

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

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, November 7, 2022, at 6:30 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, Gregg Thomas, Larry Veselka, Howard Stoner, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, Police Chief, Troy Brenek, Lead Water Operator, Darren Redding, Permitting Officer, Kenny Schramek, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included, Darrell Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, Pastor Alexis Templeton, Irene Handley, Scott Stoner, Eric Cullen, Richard Sellsted, Gina Harden, Glenn Harden, Mitchell Blaschke, Ben Jahn, Johnnie Demel, Glenn Polasek, Jason Collinsworth, Brayden Brunner, Roxann Redding, Jeanine Ulrich, Loretta Baumgarten, Jeremy Baumgarten, Holly Irwin, Walt Irwin, Eddie Faith, and Iván Velasquez.

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

Under Presentation by Citizens, Jeanine Ulrich commented on the City's permitting procedures. Mrs. Ulrich stated that she doesn't think it's any of the City's business if she paints her house. Mrs. Ulrich also claims that there are inconsistencies with what the City Ordinance states, and the fees that are charged for permitting.

Under Presentation by Citizens, Jeremy Baumgarten stated the authority of City management is out of balance. Mr. Baumgarten stated there are problems with many City operations, and claimed when he presented Council with documented evidence on code violations, they took no action.

Under Presentation by Citizens, Irene Handley complained about her neighbor building a building in 2012, problems with the police department, and damage to her fence and storm door.

Under Presentations, Proclamations, and Recognitions, Kenny Schramek, City Permitting Officer, spoke on behalf of Board of Adjustments Chairperson, Ona Marak. Schramek stated that the board met on November 1, 2022 in reference to a variance request from 6.11 of Appendix B of the Schulenburg Code of Ordinances to place a travel trailer on the property located at 507 Bucek Street for housing on a temporary basis.

Mr. Schramek informed Council that Mr. Alen Pavlicek wants to live in a camper trailer behind his mom's house at 507 Bucek while he cleans out the house. The board passed the variance 4-0 on the condition that the variance expire after one year.

Under Presentations, Proclamations, and Recognitions, Mrs. Walker read a proclamation for Parents As Teachers.

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

- A) Minutes from the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting held on October 17, 2022
- B) Payment of Current Bills

Mrs. Walker led discussion on a Resolution for the Finance Contract for the purpose of "water meter project."

Alderman Thomas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to accept the Resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker read the first reading of a Resolution of the City of Schulenburg, Texas approving a project of the Schulenburg Economic Development Corporation a loan of \$100,000 to MHC Brands LLC, d/b/a Joe's Sports Bar (Joe's).

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderwoman Fietsam, to accept the Resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker read the first reading of a Resolution of the City of Schulenburg, Texas approving a project of the Schulenburg Economic Development Corporation a loan of \$100,000 to Faith Family Fun Center, owners Eddie and Amy Faith.

Alderwoman Fietsam made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to accept the Resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on an Interlocal Agreement between Region 8 Education Service Center and a Local Government for purchasing purposes with a Purchasing Cooperative. Mrs. Walker explained that the City is looking to join TIPS Buy Board and joining requires this agreement.

Alderman Ahlschlager asked what this will allow the City to do. Mrs. Walker explained the City is already a member of several purchasing cooperatives and this gives the City more options to get better pricing on materials and services.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stoner, to accept the interlocal agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on service issues with Well #10 and repairs that exceed the \$20,000 purchasing limits. Mrs. Walker informed Council that Well #10 is the well located on Upton behind the Wolters Elevated Storage Tank. Well #10 was constructed in 1997 and built to handle 500 Gallons Per Minute (GPM). Currently, the well is only producing about 280 GPM. Mrs. Walker explained that the costs of repairs would be \$34,885.

Mrs. Walker invited Lead Water Operator, Darren Redding, to answer any questions. Redding stated that about 2 weeks ago they realized Well #10 was diminishing. Redding professed to Council that J & S Water Wells can service the well. Jetting and cleaning will get another 3-4 years out of the well because the problem is actually the casing that's not allowing enough water in.

Alderman Ahlschlager made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to make the necessary repairs to Well #10. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on potentially repairing the Maintainer. Mrs. Walker referenced that the maintainer is 26 years old and worth \$57,000. A new transmission would cost \$45,000. RDO made the City an offer of \$19,000. However, deducing the problem racked up \$7,000 in invoices.

Alderman Ahlschlager stated that he would like to keep the maintainer but added that's a lot of money just for something else to potentially go wrong.

Operation's Manager, Darryl Moeller, was asked his opinion by Council. Moeller advised selling it because the Maintainer also needs new tires and that would probably cost at least \$8,500.

Alderman Ahlschlager made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to sell the maintainer. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on approving the 2023 Holiday Calendar.

Mrs. Walker announced that for the last several years, the City has adopted the same Holiday Schedule at the County. This year she is advising the same. There were no holidays added or removed from last year's calendar.

Alderwoman Fietsam made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stoner, to adopt the 2023 Holiday Calendar. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Chief of Police, Troy Brenek, formally invited Council to the annual meet and greet this Wednesday, November 9. Chief stated that EMS, SVFD – and weather permitting – Air Evac, should all be in attendance. In addition, the PD is announcing the winners of the Schulenburg Police Officer Association's raffle and serving ham and turkey sliders.

Chief also informed Council that he has been in talks with SISD Superintendent, Duane Limbaugh, on hiring a School Resource Officer (SRO). Chief continued that he and Limbaugh would reestablish the Memorandum of Understanding that the City and SISD had in the past with the School contributing 75% and the City 25% of the SRO's salary.

Alderman Stoner stated that he publicly wanted to commend Officer Byron Powe stating that while responding to a call, he went "above and beyond" in assisting Alderman Stoner and his family.

Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller's report was included in Council's packets. However, he wanted to publicly thank everyone in Public Works for everything they do.

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

- Myself and Chief worked closing Anderson Street for The Monster Dash
- Met with the Grant Administrator on TDA GO with Langford's Revolving Loan Fund
- Darryl and myself completed the EPP for TCEQ
- Met with attorneys Patty Akers and Doug Montgomery on issues at Henderson Hill

- Met with a Personnel Attorney about updating the Employee Handbook
- Chief and I attended the Fayette County Hazardous mitigation meeting in La Grange
- Attended the SISD facilities meeting
- Attended a meeting about the new water meters
- Attended a meeting with Judy Langford, Strand, Legion, and City Staff over the issues at Henderson Hill Ground Storage Tank

Mrs. Walker added that on October 29<sup>th</sup> herself, Megan, and Megan's Husband, Kevin Bartos, represented the City at Trick or Treat Around the Track.

There were 48 Outages in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2022 with Electric, Water, Sewer, and one at Wolter's Park

The City Wide Cleanup concluded with 66 loads the first Saturday, 55 loads Wednesday, and 58 loads the last Saturday.

As of today, 1,083 meters have been replaced. Essentially all the residential meters are swapped and the contractors are working on commercial meters.

Alderman Stoner asked if the City is holding anyone accountable for the issues at Henderson Hill. Mrs. Walker answered yes, the contractor veered off the engineered plans and the City is putting pressure on the contractor and holding them responsible.

At 7:23, Council adjourned into an Executive Session pursuant to 551.071 (Private Consultation between the Council and its Attorney), and pursuant to 551.074 (Deliberation Regarding the Appointment, Employment, Employment Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, or Dismissal of a Public Officer, or Employee; or to Hear a Complaint or Charge Against an Officer or Employee) of the Open Meetings Act. Tex. Gov't Code, Council will meet in Executive Session to discuss the following:

- A. Consultation with attorney regarding City's legal responsibilities and authority regarding personnel issues
- B. Discussion of appointment, employment, evaluation, and duties of the City Administrator

Council adjourned out of Executive Session at 9:31.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to bestow a Vote of Confidence for Mrs. Walker. The motion passed 4-1 with Alderman Stoner voting against.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to adjourn the meeting at 9:32. The motion passed unanimously.