

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG  
SCHULENBURG, TX  
June 6, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, June 6, 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, Greg Thomas, Wendy Fietsam, Larry Veselka, Howard Stoner, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included, Darrell Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, Andy Behlen of the Fayette County Record, Pastor J.P. Kessie of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Emil and Loretta Pauler, Irene Handley, Bill Bucek, Lana Deese, Kenneth Miksch, Ed Janecka, Carol Kana, David Osina, Scott Stoner, Clarence Hartensteiner, Allen Matus, Stanley Pesek, and Iván Velasquez.

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

Under Presentations by Citizens, David Osina addressed Council stating he wanted to speak on comments made at the last meeting about poor management of Babylon Sewer Plant. Mr. Osina stated that he worked for the City for 13 years with 11 of those being in the Wastewater Department and as a result, knows everything about the plant. Osina said that Babylon Sewer Plant's intake is about 80% industrial which makes it unpredictable. Osina proclaimed that the plant should dewater 1 or two boxes a week and he's heard that the City hauled one a day for a month which he claims is "crazy."

Mr. Osina also professed that too much polymer is being put back into the system and causing more problems at the plant. He continued saying that what the City is trying to do won't work and he's argued that in the past with engineers. Osina concluded stating that the "little spill was probably just a burst of water" and that it didn't overflow for 2 minutes.

Under Presentations by Citizens, Carol Kana introduced herself as the President of the Bishop Forest Alumni Association and Administrator for the Memorial Museum at 100 Ranger Drive. Mrs. Kana stated that she applied for an electrical account in January of 2016 and a former employee set the account up with no water and no garbage. After 19 months of payments, Mrs. Kana recognized an additional charge to her bill. When trying to make contact in October of 2017 to inquire about the charge Mrs. Kana was told an audit found the mistake.

Mrs. Kana said to date, her nonprofit has paid \$980.20 for the garbage service they never used. Mrs. Kana stated that she does not expect preferential treatment but would like to be treated fairly and asked Council to review this practice in their codes and ordinances.

Alderman Fietsam asked City Secretary, Mason Florus, if our ordinance states that electric customers inside city limits have to be charged garbage. Florus replied yes, it's stated in Article 4 Section A4.003 Subsection 6b.

Under Presentations, Proclamations, and Recognitions, Mayor Kocian read a Proclamation in recognition of former SISD Coach Larry Tidwell for his induction into the Texas High School Basketball Hall of Fame.

Tidwell addressed Council stating that from the bottom of his heart wanted to say thank you. Tidwell said that Schulenburg always felt like home to him and the 8 years he was here were the best 8 years of his life. He concluded that this proclamation means more to him than any other recognition or Hall of Fame he may go into.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fietsam, to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 4-1 with Alderman Stoner voting against.

- (A) The minutes from the Regular Scheduled Meeting on May 16, 2022
- (B) The payment of current bills

Stanley Pesek with the Schulenburg Knights of Columbus requested Hotel Occupancy Taxes for the KC State Softball Tournament. Mr. Pesek informed Council that the KCs are requesting \$1,790.00. Alderman Veselka inquired if that was the same amount the KCs asked for last year. Mr. Pesek answered that it's \$90 more than last year's request.

Alderman Fietsam made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to grant the KCs the \$1,790. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Pesek then asked Council to turn their attention to the other packet he provided. Mr. Pesek explained that the Schulenburg Festival was requesting \$8,050 for their softball tournament. Mr. Pesek pointed out that 41% of that is going towards field rental fees which will go back directly to the City.

Alderman Thomas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to grant the \$8,050. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Chief Brenek reported to Council that Officers Powe and Mills are both off this evening and he will introduce them to Council one day that they're both on duty. Chief also informed Council that the PD had a cookoff team that won best appetizer at the Boys and Girls Club "Taste of the Towns Event."

Chief concluded by saying that he would like to echo what Coach Tidwell stated earlier about Schulenburg being a great community and he wanted to publicly commend his officers for being involved in the community.

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

- Swater Department installed a water tap at the Texan, worked on the Contech Lift Station, took back T samples, and drained 7 loads of sludge at Babylon and 1 at Kallus
- Street Department put out and took down the flags, trimmed trees on North Street, and put out a small fire in the garbage truck. Moeller also announced that M&C Fonseca poured 403 ft. of curbing on Keuper
- Electric Department installed two 40 ft. steel poles, one at Nicor and one in Meadowcreek and pulled metal pipes at the Contech Lift Station

Moeller wanted to comment that he does not know everything about the sewer plants but in 8 months he has learned a lot and he has two C operators down there that he trusts.

Alderman Stoner asked Moller if the average for the past 4 years was 1.7 boxes a week. Moeller answered yes. Alderman Stoner asked how many it's been recently. Moeller replied that in the last three weeks they have hauled 7 boxes out of Babylon. Alderman Stoner stated that the same operator was running the plant the past 4 years but once he was on sick leave there was a problem. Moeller retorted that there was 8 ½ feet of sludge to which Alderman Stoner responded " I understand that's what y'all are saying but it's near impossible."

Alderman Stoner then asked for a written report from Moeller. Moeller stated that he has written reports from all departments and just hits the highlights but he'll be happy to provide copies for Council.

City Secretary, Mason Florus, stated that Mrs. Walker's report was included in the packets but did report the following:

- May 17, attempted to set a closing date with City Attorney and Brenda Shelby
- May 18, Alderman Stoner, Darryl, Eric, and Mrs. Walker met in relations to operations of Babylon Sewer Plant
- May 19, worked with senior parents in preparation for the graduation party at the Pavilion
- May 21, and 22, Lifeguard Certification was held at the pool with 5 new life guards being certified
- May 23, Darryl and Mrs. Walker worked on an Emergency Operations Plan for the City's Electrical System. Also met with Brian of the Texan in regards to the welcome sign
- May 24, Met with Julie to discuss a budget calendar
- May 27, Brenda Shelby closing on hold - awaiting information and held up due to the holiday
- May 28, the Pool officially opened
- May 30, Memorial Day Services were held at Wolters Park
- June 2, Mason completed his CEUs for mosquito and herbicide spraying licenses. Also, Mrs. Walker assisted Chief Brenek on applying for a grant - details will follow along with a resolution to be approved at a future Council Meeting

Florus announced to Council that Colorado Valley will be installing fiber at the PD on June 9<sup>th</sup> and City Hall on June 10<sup>th</sup>. He also proclaimed that the City is hosting an Animal Control Officer Certification on July 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, Florus informed Council that Tommy Granger III started last week as Summer Help. Florus concluded stating that as of 4:30 today, Brenda Shelby's closing is still delayed.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stoner, to adjourn the meeting at 6:34. The motion passed unanimously.