmas lights, provided power to the new houses in Fosters' Branch, installed a new metering set at Dollar General, and replaced a rotten pole in a pasture off of Eilers St.

Street Department modified water flow on Kiesel, swept streets, replaced bearings at Kallus, built pipe racks, and set out barricades for Shattered Dreams.

Parks Department has been mowing and preparing fields for the upcoming season.

Irby is going to be working for LCRA and erecting poles. This Saturday the road will be closed on the 1200 Block of Kellett while the work is complete.

The City has been working with TSI on the new fire station building. The City will pour the slab.

4 Public Works Employees are currently out with COVID.

The City also has plenty of sand stock piled and have heaters at all the plants to keep the pumps going should there be inclement weather this winter.

Alderman Veselka asked if the City ever purchased generators for the water wells. Mrs. Walker replied that we went after CBDG funds to secure generators but were unsuccessful to which Alderman Veselka replied that we need to consider buying some.

City Administrator, Tami Walker, reported the following:

- Continuing to keep in contact with Brenda Shelby to complete the purchase of land by the Expo Center
- Kenny and I attended a meeting with The Texan about signs
- On December 28, Strand contacted me about delays at the County Barn Lift Station, as of today the City has still not received the necessary plans
- Gregg Langhammer met with Darryl, Kenny, and myself, in regards to an electrical upgrade on 2672
- The Stock Show is this weekend and City Crews have prepared for the show, especially in the case of inclement weather
- LCRA plans to finish phase 3 of painting the pens and fences at the Expo Center. This will take place April 8th
- January 25, there will be a Library Board Meeting

- January 19, there will be an EDC Meeting
- I started conducting monthly staff meetings with department heads
- Darryl is working on installing new security cameras at the Library, Wolters Park, and the Sports Complex
- The City is considering sending an employee for Animal Control training

Alderman Thomas asked if the City have been seeing an influx in applications since there is a vacancy in the Garbage Department. City Secretary, Mason Florus, said that there have been a good number of applications that have come in and he is starting to look through them to give Tami and Darryl a narrowed down list of qualified applicants for the Parks/ Sanitation Operator.

At 7:03, Council adjourned into an Executive Session to discuss the following pursuant to Government Code, Section 551.087 Deliberation Regarding Economic Development related to the Schulenburg Economic Development Corporation and update the SEDC agreement with Blinn.

At 7:34, Council adjourned out of Executive Session. Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fietsam, to accept the EDC's recommendation and terminate the Agreement with Blinn College. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35. The motion passed unanimously.