

**CITY OF SCHULENBURG
SCHULENBURG, TX
NOVEMBER 20, 2017**

The City Council of the City of Schulenburg met in regular session on Monday, November 20, 2017, at the Council Chambers located at 607 Upton Avenue, Schulenburg, Texas, at 7:00 P.M. The elected officials present included Mayor Otto Kocian, Aldermen Chip Bubela, Wendy Fietsam, Arnold Stoever, Harvey Hercik and Larry Veselka. City Staff present were City Administrator, Tami Blaschke-Walker, Jason Strickland and Megan Bartos.

Visitors included Lisa Mederos of the Schulenburg Sticker, Pastor Lemae Higgs, William Huebner & Hollie Schrader of O'Malley Strand Engineers, James Brossmann and Ivan Velasquez.

Under Public Comments from Mayor Kocian; he reported that on Baumgarten, Hillje and West City employees are tight blading an edge coat to help seal coat in the future. This process takes off the grass that has grown on top of the asphalt into the street.

Also, City employees are working at the west end of Black street laying a new sewer line.

Alderman Hercik noted that Mr. Grigson on West Avenue wants curbing so it would be best not to seal coat only to have it torn out when the curbing is done.

Items (a) through (b) are Consent Agenda items with no separate discussion unless a Councilmember requests further information.

- (a) City Council will consider and take action on the minutes from the regular meeting held on November 6, 2017 and the special meeting held on November 14, 2017.
- (b) City Council will consider and take action on the payment of current bills.

Alderman Stoever made a motion, seconded by Alderman Veselka to accept the Consent Agenda items (a) through (b). The motion passed unanimously.

William Huebner of O'Malley Strand updated City Council on the ground storage tank rehabilitation project on Wolters Avenue. The project included the tank to be drained, cleaned, cracks repaired and refilled. However, when the tank was refilled, within the fourth day, wet spots were detected around the base and in the walls. After extensive inspections and evaluations, it is thought that when the tank was being cleaned, built up sediment in a joint must have been helping block a leak. Once the tank was thoroughly cleaned and the sediment was cleared, water started seeping out.

The next process would be to drain the tank again, clean, repack and seal the joint. The manufacturers of the crystalline product are coming to investigate the cracks in the walls since there seems to be wet spots on the walls also. Mr. Huebner said that the repairs are an easy fix unlike the tank at Henderson Hill.

Mayor Kocian questioned the warranty on the project. Mr. Huebner cited that there is a 1 year bonded warranty. He also stated that there are manufacturer warranties but those are only as good as the life of the product or company producing it.

Mayor Kocian voiced some concern about draining the tank again and wasting water. Jason Strickland assured him that most of the water is used and the very bottom gets flushed.

Alderman Hercik wanted to know if this issue was created from the product or the contractor. Mr. Huebner said that the contractor did their job cleaning. As for the joint, there was no product used in that situation because no one suspected it was a problem until the tank was refilled and then started leaking.

Alderman Hercik also wanted to know if there were inspections done. Mr. Huebner confirmed that employees from O'Malley Strand as well as City Staff inspected the work.

Alderman Hercik's last question was about the bidding process and selecting the current contractor. Mr. Huebner assured him that the other bidders would have used the same product for their course of action. The City went with the cheapest bid and at the time, that was the right decision. There was no preventative action taken on that particular joint because what happened was unforeseen. No one knew about the leak until after the tank was refilled.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fietsam to accept the proposal from DN Tanks for the repairs on the ground storage tank on Wolters Avenue. The motion passed unanimously.

Water Department activities included:

- Line locates, connects and disconnects. Meter change outs.
- Mailed out annual backflow letters
- Made tie in at Wolters Avenue and Black Street.
- Repaired 2" water leak at Bohlmann and Baumgarten.
- Met with Police Department in reference to theft of services at 509 Bucek.
- Water personnel drive garbage truck on Monday route.
- Changed chlorine cylinders.
- Made 6" tie in at Upton and Black.
- Repaired leak on service line at 102 E. Anderson.
- Repaired 6" water main break in the 400 block of Wolters.
- Removed old valves and fire hydrants in the 500 block of Black.

Wastewater Department activities included:

- Hauled 8 loads of sludge from Babylon Plant.
- Layed 500' of 6" sewer main in 1000 block of Black.
- Jetted 350' of sewer line in 300 block of Black.
- Overhauled RAS pump at Babylon Plant.

Street / Garbage Department activities included:

- Picked up brush and limbs when citizens pay the \$25 for removal.
- Hauled containers to Creedmoor and Altair.
- Drove and rode on garbage truck.

- Working on the Black Street Project.

Electric Department activities included:

- Connects and disconnects, meter change outs and read meters.
- Finished terminating the underground elbow for the Foster's Branch Subdivision and worked on the secondary pedestal across the street from the transformer.
- Wired up a temporary pedestal for Brent Lewis Construction going on at Foster's Branch Subdivision.
- Got with McCoy's Tree Trimming Services to get them lined up on where they need to start.
- Derek Schwenke went to TEEEX in Bryan on November 7th - 9th for single phase transformers, regulators and capacitors classes.
- 1116 Simpson upgraded the meter loop from 120 volts to 240 volts.
- Working on street lights.
- Hung up Seasons Greetings Christmas decorations on Highway 77 and the Christmas streamers in the downtown area.
- Hung a piece of duplex wire across Black Street for a street light by St. Rose School.
- Drilled holes in a steel pole for cross arms, a cluster mount bracket to hang transformers and ground lugs at SISD for the new building.
- Added a cutout for a transformer, transfer services and cut down open secondary on the 300 block of Black Street.

Park Department activities included:

- Regular maintenance (mowing, weed eating, clean restrooms)
- Picked up animals and placed in dog pound when needed.
- Helped Street Department with cleaning grass off of street edge.
- Put show ring back up at Expo Center after AEP used the facility.
- Helped put up Christmas decorations in downtown area.
- Prepared pavilion for 5th Power Development turkey give away.

City Administrator, Tami Blaschke-Walker, reported the following:

- Nov 15th Attended the Police Meet and Greet
- Nov. 17th The Chamber held their appreciation gathering
- Nov. 18th Helped the 5th Power Development hand out turkeys.

Other additional items noted:

- Vacation time is being used by employees
- Preparations downtown for Santa in the Park
- City Appreciation Party will be held on December 7th
- City employees are working on bringing the noon whistle back

Mr. James Brossmann noted that the whistle will be good for a tornado warning to notify citizens.

Alderman Veselka made a motion, seconded by Alderman Bubela to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.