

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
August 1, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, August 1, 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, Howard Stoner, 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, Executive Director of the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce, Terri Wagner, Schulenburg Festival President, Mike Zweschper, Irene Handley, and Iván Velasquez.

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

Under Presentations by Citizens, Irene Handley addressed Council with concerns about her neighbor's lighting.

Schulenburg Festival President, Mike Zweschper, formally invited all of Council to this year's Schulenburg Festival. He thanked the Council and all City staff for their efforts with assisting the Festival every year.

Executive Director of the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce, Terri Wagner, presented with numbers from the 7th annual Sausagefest

Mrs. Wagner stated that the Chamber received \$18,000 in HOT Funds from the City and expenses totaled \$21,400. As a result, Mrs. Wagner informed Council that the Chamber will need to request additional HOT Funds in the future.

Mrs. Wagner also reported that the Chamber donated \$1,000 to the Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department for their assistance and the 18 non-profits who participated as vendors at the Sausagefest and raised \$43,148 for their respective organizations.

Alderman Stoner requested that the Payment of Current Bills be pulled out of Consent Agenda for discussion.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to accept the Minutes from the Regular Scheduled Meeting held on July 18, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Stoner inquired about a bill from Supak and their invoice at the County Barn Lift Station. The original bid was \$365,550. Alderman Stoner asked about the payment of \$114,560.26, and a previous payment of \$53,000. Mrs. Walker stated that is correct. Alderman Stoner then asked if this was the final payment. Mrs. Walker answered no because the project is not complete.

Alderman Stoner then posed a question on a bill from La Grange Automatic Gates. Alderman Stoner asked if it was a necessity to have an automatic gate at Babylon Sewer Plant when the City is trying to save money. Mrs. Walker stated that it was done for security purposes. Alderman Stoner stated that he has a hard time explaining that to people when the City is pulling money out of reserves to cover other cost such as fuel and electric inventory.

Alderman Stoner continued about a bill from the last meeting from an electrical contractor for rewiring panels at Wrights Park and Dollar General Lift Stations.

Alderman Stoner then asked if the City had an electrician on staff. Mrs. Walker answered no, we have three linemen but they do conduct minor electrical work when they can.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fietsam, to accept the payment of current bills. The motion passed 4-1 with Alderman Stoner voting against.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on purchasing two skid units with new pumps and motors with complete install at the Meadow Creek and Dollar General Lift Stations.

Mrs. Walker reported to Council that photos of the current lift stations were included in their packets. Mrs. Walker announced that she intends to be billed this Fiscal Year for the Meadow Creek Lift Station and next Fiscal Year for the Dollar General Lift Station.

Mrs. Walker informed Council that the price is \$70,000 for each skid unit. That price is a Buy Board Price from Precision Pumps and it included pumps, motors, and total installation.

Alderman Fietsam asked where the City would get the money. Mrs. Walker answered that she will try to find surpluses in Sewer. If not, she will pull from reserves.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to purchase both skid units for the Meadow Creek Lift Station this Fiscal Year and the Dollar General Lift Station next Fiscal Year. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller's report was included in Council's packet. Moeller did add that the guys have been working a lot of extra hours because of multiple water leaks. He wanted to thank all Public Works for helping out, especially in the extreme heat.

Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, addressed Council about the shooting that occurred Friday, July 29.

Chief Brenek reported that Dispatch received a report that a black Dodge Charger in the 200 Block of St. John Rd. fired three shots from an AR-15 in the air. Trooper Galvan was in the area and located the vehicle. Trooper Galvan stopped the vehicle and as officer Parkinson was assisting to make contact with the driver the vehicle fled. A chase ensued and the vehicle wrecked out. The suspects were not apprehended but the firearm was.

Chief stated that the suspects are identified through social media and bodycam footage and there is currently a warrant for their arrest in Rosenberg. Chief Brenek stated it was not necessary to post anything on Facebook or Reverse 911 because the situation was contained and there was no immediate threat to public safety.

Alderman Veselka asked how many officers the City currently has. Chief replied 7, 8 including himself and one currently in FTO.

Chief also informed Council that the red car a gentleman was living out of was towed and the individual caught a ride out of town. In addition, the Texan tabaco thief has been identified and PD is awaiting a warrant. That same individual is also suspected of stealing tabaco from Pilot as well.

Chief concluded with announcing he was conducting a department meeting for the Festival tomorrow, on August 4, he is meeting with St. Rose School on being more present on campus. He is also meeting with SISD on August 15 for a Citizen Reaction to an Active Shooting Event (CRASE).

Alderman Ahischlager commented that in today's climate, he feels more comfortable when Chief is at the meetings. Chief thanked Council and said he will make sure if he has to be absent in the future, he'll make sure an officer will be in attendance.

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

- July 15, met with William Huebner of Strand on the Henderson Hill Ground Storage Tank and County Barn Lift Station
- July 20, attended an MHMR and EDC Meeting
- July 21, received documents from Strand and Legion, but are reaching back out and providing additional documentation because the City does not agree what was presented in the letter
- July 26 Darryl and I worked on Budget
- July 27 and 28, continued to work on Budget
- July 29, 2 Bank Bids were received by the 2:00 deadline and Mason and I will go over them next week before presenting to Council

Mrs. Walker also stated she Covered Mason's HR duties while he was on vacation, and she is working with SISD on an interlocal agreement between Schulenburg High Athletics and the City for the Sports Complex.

Mrs. Walker wanted to thank Public Works for getting ready for the Festival.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to adjourn the meeting at 7:17. The motion passed unanimously.