CITY OF SHINER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES AND CERTIFIED AGENDA

Hoffie and Lank Wolters Shiner Public Library

Regular Council Meeting, April 3, 2023

115 E. Wolters/2nd Street, Shiner, TX

**1.) CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Hilscher called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Mayor Fred Hilscher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3.) INVOCATION** – Councilperson David Schroeder led the invocation.

**4.) ROLL CALL**

PRESENT COUNCILPERSON GREGORY MURRILE

PRESENT COUNCILPERSON DAVID SCHROEDER

PRESENT COUNCILPERSON WILL FRANKLIN

PRESENT COUNCILPERSON ALOIS LOUIS HERMAN

PRESENT COUNCILPERSON GUS JAEHNE

PRESENT MAYOR FRED HENRY HILSCHER

Others present were City Secretary, Natalie Fric; Police Sgt. Whited; Public Works Director, Justin Hanson; John McGinley; Frankie Bates; Sandra Strauss; Shirley Michalec.

**5.) ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE MAYOR AS TO THE PRESENCE OF A QUORUM, THE MEETING HAS BEEN CALLED AND THE NOTICE OF MEETING HAS BEEN POSTED FOR TIME & MANNER AS REQUIRED BY**

**LAW -** Mayor Fred Hilscher announced that a quorum was present, and the meeting has been called and notices have been

posted for the time and manner as required by law.

**6.) PUBLIC COMMENTS**

***Each speaker addressing the Council is limited to 3 minutes. Each speaker addressing the Council must state their name and nature of comments. The Council may not deliberate or act on non-agenda items.*** Sandra Strauss addressed the Council regarding the animal control officer and animal ordinances specifically the feral cat ordinance. Mrs. Strauss expressed to the council the need for some control of the feral cat population. Mrs. Strauss shared several accounts of her own animals being attacked by feral cats. She expressed her appreciation for the animal control officer Teena Davis and urged the council to put in place ordinances such as catch spay and release.

**7.) CONSENT AGENDA**

***This portion of the agenda consists of items considered routine and can be approved by one motion unless separate discussion is requested by a member of the City Council.***

1. Approval of the minutes from the regular council meeting on March 6, 2023.
2. Approval of the monthly expenses, checks paid, revenue and expense reports and CD and bank balances.

Councilman Greg Murrile made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. Councilman Gus Jaehne seconded the motion. (Motion passed 5-0)

**8.) OLD BUSINESS:**

***Discuss, Consider, and Possibly Take Action regarding:***

a. Tennis courts on Avenue E. Public Works Director Justin Hanson asked Council for clarity from the last meeting on what to do with the tennis courts. He reminded the Council about the cost to refurbish them coming in around $250,000. It was Mr. Hanson’s recommendation to abandon and demolish the courts, as they are an eyesore and could potentially pose a liability to the City should someone get hurt on the courts due to cracks. City Secretary Natalie Fric also expressed her concern for safety at the courts when schools practice as there is no parking on site, the bleachers are in bad condition as well as an eyesore with the over grown trees. Mrs. Fric said the area is in a flood zone and there is really nothing that can be put there, and recommended to the Council that the courts be abandoned and demolished as well. Mrs. Fric said there is no parking or restroom facilities there either. Councilman Murrile reminded Council about a person that had come to Council a while back wanted to convert it to a pickle ball court. Mrs. Fric explained this will not address the need for it to be resurfaced and the expense of resurfacing. There was some discussion about asphalting it with H&C. Mr. Hanson said the expense to do that would also be great, because they will have to take down the fencing to get equipment in there to do the resurface. Mayor Hilscher said maybe there is an organization that would like to step up and pay for the rehabilitation of the courts. Councilman David Schroeder made a motion to leave the courts open for now in hopes that an individual or organization would step in and want to do something with the courts. Councilman Will Franklin seconded the motion. (Motion passed 5-0)

b. Animal Control Ordinance Article 2.02 Dogs and Cats. Councilman David Schroeder made a motion to table the item for 60 days so they may review the ordinance. Councilman Gus Jaehne seconded the motion. (Motion passed 5-0)

**9.) NEW BUSINESS:**

***Discuss, Consider, and Possibly Take Action regarding:***

a. Judge Penley 1st quarter report. No Action.

b. Execution of grant administration contract between the City of Shiner and Langford Community Management Services, for the Texas General Land Office, Mitigation – Method of Distribution Grant Program (GLO MIT-MOD).  Councilman Louis Herman made a motion to approve the contract. Councilman Will Franklin seconded the motion. (Motion passed 5-0)

c. Execution of grant administration contract between the City of Shiner and Lynn Engineering, for the Texas General Land Office, Mitigation – Method of Distribution Grant Program (GLO MIT-MOD). Councilman Louis Herman made a motion to approve the contract. Councilman Will Franklin seconded the motion. (Motion passed 5-0)

d. Request from Douglas Brooks to hold parades for Juneteenth, 2023 & for Black History month in February 2024. Dates to be determined and discussed with the Police Department. Councilman Greg Murrile made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Louis Herman seconded the motion. (Motion passed 5-0)

e. Short term rental ordinance. City Secretary Natalie Fric presented a sample ordinance from the city of Blanco on short term rentals. Mrs. Fric said she is seeing more and more of the short-term rentals coming into town, and she is concerned with the city not having zoning, that there may need to be some regulations put in place for them. Mrs. Fric would rather be proactive than reactive if the city starts to see more and more of these. Councilman Gus Jaehne made a motion to allow Mrs. Fric to research and build a short-term rental ordinance for the city and bring it back for approval. Councilman Greg Murrile seconded the motion. (Motion passed 5-0)

f. Bids on certificates of deposit #8398, #8407, #8408 maturing in April 2023. Mayor Hilscher opened 2 bids for certificates of deposits. First National Bank bid 3.97% for one year, and South Star Bank bid 4.60% for one year. Councilman David Schroeder made a motion to approve the bid from South Star bank for one year. Councilman Will Franklin seconded the motion. (Motion passed 5-0)

**10.) ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:**

**a. STAFF REPORTS**

1. POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – Sgt. James Whited stood in for Chief Kevin Kelso and introduced the new patrol officer Patrick McKinney.

2. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Public Works Director Justin Hanson gave Council an update on water plant #3. He said they are still waiting on supplies for the electrical panels. Mr. Hanson reported clean-up week went very smoothly.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – City Secretary Natalie Fric reported to Council the sales tax for March was $41,394.00. Mrs. Fric also reported that she had received an email that the allocation to Shiner on the MIT-MOD grant had been increased to $946,600. Mrs. Fric said she will be running an informational ad in the paper for the sales tax election.

**b. COUNCIL REPORTS**

1. Councilperson Gregory Murrile –Library & Museum – Councilman Murrile reported the library staff is getting geared up for the upcoming summer reading program. He also reported the library is starting a new E-reading program. Murrile reported $92.00 in donations for the museum and $1200 from Spoetzl Brewery to the library.

2. Councilperson David Schroeder report – Parks & Police – Councilman Schroeder reminded the Shiner VFD cook off is coming up next weekend and urged everyone to come out.

3. Councilperson Will Franklin – Electric & Sanitation – No Report.

4. Councilperson Alois Louis Herman report – Streets, Sewer, and Water Departments – Councilman Herman said he was approached by some citizens that were unhappy that the wildflowers were mowed in the park.

5. Councilperson Gus Jaehne– Fire & EMS – No Report.

6. Mayor, Fred Henry Hilscher report – All Departments – No Report.

**11.)** **ADJOURNMENT** The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

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City Secretary Mayor