

Minutes of the Regular  
Scheduled Meeting  
Troup City Council  
December 22, 2015

A Scheduled Meeting of the Troup City Council was held Tuesday December 22, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Cameron J-Jarvis Troup Municipal Library located at 102 S. Georgia, Troup, Texas. Councilpersons present were: Mayor Joe Carlyle, Nelson Darden, Jr., Gary Salyer, and Carole Wilson. Also present were City Manager Gene Cottle.

Mayor Joe Carlyle called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. noting all Council Persons were present with the exception of Jeff Hale and Chip Richardson. Guest present were Randy Loftin, Paul Jones, and Pat Hendrix.

Nelson Darden, Jr. led the invocation.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 4 Consider approval of the minutes from the Regular Scheduled Meeting of October 27, 2015 and November 17, 2015. Councilperson Carole Wilson made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilperson Gary Salyer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 5 Citizen Comments- Brief Comments concerning non-Agenda items. No comments.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 6 Review and consider the city financial report for the month of November 2015. City Manager Gene Cottle presented Council with a financial report. Councilperson Nelson Darden, Jr. made the motion to approve the financial report for the month of November 2015. Councilperson Gary Salyer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 7 Comments, questions or input from City Manager's written report. City Manager Gene Cottle presented Council with his monthly report and Police Chief Pat Hendrix presented the police department monthly report.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 8 Discuss suggested ordinance updates for Animal Control and Code Enforcement. City Manager Gene Cottle said this is the information that had been discussed about not have ordinances in place regarding animal control and code enforcement. Code Enforcement Officer Randy Loftin addressed Council about problems with right away maintenance by property owners. Mr. Loftin said an ordinance in place would help this matter. Mr. Cottle said that new ordinances would not affect undeveloped property. Mayor Carlyle then told Council that the Animal Control ordinances need to be update. Mr. Cottle told Council that the City does get complains concerning animal smells and noses. Mr. Pau Jones addressed Council and said that the previous city manager told him that no ordinances were not in place, but he would have to meet property set back. Mr. Jones said that he only knew of one complaint against his animals. Mr. Jones told Council that he maintains his chicken houses. Mr. Jones also stated that he would do what was necessary to make sure he was in compliance. Mayor Carlyle said that somethings may be grandfathered in if maintained to up to health standards. Mayor Carlyle said the goal of Council would be to advise City Manager Gene Cottle how they want the Ordinance to read. Mr. Cottle also ask that the Council appoint a committee of two council members and himself to guide him with the writing of the Ordinance. Mayor Carlyle recommend for Nelson Darden, Jr. and Gary Salyer to be on this committee.

Mayor Joe Carlyle - Item 9 Discuss and consider entering into an engineering contract Agreement prepared by Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. for the Group Seal Coat Program for pavement rehabilitation. Mr. Robert Haberly with Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. made a presentation to Council. Councilperson Gary Salyer made the motion to enter into an engineering contract Agreement prepared by Schaumburg & Polk, Inc. for the Group Seal Coat Program for pavement rehabilitation in the Westwood area. Councilperson Nelson Darden, Jr. seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 10 Discuss and consider signs on City of Troup Property regarding Texas Penal Code Sections 30.06, 30.07 and Texas Penal Code Chapter 46. City Manager Gene Cottle told Council that effective January 1, 2016

people would be able to open carry handguns with a concealed license. Mr. Cottle said that since City Hall serves as Court the carrying of weapons could be banned with the appropriate sign. Mr. Cottle told council that the sign 46.03 would prevent the carrying into City Hall and Council Meeting if posted with a sign. Chief Pat Hendrix said that most courts are not allowing open or concealed weapons. Mr. Cottle also said that 46.03 would cover City Hall as a court, but if sign 30.06 and 30.07 was applied it would be a 30 x 30 sign posted on the outside of City Hall. Mr. Cottle stated that if we did not want weapons carried into City Hall meetings the 30.06 and 30.07 signs would have to be posted. Chief Hendrix said that he thought 30.06 and 30.07 signs are more defined and would be better to be placed at City Hall. Councilperson Gary Salyer made the motion to designate Troup City Hall as a municipal court and section 46.03 be enacted and the 46.03 signage be placed at City Hall, and also that rule 30.06 and 30.07 be enacted for and Open Meeting of the City and 30.06 and 30.07 signage be placed outside those open meetings. Councilperson Nelson Darden, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion then went into discussion with Councilperson Carole Wilson stated that she thought that the 30.06 and 30.07 signage be placed at City Hall also. Police Chief Pat Hendrix told Council that he agreed with all three signs being placed at City Hall. Mrs. Wilson offered an amendment to Mr. Salyer to add the signage of 30.06 and 30.07 along with the sign 46.03 being placed at City Hall. Mr. Salyer accepted the amendment. Councilperson Nelson Darden, Jr. seconded the amended the motion and the amended motion passed. Council then voted on the original motion with amendment and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 11 Discuss and consider approving a final plat survey to create RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 6, BLOCK 42 & PART OF LOT 5, BLOCK 42 of The Eason Gee Survey A-10 OF THE CITY OF TROUP, SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS submitted by David and Carole Wilson. Councilperson Nelson Darden, Jr. made the motion to approve the final plat survey to create RESUBDIVISION OF LOT 6, BLOCK 42 & PART OF LOT 5, BLOCK 42 of The Eason Gee Survey A-10 OF THE CITY OF TROUP, SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS submitted by David and Carole Wilson. Councilperson Gary Salyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously, with Carole Wilson abstaining.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 12 Discuss and consider amending Section 14: Substance Abuse Policy of the City of Troup Employee Handbook. City Manager Gene Cottle said the he attended a webinar about substance abuse testing, and he realized that the City Handbook is not correct due to a constitutional amendment. Mr. Cottle stated that certain employees are prone to drug testing prior to employment, but not all. Councilperson Gary Salyer made the motion for City Manager to present an amendment draft of Section 14 of the City Handbook to bring the City into compliance with Federal laws. Councilperson Carole Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 13 Discuss amending Sec. 9.04.004 Selection of police officer and dispatchers of the 1983 Code, sec. 12.13. Chief Hendrix told Council that this section says that Police officers hired had to be approved by Council. Chief Hendrix said when he was hired he was told that the hiring and firing of Police Officers would be through himself and not the Council. Chief Hendrix said that he would like this Section amended to reflect this. Councilperson Carole Wilson made the motion for the City Manager to prepare an Ordinance to amend Section 9.04.004 Selection of police officer and dispatchers of the 1983 Code, sec. 12.13 to indicate that the Police Chief would be responsible for the hiring and firing of Police Officers. Councilperson Gary Salyer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 14 Comments and input from Council, Mayor or City Manager concerning items of interest or items for a future agenda. No comments were made.

Mayor Joe Carlyle – Item 15 Adjourn. Councilperson Gary Salyer made the motion to adjourn. Councilperson Nelson Darden, Jr. seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Buffie Deason/City Secretary