

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
November 18, 2013**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, November 18, 2013, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers located at 607 Upton Avenue, Schulenburg, Texas, 78956. The elected officials present included Mayor Roger Moellenberndt and Aldermen Rodney Gresser, Douglas Behlen, Johnny Fowlkes, Brenda Rehak and Larry Veselka. City Staff present included City Administrator Don Doering, Chief of Police Troy Brenek, Tami Blaschke-Walker and Candace Berger. Visitors included Andy Behlen of the Sticker, Quinn Tolbert, Mike Grabham, Zach Christenson, Mike Stroup, Clara Clark, Kristi McBride, Virginia Meyer, Audrey Kristynik, Brian Lux, John Salem and Andy MacDonald.

Mayor Moellenberndt called the meeting to order and Candace Berger followed with the prayer. The Mayor then led the pledge.

Alderman Gresser made a motion, seconded by Alderman Behlen to accept the minutes as sent. The motion passed unanimously.

Under Presentations by Citizens, the following persons spoke:

MIKE STROUP of the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce introduced their idea of installing directional banners in the down town area from Lyons Avenue to Lyons Park; however, he will come back at the next meeting and formally present their project and request the city's help in installing these banners to the light poles. He also reminded council of the Christmas Party on Thursday, November 21st at Sengleman Hall and the Christmas Parade on December 6th. Marcia Hrcir of the Chamber has presented the Chamber Outreach program in some places and it has already paid for itself by the scheduling of a tour.

JOHN SALEM, Chairman of the Sports Complex Committee, addressed the council regarding the replacement of dugouts. He stated that the Little League would contribute \$8,000.00 and the Booster Club would contribute another \$2,000.00. While the proposed project costs is not to exceed \$27,000.00, City Administrator Don Doering said that he is able to move some numbers around in the Sports Complex budget and come up the remaining funds. Mr. Salem said the committee has set goals for the improvements they would like to see done at the Sports Complex and in about five years, we should need a full time employee to manage the bookings. It was the consensus of the members of the council to allow the work to proceed since they were bringing money to the table to do some of the work.

QUINN TOLBERT of McKinstry once again made a sales pitch to the council promoting their energy performance proposal for the City of Schulenburg which would be addressed in Agenda Item #6.

CLARA CLARK of Schulenburg Development Limited or the Meadows Apartments presented the council with a packet of pictures and a request for assistance to repair the street located in the 1500 Block of Kellett which is a private street for the complex but the City of Schulenburg has a water line running down the middle of it and also collects garbage from the three dumpsters located on this side of the complex. The street was dug up on several different occasions to fix water leaks in the line; however, the street department has been asked many times but to date, has not fixed or patched the repaired areas. She stated that the dumpster provided for handicapped residents is not even accessible due the damage to the street. She also invited the council and Mayor to come visit the site.

ANDY MACDONALD of the Way Companies also made a sales pitch to the council promoting their company's work in the energy conservation world and brought with them a reference from another project to attest their work.

ALDERMAN VESELKA wanted to publicly recognize the Schulenburg Lady Horns for their advancement to the State Tournament later this week.

MAYOR MOELLENBERNDT stated that he attended the Literary Club Gala on Saturday and the Grand Opening of Once Upon an Antique along with Aldermen Veselka and Gresser.

ALDERMAN BEHLEN then questioned Mr. Doering why the work to replace the fire hydrant on North Main was never been completed; what was the status the sign post on Lyons Avenue and when will the cedar trees in the cemetery be removed. He stated that these projects have been waiting for months and it was time they were completed – he was tired of the work not being done.

ALDERMAN FOWLKES added that the department supervisor program does not seem to be working but the work still needs to be done.

Under Reports from Committees, City Administrator Don Doering stated that the supervisor reports as submitted as follows:

WATER DEPARTMENT: Did connects, disconnects and line locates; changed out meters that were not working properly; changed out chlorine cylinders; took water samples; set up heaters in chlorine rooms and pump stations; worked on chlorine machine; reset 2 valve boxes in alley of Demel Avenue between Summit and Anderson; and fixed water leak at Civic Center on 1" black plastic line that feeds building.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT: Fixed cleanout at 711 Kallus; had 24 signs made that read "non-potable water" for the sewer plant and installed; tore down building at Babylon Sewer Plant where the new building is being put and hauled off debris; took the curb out at Foster's Branch Subdivision where we will start the sewer line for Roland Kalina.

STREET DEPARTMENT: Trying to finish East Avenue by shaping up limestone and leveling off; shredded around town; patch streets and alleys in town; helped Garbage Department after Veterans Day holiday with running 3 trucks on Tuesday to finish by the end of the day.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT: Hanging Christmas lights; installed 3 utility poles and built highway crossings to provide power to Bob's Towing; replaced pole behind Jason's Shorthorn Station that was backed into by a truck/trailer; start system study for new meter system; continued replacing old porcelain lightning arrestors with new polymer one; assisted garbage department with trash collection on heavy days.

PARK DEPARTMENT: Regular maintenance (mowing, weed eating, clean restrooms); picked up animals and placed in dog pound when needed.

BUILDING/CODE ENFORCEMENT: Called Michael Polk about building in back yard at 709 Baumgarten who said he would remove by Thanksgiving; sent letters to Clifford Jackson for fire damaged trailer at 1132 St John and August, Lacy Jarmon for trailer at 1105 Williams, Helen Ohnheiser for grass at Creekwood and Meadow Drive, and talked to owner of motor home at 1225 Summit – Caliber Oilfield Services; inspected 814 West – sewer line replacement, 501 North – vent on a/c, 216 Paulus – level house, 1513 S. Kessler – fence, 517 North – 4 gas tests, 109 Anderson – fence, 905 Anderson – carport, 1107 Williams – sewer and water lines, Babylon WWTP – plumbing rough-in for bathroom, and 200 Heinrich – final plumbing.

ADMINISTRATION: Written summary from Public Works Departments and building/code enforcement is attached; memorandum and proposal attached to replace 2 of the dugouts at the Sports Complex; wireless internet service is now available in the Council Chambers; memorandum included regarding possible mineral lease; Holiday Inn Express work continues; Apothecary Pharmacy work continues on the building construction; Once Upon An Antique and Deli held grand opening on 11/13/2013; attended Rates and Resources meeting in Austin on 11/6; met with representatives from McKinsty and Way Companies on 11/14/2013. Members of the council requested that Don seek additional funding for the dugout work from the Festival Association and the KC's since they too hold tournaments at the Sports Complex.

CHIEF BRENEK: Informed the Council that he had to replace the a/c unit in the main offices of the police department and that they executed a search warrant that resulted in a drug arrest on 11/18 and also executed a search warrant related to a burglary on 11/18 and expect an arrest very soon in that case. He then reminded the Council of the Meet and Greet on Wednesday at 6 P.M. and the Police Department where a chili supper will be served and the raffle will be held. Chief also said that he visited with TX-DOT about the light at 10 and 77. They plan to start in January – apparently the person who contacted Senator Hegar embellished the need for the light and the studies did not show the dire urgency of the light. Currently the traffic flow on 77 is 12,000 a day and on 10, it is 25,000 average a day.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Rehak to enter into a contract with Municipal Services Bureau for the collection of delinquent utility bills. Alderman Fowlkes questioned the discretion used in the collection process. He was assured that accounts who have illness related circumstances or special conditional circumstances will be given consideration before being turned over for collection. The motion passed unanimously.

City Council took no action on the selection of a company for an energy performance contract. Instead, council members suggested that Mr. Doering select a company to give the city a proposal and then it be brought back to the City Council for consideration.

No action was also taken on the rental and use of the rodeo arena. Mr. Doering clarified that the City does have insurance if someone gets hurt just like in the park and it is the city's fault; however, TML recommended the party using the area have their own insurance. TML did recommend the waiver of liability be signed by anyone who uses the area – liability waiver is a good thing but not a guarantee. Alderman Behlen recommended that whoever uses the area, sign the waiver and pay for the use if hosting an event. Alderman Veselka recommended a rodeo committee to set the rules and take care of maintenance and work with those wanting to host events. Alderman Fowlkes questioned coverage in case an animal went over the fence or got loose and hurt someone. Each was looking for liability questions to be answered but Tami had left the meeting before this item. Mr. Doering should bring a sample contract back at the next meeting for consideration.

Alderman Rehak said she had a question and probably should have asked it under Mr. Doering's reports. She wanted to know the status of the hiring of someone for the new website. Mr. Doering stated that he had not received any positive response to either of the vendors at the previous meeting so Andy Behlen agreed to help him search for someone to do the work. Alderman Behlen stated that he visited the website of EZ Task and was quite impressed with the design and information available. Alderman Rehak questions why Blondie's was not given the opportunity to do a presentation at the last meeting. She questioned if it was possible that Blondie had not received direction on the changes we were looking for in the website. Chief Brenek stated that any changes he requested of her were always completed. He said she also does La Grange, Carmine and The Festival Association websites and that they were good websites. Alderman Veselka stated that maybe she should be contacted since her proposal was much less than everyone else's.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to pay Mr. Fowlkes's bill. The motion passed with Aldermen Behlen, Gresser, Rehak and Veselka voting to pay the bill and Alderman Fowlkes abstaining from the vote.

Alderman Behlen made a motion, seconded by Alderman Rehak to pay the current bills. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gresser to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 P.M. The motion passed unanimously.

Passed and approved this 2 day of December, 2013.

Mayor Roger Moellenberndt

Attest:

City Secretary