

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
July 17, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, July 17, 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, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included, Layne Vyvjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, 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.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to accept Consent Agenda Items A, B, and C. The motion passed unanimously.

- A. Minutes from the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting held on July 3, 2023
- B. Payment of Current Bills
- C. Quarterly Investment Report Ending 6/30/23

Mrs. Walker led discussion on proceeding forward with a grant opportunity for a Fitness/Studio Court provided by NFG (National Fitness Campaign). Council viewed a short informational video on the NFG Program and Fitness Court. Mrs. Walker explained that she and Mason have been attending Zoom meetings with NFG and are looking for Council's blessing to put in an application.

Mrs. Walker stated that 9 grants are left in Texas and the City could receive anywhere between \$30,000 - \$50,000. Mrs. Walker said she wants the City to be a trend setter. At this time the only area community with a fitness court is Cuero, and Eagle Lake was just approved for a grant this year.

Alderman Veselka asked where the court would be located. Mrs. Walker answered the Sports Complex, where the slides and swing set are currently located. Alderman Veselka asked what they would do with the playground equipment. Mrs. Walker said that she would like to put new playground equipment at the Sports Complex in a different location, the City will look into that during the upcoming Budget Workshops.

Mayor Koopmann asked how the fitness court would affect the City as far as liability. Mrs. Walker replied that they have information on warranties for the equipment, but she will have to follow up after she gets that answer in the Zoom meeting tomorrow.

Alderman Wick asked if police presence will be increased to ensure the court isn't vandalized. Mrs. Walker stated that the City could do that. In addition, the Electric Department installed new lights to better illuminate the walking trail and that will help with the court.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to proceed with the grant. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on a Local Park Grant Program Resolution Authorizing Application to Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. Mrs. Walker spoke with the Grant Writer and the City needs to pass a resolution to participate in a park program and update the City's park plan to be eligible for grants next August.

Mrs. Walker reminded Council for future reference, any Texas Parks and Wildlife Grant is a 50:50 match.

Alderman Thomas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to authorize the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on an RFP for Architectural/Engineering Services for the Civic Center. Mrs. Walker informed Council that the City advertised for four weeks but only received one bid. The bid is from Cutright & Prihoda, out of La Grange. Mrs. Walker said she is confident in the firm because they have worked with the City before including City Hall and the New Concession stand just to name a few.

Alderman Wick stated that he will be abstaining from the vote due to conflict of interest.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to hire Cutright & Prihoda. The motion passed unanimously with Alderman Wick abstaining.

Fire Marshal, Steve Strickland's Report was included in Council's Packet.

Alderman Ahlschlager asked Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, if the City was still doing a trial run with the Maintainer. Moeller stated that it went back to the dealer today. He continued that it weighs 16,000 lbs. instead of the old one that weighed 35,000. Moeller also informed Council that it turns great, it has a 11-foot blade, operates by levers, and its 134 horsepower which is more than the old one (95).

Alderman Veselka asked what brand and how much. Moeller answered Leeboy, and \$243,000. Alderman Ahlschlager said that he went by the warehouse and said it "looked like a nice machine."

Moeller added that the City also tested out a new forklift that the guys enjoyed too.

Mrs. Walker announced that Josh Cooper, a water operator, terminated with the City. He's moving back to Idaho. City Staff conducted two interviews and they're waiting to hear back. Mrs. Walker, Darryl, and Darren had another conference call about the Ground Storage Tank at Henderson Hill. She's hopeful the next step will be mediation with all parties involved.

Mrs. Walker concluded stating that Megan's dad passed away and be sure to keep her and her family in your prayers.

Alderman Veselka asked if the City Attorney will still have something to do with the Civic Center. Mrs. Walker informed Council that today she let the attorney know the Council wishes to go out for RFP.

Alderman Wick asked if the City hand book was passed. Mrs. Walker stated that the previous Council approved the latest edition. The City is waiting on one section about disaster pay. After that is complete, the new handbook will be put into effect.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Wick, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15. The motion passed unanimously.