

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
June 20, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers located at 607 Upton Avenue, Schulenburg, Texas. The elected officials present included Mayor, Connie Koopmann, Aldermen, Greg Thomas, Frank Wick III, Larry Veselka, Scott Stoner, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, Police Sergeant, Terry Roggenkamp, Wastewater Operator, Mitchell Blaschke, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included, Darrell Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, Schulenburg ISD Superintendent, Dr. Julie Motomura, Meredith Magliolo, Kaaren Magliolo, Kaz McBride, Kristi McBride, Richard Hoogendoorn, Sharon Hoogendoorn, Callene Zapalac, Gregg Janda, Jarod Schramek, Jackson Faith, Brycen Schramek, Reid Janda, Jayse Janda, and Ivañ Velasquez.

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

Under Presentations by Citizens, Gregg Janda, representing the Schulenburg Little League, announced to Council upgrades that Schulenburg Little League are planning. Mr. Janda explained that the plan is to replace the fence on the Hooper Field to match the fence on both the high school fields, and extend the safety netting on the High School Boys' Field. Mr. Janda elaborated that they have the material for the fence and it'll be between \$5,000 and \$6,000 for the labor. There is no pricing yet on the nets but both projects will be totally funded by Schulenburg Little League.

Mayor Koopmann read a Proclamation Recognizing Meredith Magliolo, UIL State Track & Field Gold Medalist.

During Consent Agenda, Alderman Stoner questioned the Xxodus Transport Invoice. Mrs. Walker replied that it was for Street Department and it was an order of crushed stone.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Koopmann read a Proclamation Recognizing Schulenburg High School's UIL State Golf Team.

Mrs. Walker read a second reading of a Resolution of the City of Schulenburg, Texas approving a project of Schulenburg Economic Development Corporation for a loan of \$50,000, to Amy's Liquor & Lounge LLC.

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

Mrs. Walker led discussion on the remainder interest of real property located in Colorado County, Texas, that was bequeathed from the Estate of Luetishia Gilliam to the City of Schulenburg identified in the Colorado County Appraisal District by property ID number 21753 and consisting of approximately 42.5 acres.

Mrs. Walker explained this is a similar situation to an act Council addressed in April. However, that tract of land was in Fayette County and these 42.5 acres are in Colorado County. Mrs. Walker advises that Council transfer the City's interest to the SISD with a deed without Warranty to be executed by the Mayor.

Mayor Koopmann asked if this is a usual occurrence. Mrs. Walker answered this is an unusual situation.

Alderman Wick asked if the City relinquishes our interest, will the school district give the land to the family. Mrs. Walker answered yes.

Alderman Thomas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to transfer the City's interest to the SISD with a deed without Warranty to be executed by the Mayor. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker invited Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, to lead discussion on purchasing a Sludge Box to be used in the wastewater department that exceeds the \$20,000 spending limits.

Moeller explained that the City currently has three dewatering boxes, one at Kallus and 2 at Babylon. Moeller continued that the City is draining once a week at Kallus and twice a week, sometimes more at Babylon. When extra draining occurs, the City rents a box for \$1,100 a week plus \$650 for hauling. A new box will cost \$43,500 and a used one \$37,500.

Alderman Wick asked if this was something the City did not see coming. Moeller answered no, there has been more volume coming into the plant leading to having to rent. Moeller added buying a box would pay for itself in less than a year and hopefully last up to 10 years.

Alderman Stoner inquired how long the boxes sit. Wastewater Operator, Mitchell Blaschke, responded about two days, four at most, it depends on the haulers' schedules. Alderman Stoner asked where the third box would go, Moeller answered right next to the building.

Alderman Veselka questioned if we had the money. Mrs. Walker said there is \$10,000 now in the sewer department and she's confident that the City can move money with surplus in other departments. Alderman Ahlschlager asked the wait time on the box. Moeller stated a couple days.

Alderman Wick asked if we've looked at other companies. Moeller said yes and different boxes vary anywhere between \$30,000 and \$100,000. Moeller stated Aqua-Zyme is a good company, we're familiar with them and them with us.

Alderman Thomas asked if this would be for more of a preventive measure. Blaschke replied yes, the third box would act as a "safety net." Alderman Stoner stated that he didn't see spending the money for a "just in case." Alderman Wick agreed saying he'd rather see the money go to streets.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to purchase the used box or a new box if the used one wasn't available. The motion passed 3-2 with Aldermen Wick and Stoner voting against.

Mayor Koopmann asked Mr. Moeller to inform Council about the issues over the weekend. Moeller explained that a clarifier stopped spinning. The guys drained it and got it back and running by 3:30. Moeller added today that a pump lost prime but the guys have been working hard and got it working quickly.

Alderman Veselka asked if the issue is with diapers. Blaschke answered yes but the City's main issue is with grease. He continued there are three lift stations that the City has to clean out regularly because of grease in the sewer system.

Alderman Stoner asked if the City still does grease trap inspections. Alderman Wick agreed stating that we could get on a rotation of checking businesses. Moeller agreed saying we need to be, he'll put it on his list.

Mrs. Walker reported that she attended a Legislative Update in Georgetown. She stated there were over 8,300 bills filed, and 1,258 bills passed. Compared to 1,073 bills passed last session. There are major bills related to cities including substantial infrastructure improvements / expansions pertaining to water and broadband, attack on local and use authority related to disannexation, ETJ, density, preemption, and super preemption.

Mrs. Walker also stated Governor Abbott's priorities this last session included property tax relief, ending COVID restrictions, school choice, school safety, border security, bail reform, and prosecution of fentanyl deaths. Mrs. Walker concluded saying that she printed out handouts from the update and is disbursing them to the necessary departments

Mrs. Walker also reported that the advertisement for the Civic Center is in the newspaper. She added that the wire went through to Motorola and the check cleared to LCRA for the AFG Radio Grant. Mrs. Walker announced that on June 6, Mayor, Megan, and herself met with Karen Kokes about concerns with the cell phone tower by BWI.

Mrs. Walker displayed to Council a certificate. The Sports Complex was named the Best Baseball Field in the Fayette County Record's 2023 Best of Contest. Mrs. Walker thanked City Staff along with volunteers who prepare the fields like Chief, Chief's son Zane, Kenny Schramek, and Gregg Janda.

Mrs. Walker announced that Robert Moore invited Mayor Koopmann to the Juneteenth Celebration but scheduling conflicts occurred.

Mrs. Walker stated that Mason spoke to the Lyons club this afternoon about the Sesquicentennial.

Mrs. Walker professed to Council that she wants each Councilmember to have a list of "must haves" and a "wish list" to bring to the pre-budget workshop meeting Tuesday, June 27th at 4:30 at the Council Chambers. Alderman Thomas stated that he will be unable to attend but he will email his lists to Mrs. Walker.

Darryl Moeller asked council if it was a general consensus that Herder Ave. was the next street, they wished redone because he has numbers for running storm drains and blacktopping Herder from 90 to S. Main. Mayor Koopmann stated that she knows a lot of our streets are bad but are still in good shape compared to surrounding towns. Alderman Veselka agreed asking if the City could shoot oil and seal with chip rock to try to save streets. Moeller said he has numbers for that as well.

Mrs. Walker added that it may be advantageous to change the City Ordinance from toping streets with chip rock to asphalt. Alderman Wick asked if we use different oil during different times of the year. Moeller stated that in the winter the City uses cheaper oil but for the most part we use AC15P because it generally doesn't bleed through.

Alderman Wick stated if we got a list of streets that the City was going to redo and actively sealed streets with chip rocks it would put citizen's minds at ease and let them know that the City has a plan to move forward repairing and maintaining streets.

Alderman Stoner asked if anything could be done in the alley between Baumgarten and Black streets from Stanzel to Herder because water is not draining. Moeller said that the next time it rains the guys will go by and take a look.

Alderman Stoner also inquired how many Summer Help boys were working with Public Works. Moeller answered 4. He said they're rotating on the garbage truck because one of our riders quit last week.

Alderman Stoner concluded asking how he could put an item on the agenda for next meeting. Mrs. Walker stated that he would have to get with Mayor Koopmann.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Wick, to adjourn the meeting at 7:37. The motion passed unanimously.