

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG  
SCHULENBURG, TX  
April, 19, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 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, Wendy Fietsam, Ben Herzik, Clarence Ahlschlager, and Larry Veselka. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included Layne Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, Pastor Lemae Higgs, Mike Zweschper, Irene Handley, Joe Orsak, Howard Stoner, Randy Mican, and Iván Velasquez.

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

Under Presentations By Citizens, Irene Handley addressed Council. She stated that since the last time she was at a Council Meeting, her storm door was torn down again and 3 more cameras were stolen. She claims that her neighbor shines a light so bright she can't even see her driveway. She said Judge Webber's officer told her to address Council. She claims this harassment has been going on since May 6, 2011.

Under Presentations By Citizens, Howard Stoner asked Council why they would consider replacing metal on a 39 plus year old building without replacing the insulation. He questioned Council about the bid for the Civic Center and said the contractor has " free range to charge up to an additional 25%." Mr. Stoner also stated that the City could have worked with the other contractors to secure a short-term workman's comp and disability insurance policy. He also asked who wrote the bid and what gauge metal is in the specs and will the gutters be replaced.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik, to accept the Consent Agenda Items A ,B,C, and D. The motion passed unanimously.

- (A) The Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Meeting held on April 4, 2022
- (B) The payment of current bills
- (C) Quarterly Investment Report ending December 31,2021 – Corrected
- (D) Quarterly Investment Report ending March 31, 2022

Festival President, Mike Zweschper, gave a presentation to Council requesting HOT funds for the 2022 Schulenburg Festival. Zweschper stated that they will take what they get but they're requesting \$45,000.

Alderman Herzik asked about the advertising budget. Mr. Zweschper said that there is about a 10% increase in the advertising cost because they are making a bigger push on social media and will be advertising more in the surrounding cities.

Zweschper stated that he has been working with Mrs. Walker on trying to use the T-ball field in the park for the Festival without damaging the field. He also stated that this year's BBQ cook off may see up to 100 teams. As a result, he also asked Mrs. Walker about using the Sand Hill (The field at the corner of 957 and Williams Ave. west of the Krischke property).

Alderman Veselka asked how much we have budgeted. Mrs. Walker replied \$55,000. Alderman Veselka suggested the City give the whole \$55,000 because the festival puts a lot into the park. That prompted Mr. Zweschper to add that the Festival is working with Colorado Valley Communications to add Wi-Fi at the park to better serve citizens.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fietsam, to allot \$55,000 in HOT funds for the 2022 Schulenburg Festival. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on cleaning/clearing ESCHEAT items related to the Auditor's Management Letter. Mrs. Walker elaborated that the auditors are currently preparing the FY20-21 audit. A component of the audit is the Management Letter with their findings. In the years past, the City has Escheat Items. Mrs. Walker continued that Escheat refers to the right of governments to take ownership of estates, assets, or unclaimed property. For example, we have 3 checks totaling \$340.41

In addition, Mrs. Walker professed that the second component is the clear all the old items that carry over. She explained that more than likely, this is a result of incorrect journal entries that were not cleared out in the years past. She concluded by saying that for transparency, she wants to ask Council's permission to allow staff to clean up these items and report the Escheat items on a yearly basis if the need arises.

Alderman Herzik made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to grant Mrs. Walker permission. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on setting a date for a special meeting. She stated that moving tonight's meeting created a schedule conflict with the attorney. Mrs. Walker stated that the special meeting will be an Executive Session regarding two issues related to real property that will require a conference call with the attorney.

Alderman Fietsam made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik, to have a special meeting Wednesday, April 27, at 6:00. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker reported Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller's, report to Council:

- Electric Department changed street lights, performed tree trimming at the dead end of N. Upton, the Civic Center, and Simpson St. They also erected a pole on Paulus, hung a service at 609 College, and installed an antenna at Moravia Store. Also, an employee was out 5 days due to COVID
- Swater Department finished painting the Pool, conducted meter reading, repaired a line at 719 Upton, and worked on pumps at the Dollar General and I10 Lift Stations.
- Street Department cleaned up from Sausagefest and at the Civic Center, replaced a bad baring at Kallus, pulled shrubs at the Civic Center, patched holes, and dug holes for a new fence at the New Concession Stand.
- Parks Department helped cleaning up from Sausagefest, assisted garbage department, and normal park duties.

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

- April 6, some City employees partook in medical screenings put on by Catapult, also attended a Lunch & Learn with Darryl, Eric, and Darren
- April 7, gathered documents for Auditors, met with Mrs. Shelby, filed a lien on 709 Baumgarten, filed the first financial report, and shut down the contractor at Henderson Hill after paint damaged vehicles. Mason stayed at the office until 5 for the first candidate financial report filing.
- April 11, met with Sherry Wagner of the Russek Street Apartments over damages to the tenants' vehicles. Also met with Mrs. Shelby, and Brian of the Texan
- April 13, contacted Legal and the engineer about the damage done to the vehicles, met with Mrs. Shelby, and attended an EDC Meeting
- April 14, completed documents on the Russek Street damage
- April 18, beginning stages of the Electric Preparedness Plan due June 1<sup>st</sup>

Mrs. Walker announced that Wayne Janda started with the City. He will be in the Garbage and Street Department primarily as a class A truck driver.

Also, the emergency line replacement occurred today at the 700 block of Upton. There was a major clog at the 45-degree bend and crews replaces the old clay pipe with PVC.

LCRA came to the Sports Complex and replaced all the field light bulbs. Two lights are not working and need to be replaced.

Mrs. Walker is also working with Mrs. Handley, and reviewed the lights coming from the street lights and the neighbor. However, the current ordinance doesn't define what "light pollution" is.

We anticipate M&C Fonseca starting on Keuper around May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Walker concluded by announcing that she will be attending PFIA re-certification training in Austin on April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Alderman Fietsam asked if there was a spill at Babylon. Mrs. Walker answered yes and all the proper actions were taken and everything was reported and filed with TCEQ.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Herzik, to adjourn the meeting at 6:36. The motion passed unanimously.