

**MINUTES
CITY OF ALVIN, TEXAS
216 W. SEALY STREET
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY APRIL 21, 2016
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

BE IT REMEMBERED that, on the above date, the City Council of the City of Alvin, Texas, met in Regular Session at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, with the following members present: Mayor Paul A. Horn; Mayor Pro-tem Adam Arendell; Councilmembers: Gabe Adame, Terry Droege, Roger Stuksa, and Keith Thompson, Scott Reed and Brad Richards.

Staff members present: Junru Roland, Assistant City Manager/CFO; Bobbi Kacz, City Attorney; Dixie Roberts, City Clerk; Robert E. Lee, Chief of Police.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Darren Shelton gave the invocation.

Council member Richards led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Council member Reed led the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Fred Gilmer of Alvin Texas spoke before City Council regarding development, changes to the city charter and retention/detention ponds.

Darren Shelton of Alvin, Texas addressed City Council thanking the public works director and the water department for their help during a recent water main leak and fire hydrant leak. He commented on the professional and courteous manner in which these situations were handled and encouraged competitive compensation for all City employees.

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation – Volunteer Appreciation Month; April 2016.

Mayor Horn proclaimed the month of April 2016 as Volunteer Appreciation month.

Volunteer of the Year Presentation

Mayor Horn presented Amanda Miles the Volunteer of the Year award for diligently volunteering many hours at the Alvin Animal Adoption Center.

Proclamation – Texas Safe Digging Month; April 2016.

Mayor Horn presented a proclamation for Texas Safe Digging month to CenterPoint Energy.

Presentation - Alvin Community College Bond Update

Christal M. Albrecht, President, Alvin Community College, gave a presentation on the upcoming college bond election.

CONSENT AGENDA: CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Approve minutes of the April 7, 2016 City Council workshop meeting.

Approve minutes of the April 7, 2016 City Council regular meeting.

Consider awarding a bid to Brenntag Southwest for the purchase of Chlorine for (1) year with an option to continue for an additional year at the same price and conditions.

Chlorine is used at water wells for the disinfection of drinking water before entering into the distribution system for consumption. Chlorine is required by TCEQ for the disinfection of Drinking Water before entering into the distribution system. On March 15, 2016, bids were opened and Brenntag Southwest was the lowest bidder at \$82 per 150lb cylinder and \$620 per ton cylinder. All references have been checked and this company continues to provide satisfactory product and customer service to the City of Alvin. Upon Council approval, an award letter will be sent to the vendor and city departments.

Consider awarding a bid to Commercial Chemical Products, Inc. for the purchase of Polyphosphate for (1) year with the option to continue for an additional year at the same price and conditions.

Polyphosphate is used at water wells to help prevent corrosion and natural iron staining contained in groundwater. This chemical is not required by the TCEQ but reduces the amount of brown water calls due to the iron in groundwater. If the city discontinued use of this product other byproducts of the naturally occurring iron could result in permit violations. On March 15, 2016, bids were opened and Commercial Chemical Products was lowest bidder at \$9.75 a gallon. The references for this company have been verified and are satisfactory. Upon approval, an award letter will be sent to the vendor and city departments.

Consider awarding a bid to Brenntag Southwest for the purchase of Sodium Hypochlorite for (1) year with an option to continue for an additional year at the same price and conditions.

Sodium Hypochlorite is the chemical used to disinfect effluent from the city's wastewater treatment plant. This chemical is a TCEQ requirement to disinfect treated wastewater before entering into its endpoint. On March 15, 2016 bids were opened and Brenntag Southwest was the lowest bidder at \$0.69 per gallon. All references have been checked and this company continues to provide satisfactory product and customer service to the City of Alvin. Upon approval, an award letter will be sent to the vendor and city departments.

Consider awarding a bid to JDB Services, Inc., as the primary vendor and Cherry Crush Concrete as a secondary vendor, for the purchase of stabilized sand for (1) year with an option to continue for an additional year at the same price and conditions.

Stabilized sand is used as a base material for streets, driveways, setting culverts, and for installation of sewer and water lines. On March 15, 2016 bids were opened and JDB Services was the lowest bidder. In the event of equipment breakdown at the primary vendor plant a secondary vendor is being included on an emergency basis. Each company's references were checked and past experience of working with both companies is satisfactory. Upon Council approval, an award letter will be sent to the vendor and city departments.

Consider Resolution 16-R-07; supporting an improved statutory procedure that provides for unitization of depleted Texas gulf coast oil fields.

To support full field re-development of older, depleted oil fields, there is a statutory unitization procedure necessary in order to utilize enhanced oil recovery via carbon dioxide injection (CO2 EOR). Unitization provides for the exploration and development of an area so that drilling and production may proceed in the most efficient and economic manner. Brazoria County Commissioners Court passed a resolution of support on this effort. The City of Alvin has received direct benefit from CO2 EOR projects such as: job growth, capital investment, and overall improvement to our local economy. In 2014, City Council adopted a similar resolution (14-R-46).

Council member Droege moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Council member Adame; motion carried on a vote of 7 Ayes.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Consider Resolution 16-R-08; finding that CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC's Application for Approval to amend its Distribution Cost Recovery Factor pursuant to 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 25.243 and to reconcile Docket No. 44572 revenues to increase distribution rates within the city should be denied; finding that the city's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the company; finding that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this resolution to the company and legal counsel.

The Distribution Cost Recovery Factor (DCRF) is an interim rate adjustment allowed by Texas statute; that allows electric utilities to implement new rates as a result of changes in a electric utility's distribution costs. To implement a DCRF, an electric utility must first file an application for the DCRF with all regulatory authorities having original jurisdiction over the electric utility's distribution service area.

On April 4, 2016, CenterPoint filed an Application for Approval to Amend its Distribution Cost Recovery Factor ("DCRF") Pursuant to 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 25.243 and to Reconcile Docket No. 44572 Revenues to increase distribution rates with each of the cities in their service area that has retained jurisdiction over CenterPoint's rates. CenterPoint asserts that it is seeking an increase in distribution revenues of \$49,351,913 for the period of September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017, and increasing to \$60,596,164 thereafter. All electric utility customers residing in the City will be impacted by this ratemaking proceeding if it is granted.

The Gulf Coast Coalition of Cities ("GCCC"), of which the City of Alvin is a member, has engaged the services of a consultant, Mr. Karl Nalepa, to review the Company's filing. GCCC's attorney recommends that all GCCC members adopt the Resolution denying the rate change. Once the Resolution is adopted, CenterPoint will have 30 days to appeal the decision to the Public Utility Commission.

Council member Thompson moved to approve Resolution 16-R-08; finding that CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC's Application for Approval to amend its Distribution Cost Recovery Factor pursuant to 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 25.243 and to reconcile Docket No. 44572 revenues to increase distribution rates within the city should be denied; finding that the city's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the company; finding that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this resolution to the company and legal counsel. Seconded by Council member Reed; motion carried on a vote of 7 Ayes.

Consider Resolution 16-R-05; adopting rules and regulations for the City of Alvin Oak Park Cemetery.

*This resolution will update the rules and regulations for Oak Park Cemetery, last updated in 2008. Main points of revision: **Flowers and plants** are placed at ground level. As a result, upkeep of the cemetery is delayed as staff has to mow around the "grounded" flowers/plants. There are 6 tracts within the cemetery (Original Cemetery through Tract 5). Currently, there are 2 sets of rules in place for the Original Cemetery through Tract 4; Tract 5 being the newest section. Under the current set of rules, the older sections of the cemetery allow for the placement of grave coverings (i.e. mulch) as well as the placement of borders around the gravesite. There are no written rules in place for the planting of trees within the cemetery. Temporary displays for grave decorating are not defined in the current regulations. As a result, the City cannot regulate the types of items displayed. The rules do not clearly define how many cremains (human ashes) can go in a Columbaria Niche. A Columbaria niche is the area within the cemetery designed to hold a funeral urn containing the ashes of the cremated dead. Each niche area is 11x11x9 inches deep.*

Council member Stuksa moved to approve Resolution 16-R-05; adopting rules and regulations for the City of Alvin Oak Park Cemetery. Seconded by Council member Arendell; motion carried on a vote of 7 Ayes.

REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER

Review preliminary list of items for next Council meeting.

Mr. Junru Roland, Assistant City Manager/CFO, reviewed the preliminary list for the May 5, 2016 City Council meeting.

Items of Community Interest.

Mrs. Roberts reviewed items of community interest.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Pursuant to S.B. No. 1182, City Council Members may make a report or an announcement about items of community interest during a meeting of the governing body. No action will be taken or discussed.

Announcements and requests from Council members.

Council member Thompson thanked all of the city volunteers. He also encouraged everyone to participate in the Drive for Your School fundraiser this weekend.

Council member Reed reported a complaint from the resident at 309 W. Blum Street regarding a vacant lot with high grass and weeds in the neighborhood. He also expressed his thanked Council member Droege for representing the Council during the Candidate Forum held last week. Council member Reed expressed his condolences to Ms. Kacz in the passing of her mother.

Council member Arendell thanked all of the volunteers. He also reviewed a few items of clarification that were brought up at the recent Candidate Forum.

Council member Richards thanked all of the volunteers. He also thanked Council member Arendell for his clarification.

Council member Droege thanked all of the volunteers. He reminded everyone that early voting begins Monday and encouraged citizens to vote in the May 7, 2016 general election.

Council member Adame thanked Council member Arendell for the points of clarification and the facts he shared. He expressed his concern over the negative political statements that have been broadcast during this election. Council member Adame also thanked all of the volunteers for the City. He also extended an invitation to the Alvin Noon Lion's Club Casino night on Friday, May 6th at the Nolan Ryan Center at 6:30 p.m.

Council member Stuksa thanked all of the volunteers and congratulated Amanda Miles in being named the 2016 Volunteer of the Year. He also expressed his condolences to Ms. Kacz in the passing of her mother.

Mayor Horn stated that there were no reports of flooding in the city during the recent rain events. The Kost detention pond did its job. He stated that the Kost Detention Pond is a joint venture between the City of Alvin, Brazoria County and the Brazoria County Conservation and Reclamation District #3, which is saving the taxpayers over one million dollars.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Adame moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Seconded by Council member Thompson; motion to adjourn carried on a vote of 7 Ayes.

PASSED and APPROVED this 5 day of May, 2016.

ATTEST:


Dixie Roberts, City Clerk


Paul A. Horn, Mayor