

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
February 7, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, February 7, 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, Wendy Fietsam, Larry Veselka, Ben Herzik, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included, Darrell Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, Chairperson of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Tina Bohlmann, Theresa Wagner, Director of the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce, Reverend, Andrew Stafford, Kathy Kleiber, Christina Ochoa, and Iván Velasquez.

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

Under Presentations By Citizens, Terry Wagner, The Director for the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce addressed Council. Mrs. Wagner wanted to formally introduce herself to Council. She also wanted to extend gratitude to Council for the HOT funds allotted for Sausage Fest. She said her and Mrs. Walker already have been working hand in hand and is looking forward to a great relationship with the City.

When asked about how Sausage Fest planning is going, Mrs. Wagner responded that most of the deposits made over the past two years are being honored and there are many sponsors coming forward.

Tina Bohlmann, Chairperson of the Planning and Zoning Commission, presented Council with a rezoning request of 7.42-acre tract at S. Hwy 77, Property ID# 48967. The tract is zoned as Residential and will be rezoned as General Commercial to allow the land to be developed as commercial.

Mrs. Bohlmann stated that several residents spoke out in opposition against the potential rezoning. As a result, the committee recommends that the property not be rezoned.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fietsam, to accept P&Z's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- (A) The minutes from the Regular Scheduled Meeting held on January 18, 2022
- (B) The payment of current bills

Mrs. Walker led discussion on ordering an election. The ordinance provides the date, time, and place for the general election on May 7th. The places on the Ballot are places 3, 4, and 5. As of tonight's date, the City will have an election.

Alderman Herzik made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to accept the ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on possibly purchasing a new compactor to be used at DFA. The bid is from Wastequip and will total \$31,560.91. Mrs. Walker stated that even though garbage is up in the air, the City still has a responsibility to serve their customers in the interim.

Alderman Veselka asked if we previously budgeted for two compactors but purchased none. Mrs. Walker answered that that was correct and garbage usually has a surplus and the City will only pull the money out of reserves if absolutely necessary.

Alderman Herzik asked if we could do anything with the old compactors. Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, said that we weld plates on the spots that are rusted out until we can't weld anymore. The old compactors will be sold for scrap metal.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik, to purchase the compactor. The motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Walker noted that compactors are on backorder and the wait time will be 12-16 weeks.

Municipal Court Judge, Kayla Peters, and Library Director, Thadious Polasek's reports were included in Council's Packets.

Chief Brenek reported that he is back from COVID and thanked everyone for the well wishes. In addition to normal occurrences, PD has been busy. The weekend of February 6-8 there were 21 vehicles broken into around town. Chief reported that Officer Kalina is leading the investigation. He has collected DNA from one of the scenes and is working in conjunction with Columbus PD because they suffered similar burglaries.

Chief said out of all the break-ins only about \$100 worth of possessions were stolen. He believes this is the same individuals who broke into the new concession stand and stole a Leon's truck.

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

- Electric Department replaced electric poles on 90 and at Contech, took down the Christmas lights around town, running power for new cameras at Wolters' Park and the Sports Complex, and poles are installed at ACE Hardware and they have power to their meter.
- Street Department has been assisting garbage and doing work in the shop in the inclement weather.

- Swater Department had a 6" leak on College by Regency and an 8" leak on Wolters by the Post Office. They also replaced a pump at the Boneyard Lift Station and assisted the City of Weimar with a sewer clog.

City Administrator, Tami Walker, Reported the following to Council:

- January 18, was the first day to file for name and place for the General Election. As of today, Howard Stoner has applied for Place 3, Alderman Ahlschlager has applied for Place 4, and Alderman Veselka and Randy Mican have applied for Place 5.
- Attended an EDC Meeting on January 19
- Attended the Livestock Show on January 21 and 22
- January 24, drove to Brenham to pick up plans for the County Barn Lift Station
- January 25, mailed those plans to the attorney for review, met with Brenda Shelby and attended a Library Board Meeting
- January 28, conducted Swater and Sanitation Collector Interviews
- February 1, checked on the status of the new Ground Storage Tank at Henderson Hill. Also, Megan and I met with Joe Orsak about modular homes on his property
- Nicor – The old Valerus building – is wanting an electrical upgrade that the City has to consult with the engineers
- February 2, Met with Tillies and the Historical Museum to discuss water drainage issues. Also, met with Brenda Shelby at Don Blansitt's office
- February 3, the City closed at 12 due to the oncoming ice storm
- February 4, most Public Works workers stayed home and City Hall had a delayed start of 10 A.M.
- There will be an EDC meeting on February 16

Mrs. Walker wanted to thank Darryl and the department heads for their preparedness and getting through the ice storm.

Mrs. Walker announced that the wet well will be delivered to the County Barn Lift Station on February 25th. The City will start clearing land on the 21st.

Alderman Veselka asked if the Nicor building will put strain on the lift station. Mrs. Walker replied that it shouldn't, we're more concerned with the electrical.

Mrs. Walker also stated that there was an electrical fire at the Apartments at 601 West Ave. The City cut the power and will not re-connect until the building is inspected.

Alderman Fietsam asked if we hired anyone. Mrs. Walker replied that we offered a position for Sanitation Collector and will conduct a second interview with a Swater candidate tomorrow.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik, to adjourn the meeting at 6:29. The motion passed unanimously.