

Minutes of the Regular  
Scheduled Meeting  
Troup City Council  
July 23, 2013

A Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Troup City Council was held Tuesday July 23, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the T.I.S.D. Administration Building located at 201 N. Carolina, Troup, Texas. Councilpersons present were: Mayor John Whitsell, Jeff Hale, Joe Carlyle, Gary Salyer, and Mayor Pro Tem Carole Wilson. Also present were City Administrator Gene Cottle and City Secretary Buffie Deason.

Guests attending were John Phillips, Robert Haberle, Larry McGuffin, and Suzanne Loudamy.

Mayor John Whitsell called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. noting all Council Persons were present with the exception of Councilperson Chip Richardson.

Mayor Whitsell – Led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 3 Consider approval of minutes for the Regular Scheduled Meeting for June 11, 2013 and June 25, 2013. Council person Carole Wilson made the motion to approve minutes. Council person Gary Salyer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 4 Citizen comments concerning non-agenda items. No comments made.

Mayor Whitsell - Item 5 Review and consider the City financial report for the month of June 2013. City Administrator Gene Cottle explained the report and advised Council that figures compared to last year were more positive and that the City had just paid the Bond payment for this year. Council person Gary Salyer asked why the City had an increase in funds compared to last year. Mr. Cottle told him that department heads for the City are being more conservative and that tax revenues had increased some. Mr. Cottle also advised Council that property tax are coming in slower than usual. Council person Jeff Hale made the motion to accept the financial report for June 2013. Council person Joe Carlyle seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 6 Comments, questions, or input from the City Administrator's written report. City Administrator Gene Cottle advised council that the City into 75% of the budget year. He also reported that the Waste Water Treatment Plant Telescoping Valve Project was nearing completion. Mr. Cottle reported that the Incode Cash Collections was up and operating reducing the time that the clerks spend balancing daily and would help with end of the year audits. Mr. Cottle advised Council that the employee health insurance would not increase this year. Mr. Cottle advised council about the Health Incentives Program that the TML offers for its members and he expects all City employees to participate. Mr. Cottle presented the Police report and Public works report to Council.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 7 Presentation by Larry McGruffin concerning entering into a Streetlight Audit Agreement with US Energy Audit Services.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 8 Discuss and consider presentation by Larry McGruffin concerning entering into a Streetlight Audit Agreement with US Energy Audit Services. City Administrator Gene Cottle advised Council that all cities that have participated in this program have received funds for being overcharged. Council person Joe Carlyle asked if the City would have an opt. out if they did not like the program. Mr. McGruffin advised there is not an opt. out because the only way he receives funds is if the City does. Council person Joe Carlyle made the motion for the City to enter into a streetlight audit agreement with US Energy Audit Services. Council person Jeff Hale seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 9 Discuss and consider pay request #1 to Capps-Capco Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$8073.45 for RAS station telescoping valves at the wastewater treatment plant. Mayor Whitsell asked if the valves were already in place, Mr. Haberle informed him as soon as the parts arrive the valves would be placed. Council person Joe Carlyle made the motion to approve pay request #1 to Capps-Capco Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$8073.45 for RAS station telescoping valves at the wastewater treatment plant. Council person Gary Salyer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 10 Discuss and consider budget line adjustments for the Approved Budget for 2012-2013 for the City of Troup. City Administrator Gene Cottle presented line item adjustments to Council; Mr. Cottle advised that \$3000.00 needed to be moved from Cemetery fuel line to Park Fuel line. The second adjustment would be \$500.00 from Police Misc. to Police Uniform Line. Mr. Cottle explained that this did not effect the dollar amount spent it is only to make

budget line item correct. Council person Carole Wilson made the motion to approve budget line adjustments for 2012-2013 for the City of Troup as explained. Council person Jeff Hale seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 11 Discuss entering an Inter local Agreement with the City of Arp for the use of road construction equipment. Mayor Whitsell asked if the City is borrowing Arp's equipment. Mr. Cottle advised that the City of Arp is wanting to contract to use our equipment and operator and pay the City \$2000.00. Council person Joe Carlyle made the motion to enter into an Inter Local Agreement with the City of Arp for the use of road construction equipment. Council person Carole Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 12 Skipped due to lack of information needed by the City.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 13 Discuss and consider approving Application for Proposed Board Members for the City of Troup's Boards, Commissions, or Committees. City Administrator stated he came up with this application so that maybe it would reach more people that wanted to be involved on Boards for the City and this would be a good way to evaluate the person. Council person Gary Salyer stated that the application needed to be shortened and not so detailed. Council person Joe Carlyle made the motion to Table this item and for Mr. Cottle to resubmit a revised application. Council person Carole Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 14 Discuss a letter received from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality about Alleged Violations at the Troup Wastewater Treatment Facility. Mr. Cottle said this letter involved testing that showed the City was in violation of dissolved solids disposal and that the City will be fined. He advised Council that the City is trying to resolve this problem but that it will take time. Council person Gary Salyer asked if this was the first violation, Mr. Cottle advised that the City had already paid fines for this Violation before. No action required from Council.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 15 Preliminary discussion about the selection of an engineering firm for the City of Troup. Mayor Whitsell advised no action required. City Administrator asked that Council score the firms from previous presentation so that the City can come up with finalist before making a selection. No action required.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 16 Discuss upcoming City of Troup 2013-2014 budget draft. City Administrator presented Council with several different drafts for Council to review but he was able to balance the budget using the effective tax rate and not having to raise tax rates for the City. Mr. Cottle said that the proposed budget had pay increases for employees and department heads and that the public works department would like funds set aside to pay overtime to its employees. Mr. Cottle told Council that Incode support was added back into the budget this year. Mr. Cottle also stated that the Risk Insurance may increase due to evaluating the policy and determining that the City was underinsured. Mr. Cottle told Council that Parks department is in need of a replacement vehicle and that the Police Department also wants to replace one of their vehicles as well. Mr. Cottle said the budget includes fees for upgrades for sewer treatment plant.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 17 Comments and input from Council, Mayor, or City Administrator concerning items of interest of items for a future agenda. City Administrator asked Council when they would like to do his evaluation so it can be on the Agenda. The Council agreed that they would like to approve the budget first and then conduct the evaluation.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 18 meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Buffie Deason  
Buffie Deason/City Secretary