

Minutes of the Regular
Scheduled Meeting
Troup City Council
April 09, 2013

A Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Troup City Council was held Tuesday April 09, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Troup Independent School District Administration Building. Councilpersons present were: Mayor John Whitsell, Tim Young, Chip Richardson, and Mayor Pro Tem Carole Wilson. Also present were City Administrator Gene Cottle and City Secretary Buffie Deason.

Guests attending were Suzanne Loudamy.

Mayor John Whitsell called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. noting all Council Persons were present with the exception of Councilperson Jeff Hale and Councilperson Joe Carlyle.

Mayor Whitsell – Led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 3 Consider approval of minutes from the Regular Scheduled Meeting of March 26, 2013. Councilperson Tim Young made the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Scheduled Meeting of March 26, 2013. Councilperson Carole Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell - Item 4 Citizen comments concerning non-agenda items. Mrs. Suzanne Loudamy informed the Council that Codered was on the front page of the Tri-County Leader this week.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 5 Comments, questions or input from the City Administrator's written report. Councilperson Chip Richardson asked City Administrator Gene Cottle about the San Antonio conference that he attended and asked if he wanted the Council Members to start setting goals for the City of Troup. Mr. Cottle replied that this would be good for the city.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 6 Review and consider the city financial report for the month of March 2013. City Administrator Gene Cottle explained that the finance report stated that the administration department showed to be at 80% of budget, but he explained the reason being was that grant funds were received and paid out, and also that payments were greater to Troup Community Development Corporation due to receiving more sales tax. Mr. Cottle explained that if those items were removed from the balance sheet the administration department was operation at only 36 % of the budget. Mr. Cottle stated that he would like for the Council members to start reviewing the financial reports monthly and he also advised that all bank statements were reconciled through March 31, 2013. Councilperson Chip Richardson made the motion to approve the city financial report for the month of March 2013. Councilperson Carole Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 7 Discuss and consider an ordinance replacing and updating any and all previous ordinances relating to the Troup Community Library and or the Cameron-J.Jarvis Troup Municipal Library. City Administrator Gene Cottle told the Council that the ordinance for the library were outdated and needed to be brought current to the libraries by-laws that the Library Board had set. Councilperson Tim Young ask if the Library Board had been informed of this, Councilperson Carole Wilson told Mr. Young that they had been notified. Councilperson Tim Young made the motion to approve an ordinance replacing and updating any and all previous ordinances relating to the Troup Community Library and or the Cameron-J.Jarvis Troup Municipal Library. Councilperson Chip Richardson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 8 Discuss draft policies and receive council input regarding brush and limb collection and disposal and water and sewer department customer credit for concealed water leaks. City Administrator Gene Cottle told the Council no action was required, but he did want them to know that at the present time the City of Troup does not have a written policy for limb collection and disposal or for water and sewer department credit for concealed leaks. Mr. Cottle stated that the city is having problems with professional limb companies coming into to the city and leaving limbs for the city to dispose of and a policy would prevent this. Mr. Cottle told the Council that if the citizen cuts the limbs that the city would still dispose of the limbs. Councilperson Chip Richardson stated that he would like for the policy to say that brush could be 8 feet in length instead of 6 feet. Councilperson Tim Young was concerned about the City workers having time to do this. Mr. Cottle told him that the City already provides this service and that the City owns a limb chipper. Mr. Richardson advised on limbs with 6 inch diameter they should only be 4 feet long. Mr. Cottle advised council that traditionally the City has given customers a 100% discount on water leaks based on average consumption if the customer presented a receipt of repair but there is not a written policy for this. Mr. Cottle advised that Public Works Director John Phillips had contacted other cities and most only would allow the customer to have 50% credit on the leakage. Mr. Cottle

said that the sewer would be adjusted in the manner. Mr. Cottle asked that the Council contact him about forming a policy for both items and he would bring this back in front of the Council as a resolution to make a formal policy.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 9 Discuss and consider drafting an ordinance restricting the time trash collection containers may remain at the curb. City Administrator Gene Cottle stated this item did not require an action; he only wanted to discuss this item. Mr. Cottle told the Council that many customers are leaving their carts out all the time and in order to make the City look better an ordinance needs to be in place. Mr. Cottle told the Council he would like for the carts to not be out any earlier than 6:00 p.m. the night before collection and that cart be brought from the curb before 1:00 p.m. the day after collection. Mr. Cottle advised that per the draft he presented that on the first offense of not removing the cart, a City employee would move the cart to the customer's front door and leave a violation notice. The second offense in a 12 month period the cart would be moved as well and the customer would be fined \$3.00. The third offense in a 12 month period the cart would be moved and the customer would be fined \$7.50. On the fourth and subsequent occurrences with a 12 month period the cart would be moved and the customer billed \$20.00. Mr. Cottle told Council that Mr. Randy Loftin would be in charge of monitoring the trash carts. Mr. Cottle advised that he would enact a Codered call advising customers of the new ordinance if enacted.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 10 Discuss and consider authoring the City Administrator to advertise for bids for the sale of the train caboose located in the Zachary Taylor Park and other surplus city assets. Councilperson Tim Young ask what other surplus items the city had. Mr. Cottle told him that the city had many old computers and other outdated office equipment. Mr. Cottle explained that if the city is going to advertise for bids that it would be smart to advertise for all surplus items as well. Mr. Cottle also stated that the city would need to reserve the right to refuse any and all bids. Councilperson Carole Wilson made the motion to advertise for bids for the sale of all surplus items and the caboose located in Zachary Taylor Park, reserving the right for the city to refuse any and all bids and that the caboose would have to be moved within three months of winning the bid. Councilperson Tim Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 11 Comments and input from Council, Mayor, or City Administrator. Councilperson Tim Young ask about the house on the corner of Westwood and W. Duval that is constantly having garage sales and is there a city ordinance that stops this. Mr. Cottle advised that this house is in the Commercial District, but he would address the matter of the garage sales. Mr. Young ask about the snow cone stand and when it would be removed. Mr. Cottle stated that he had talked to Mr. Blackmon and that he had ask for a couple more weeks and then he would move the stand out of Troup. Councilperson Carole Wilson stated that the house on the corner of E. Bryant and N. Ponsard has a camper trailer behind it with people living in it. Mr. Cottle said that he would have Code Enforcement Officer Randy Loftin to check on this matter for him. Councilperson Chip Richardson said he would like to see the property located on the corner of N. Ponsard and Colle Street to be cleaned.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 12 meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Buffie Deason/City Secretary