

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG  
SCHULENBURG, TX  
October 3, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, October 3, 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, Alderwoman Wendy Fietsam, Aldermen Greg Thomas, Larry Veselka, Howard Stoner, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, Permitting Officer, Kenny Schramek, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included, Darrell Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, John Clark, Covey Morrow, and Blaise Dreitner from TxDOT, Reverend Andrew Stafford, Willis Adams Sr., Loretta Baumgarten, and Iván Velasquez.

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

Under Presentations, Proclamations, and Recognitions, Alderman Greg Thomas, read a proclamation honoring Former Shorthorn, University of Houston Cougar, and Cleveland Brown Football player, Willis Adams.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to accept Consent Agenda Items A, B, and C. The motion passed 4-1 with Alderman Stoner voting against.

- A. Minutes from the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting held on September 19, 2022
- B. Minutes from the Workshop held on September 26, 2022
- C. Payment of Current Bills

Mrs. Walker led discussion on a proposal from TxDOT for improvements regarding the Railroad and Underpass at Highway 77. Mrs. Walker stated that staff and TxDOT have conducted two meetings and discussed the pros and cons of improving the Underpass or building an overpass.

Mrs. Walker announced that since this is an evacuation route, TxDOT will pay for 100% of the project. TxDOT needs direction from Council so they can secure funding and begin the process. Mrs. Walker invited John Clark, Covey Morrow, and Blaise Dreitner from TxDOT to elaborate.

Covey Morrow addressed Council saying that the North and South Main bridges have been hit multiple times and either option would help. Alderman Veselka inquired if the City would lose any cross streets from the design. Morrow answered that either design would see Anderson Street dead ended and will not allow right turning onto 77 like it is currently.

Morrow continued that the overpass option would be slightly cheaper and quicker to construct. Mrs. Walker added that Council doesn't have to take action tonight. Alderman Ahlschlager said he'd like to give the residents an opportunity to see the plans and voice their opinion.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to postpone the item until the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on setting a date for the Annual Christmas Party and discuss the meal.

Mrs. Walker stated that she reserved the KC Hall for several Thursdays. In the past it was always the first Thursday and in the past some Public Works workers would prepare the meal.

Alderman Thomas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to set the date for Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, and City Staff will collect bids for the meal. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on possibly amending Chapter 1 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Schulenburg, General Provisions to amend the time of Regular Council Meetings.

Mrs. Walker explained that in the past meetings were always at 7:00. However, meetings were changed to 6:00 because of COVID.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Fietsam, to set the standard meeting time at 6:30 P.M. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker added that this change will take effect immediately and the next meeting will begin at 6:30.

Municipal Court Judge, Kayla Peters, Code Enforcement and Animal Control Officer, Gina Harden, Library Director, Thadious Polasek, and Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller's Reports were all included in Council's Packets.

Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, reported that the department is staying busy, and Gina will be attending Animal Control Officer Training on October 26.

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

- September 20, meeting held with TxDOT to discuss the proposed improvements at the Underpass. Several Staff members were present.
- September 22, meeting with Strand at the Babylon Sewer Plant to tour facility and discuss proceeding forward with the engineering for expansion. As presented before – engineering is estimated at \$70,000. Also conducted interviews for Water/Wastewater, and Parks
- September 26, attended the Non-Traditional Housing Workshop
- September 27, Conducted additional interviews for Water/Wastewater and Parks
- September 29, Conducted Interview and attended CDPP Meeting in Austin
- October 5-7, TML Conference in San Antonio – Mason Florus, Darryl Moeller, and Myself will be attending
- October 10, Office will be closed for Columbus Day

Mrs. Walker added that the TDEM funds were received and a half payment was put on the new water meters approved by Council.

Mrs. Walker announced that there was a power outage at DFA lift station and a contained spill of 2,400 gallons occurred. Eric informed TCEQ.

Mrs. Walker informed Council that Gary McBride has started part time for the City and will be driving the street sweeper.

Mrs. Walker concluded that former Employee, Melissa Shepard's stepson, Barry Shepard, was in a serious car accident and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 P.M. The motion passed unanimously.