

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
January 22, 2024**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, January 22, 2024, 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, Larry Veselka, Scott Stoner, and Clarence Ahlschlager. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Walker, Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, Police Sergeant, Tobey McFadden, and City Secretary, Mason Florus.

Visitors included Brandt Vyyjala of the Schulenburg Sticker, SVFD Chief, Darren Guentert, Robert Moore, and Iván 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, Robert Moore addressed Council. Mr. Moore announced that he is with UNITED, an African American organization in the community. He announced that they are hosting the Annual Black History Month Program February 24-25, 2024. Mr. Moore requested a donation of \$575. \$500 for the KC Hall, \$50 for use of the BBQ Pits, and \$25 for use of the kitchen.

Schulenburg Volunteer Fire Department Chief, Darren Guentert, requested several street closures for the Shattered Dreams Program. Chief Guentert is requesting College St. from Upton to 77 and Lyons from Wolf to College be closed from 8:15 – 10:45 on Monday, February 12th. Mrs. Walker stated that Chief Brenek is aware and will assist in closing down the streets on the 12th.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to accept the Consent Agenda Items A,B,C,D,E, and F. The motion passed unanimously.

- A. Minutes for the Regular Scheduled Council Meeting held on December 4, 2023
- B. Payment of Current Bills – December 18, 2023
- C. Payment of Current Bills – January 1, 2024
- D. Payment of Current Bills – January 16, 2024
- E. Chief Brenek's Annual Racial Profiling Report
- F. Quarterly Investment Report ending December 31, 2023

Mrs. Walker led discussion on an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Schulenburg and Schulenburg ISD.

Mrs. Walker announced that she and City Staff met on December 15th with Dr. Motomura and Athletic Director Hobbs.

Alderman Ahlschlager asked how much this agreement would cost the school. Mrs. Walker answered \$2,500 per year per field. Mrs. Walker stated that the agreement (which was included in Council's Packet) is a very reasonable agreement. The SISD School Board is also voting on the same agreement tonight.

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

Mrs. Walker led discussion on roof repairs for the Schulenburg Public Library.

Mrs. Walker informed Council that the City received bids from 3 contractors. She continued that the Friends of the Library were approached about helping offset the cost but they declined. Mrs. Walker reminded Council that the building is 15 years old.

Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, relayed to Council that the material warranties with Haworth and Vincent's are for 20 years while H6's warranty is good for 10 years. The leaks are located on the "flat roofs" and they have already been rock and tar patched once.

Alderman Ahlschlager asked where we'd get the money from. Mrs. Walker answered reserves but there's always a chance at the end of the budget year the City can always move money from unspent line items.

Alderman Ahlschlager made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stoner, to accept the bid from Haworth Roofing for \$24,665. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on foundation repairs to City Hall.

Mrs. Walker presented pictures of cracks in the walls and bumps on the floor.

Alderman Ahlschlager inquired if City Hall shares a wall with any other building. Mrs. Walker said she imagines there a fire wall but she can't say for sure.

Alderman Stoner asked how long this has been going on. Mrs. Walker replied it's been really noticeable in the past couple of months.

No action was taken on the item but Mayor, Connie Koopmann, directed Mrs. Walker to begin contacting contractors.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on contracted services related to service line inventory implemented by EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality).

Mrs. Walker informed Council that the EPA and TCEQ are requiring Cities to conduct an inventory of underground lead and copper lines by October 16, 2024. Operations Manager,

Darryl Moeller, and Lead Water Operator, Darren Redding, have been in communication to schedule for this to begin. The estimate from the consultant is \$57,000.

Mrs. Walker said the consultant is about 3 weeks out and it should take them 3-5 weeks to complete the mapping.

Alderman Ahlschlager inquired if these funds would come from reserves. Mrs. Walker answered possibly, but the City may have some excess funds from TDA left over from the Henderson Hill Project.

Alderman Stoner made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ahlschlager, to accept the services for the lead and copper inventory for \$57,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Walker led discussion on moving the February 19th Meeting due to President's Day.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Thomas, to move the meeting to Wednesday, February 21st. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief of Police, Troy Brenek's report and code enforcement report, Library Director, Thadious Polasek's report, and Fire Marshal, Steve Strickland's reports were included in Council's packets.

Operations Manager, Darryl Moeller, reported that the City has three water wells giving them trouble and they are working on getting them all back on line. There's 546 feet of pipe bad at Henderson Hill, a bad breaker at Well 11, and the motor ran out at Well 9. The City sent off the damaged Well 9 motor to get it refurbished so we have a spare.

WJC is making good progress on the new lines being laid on James Ave. They are up to Co-op.

Moeller wanted to thank the guys for working during the cold weather. Heaters at the Sewer Plants needed to be checked every 5 hours and a lot of guys volunteered to check the heaters throughout the duration of the freeze.

Moeller also announced that Wastewater Operator, Micheal Beyette, had terminated. However, we hired Justin Bassett. Justin was named Wastewater Supervisor and comes in with a C license and over 7 years of experience.

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

- 4th quarter of the year saw 34 total outages
- December 20th, meeting with Langford
- Jan 3rd, attended a situational awareness class
- Jan 8th, conducted a staff meeting
- Jan 15th, the City was closed for MLK Day
- Jan 16th, the City was closed due to inclement weather

- Jan 18th – 20th the Stockshow took place in the Expo Center
- I plan on attending a seminar in Houston on Thursday, Jan. 25th

Mrs. Walker announced that she is nominating the railing on the downtown sidewalks for LCRA's steps forward program. Mrs. Walker concluded stating that she is pursuing a CDPP Grant through LCRA to refurbish the Downtown Gazebo. She announced that a contractor looked at the structure and it has good bones and won't cost as much as previously anticipated. As a result, Mrs. Walker is going to tie in new Christmas decorations to the grant.

Alderman Stoner inquired about the Generators. Mrs. Walker replied that they have been ordered and the slabs have been poured.

Mayor, Connie Koopmann, read two thank you cards to Council. One was from the Schulenburg Area Food Pantry thanking the City for the food donations collected at the Christmas party. The second note was from Niki Mook and Don Carpenter for their invitation to the Christmas Party.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stoner, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31. The motion passed unanimously.