

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
November 6, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, November 6, 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, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller and Megan Bartos.

Visitors included Darrell Vyyjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, Reverend Andrew Stafford of St. James MBC, Cindy Villareal, Miguel Camacho and Ivan Velasquez.

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

In Presentations by Citizens, Miguel Camacho of the Schulenburg Youth Soccer League expressed concern of using inadequate facilities for his league. The Sports Complex does not have adequate lighting and this year the cracks were quite large. They have been granted access to the Rodeo Arena but it is not large enough. He would like to work with the City to come up with a plan to have a safe place for the kids to practice/play and have lighting especially for this time of year.

Mrs. Walker apologized for the cracks but noted that because of water conservation as to not go into the water contingency plan, the City stopped watering altogether, even the baseball fields. She said that the City may be able to work something out on the Wolters Park field for temporary use until another plan is put into place.

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

- A. Minutes from the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting held on October 16, 2023
- B. Payment of Current Bills

Mrs. Walker led discussion on the second reading of a Resolution of the City of Schulenburg, Texas, approving a project of the Schulenburg Economic Development Corporation for a loan of \$100,000, to Bartos Investments, LLC.

Alderman Thomas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to accept the second reading of the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led the discussion on a bid received from Sherriff's sale in the amount of \$200 for the piece of property on Eilers. Anyone at any given time can walk into the Appraisal District Office and get a list of Sherriff's sale properties. That piece of property is currently owned by all the taxing entities and it can not legally sell without all of their approval. However, the City has

done some studies to possibly use that property for a test well site in the near future so there are no plans to sell.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas to reject the bid received from Sherriff's Sale for Property ID48793 approximately 2.1850 acres, located on Eilers Street in the amount of \$200. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on the RFP for Architectural/Engineering Services for the Schulenburg Police Department. She noted Cutright Prihoda was the only bid received and they still have not come to an agreement for the Civic Center. She also informed Council that at the TML Conference she and Chief spoke with five different engineers. It is Mrs. Walker's recommendation to not accept Cutright Prihoda's bid and re-advertise for RFP.

Alderman Wick announced that he wished to abstain from voting due to a conflict.

Alderman Thomas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager to reject the RFP for Architectural Services by Cutright Prihoda for the Schulenburg Police Department. The motion passed unanimously with Alderman Wick abstaining.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on the selection of Employee Insurance Benefits. The City covers 100% of the employee's dental, vision and health insurance. TML had given Mrs. Walker an estimated 18% increase for budget numbers. However, after the budget was approved, TML came back with a 50% increase. Mrs. Walker and City Secretary/Human Resources Mason Florus have decided to shop the open market for more competitive rates.

After a couple meetings, they have found a couple options through the current carrier, Blue Cross Blue Shield that are cheaper than the rate offered by TML. Three HMO and three PPO plans will be presented to the employees to let them choose what plans best fit their needs.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas to approve Employee Insurance Benefits as a defined amount of \$975 per employee. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on the 2024 Holiday Calendar. She noted that the past couple of years the City has followed the County's Holiday Calendar.

Alderman Ahlschlager made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas to approve the 2024 Holiday Calendar. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Connie Koopman, being on the Sesquicentennial Committee, led the discussion on the road closures for the event. Ultimately the street closures would block off traffic at the two railroad intersections downtown. Chief Brenek stated the same will be done as it was for Sausagefest.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas to approve the street closures for the Sesquicentennial Celebration scheduled for Saturday, December 2nd including the following block off N Main between Lyons and Wolters and block off Upton between N. Main and S. Main. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Brenek reported the following to Council:

- They have arrested a suspect for the string of burglaries but no confession has been made. However, no more burglaries have happened since
- Officer Krenek has returned to work as of November 6 on modified duty until rehabilitation is completed
- Sherrie Henke has completed and passed the Telecommunicators Course
- Gina is doing great – touching base with regulars and picking up animals
- The annual Meet and Greet is this Thursday, November 8th

Alderman Wick questioned Chief Brenek and Mrs. Walker about the day of Officer Krenek's accident and how to properly notify Council in a timely manner. Chief Brenek said he apologized for the miscommunication and will come up with a plan to notify Mayor and Council in the future. Mrs. Walker noted she was out of town but did notify the Mayor of the incident.

Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller reported the following to Council:

- The City budgeted \$250,000 for a new garbage truck. Since the budget has been approved, the bid went up \$23,000 but they can not guarantee a date on delivery of the truck. He received another bid for \$297,000 with the same situation of not knowing the availability of the truck. A third bid was received for \$327,000 on a truck that another entity ordered but then no longer wanted. If the City chose that route, it would be part of the fleet in about 120 days. This truck would replace the 2008. Mrs. Walker advised she would have more information and options at the next meeting if Council agreed.
- The house that burned on Schulz, the guys will complete the abatement and clear the site on Tuesday, November 7th.
- The electric department has started hanging Christmas lights around town.
- James Avenue project is on hold until proper TxDOT permits have been approved and the bore holes have been completed.

Mrs. Walker reported the following to Council:

- She and Darryl attended the State of the LCRA luncheon on Thursday, November 2
- A preconstruction meeting for the generators at the water plants will be Tuesday, November 7 at City Hall
- She and Mason attended a TMCA conference in Frisco for 3 days.
- The Sports Complex agreement has been submitted
- McCoy's Tree Trimming is in town doing their annual tree trimming around the primary electric wires

Alderman Ahlslager made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka, to adjourn at 7:20. The motion passed unanimously.