

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 22, 2016**

Mayor Joe Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Vernon City Commission to order at 6:35 p.m. in City Hall, and a quorum was declared present.

Present: Mayor Joe Rogers

Commissioners: Guy Spears, Ruben Hinojosa, Travis Taylor and Britt Ferguson.

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Joe Pence, City Attorney Jonathan Whitsitt, Police Chief Tom Wilson, Public Works Director Darell Kennon, Finance Director Anne Garmon, Fire Chief J.J. Oznick, Community Development Director David Pilcher, Zoning Official Monica Wilkinson and City Secretary Linda Byers.

Commissioner Spears led the group in the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Molly Baldwin thanked the Commission for taking the lead on dilapidated buildings and also thanked the Police Department for the job that they do. She also encouraged the Commission to stop the micromanaging and to purchase updated software programs.

Chris Bell informed the Commission that the Unity in the Community Committee were working on guidelines and asked for approval at the next Commission meeting.

Allan Hildebrand is concerned about downtown and its effect on tourism. He also encouraged a viable plan for the BDC and Tourism going forward and outlined his plan for future needs.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Ferguson made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

- A. Minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held on Tuesday, October 25, 2016; and Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on Monday, October 24, 2016.
- B. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 1699 Amending Solicitors & Peddlers Ordinance.
- C. Acceptance of a \$25,000 Donation from Ford Motor Company for Fire Department Training Equipment.
- D. Financial Investment Report, Vouchers, and Payroll & Benefit Expense. October 1, 2016 – October 31, 2016.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

BUILDING DEMOLITION AT 1716 PEASE STREET

Community Development Director Pilcher reported that the contractor was ninety-five percent complete, and the contractor should be commended for the job that he did. The support across the front of the building will remain, and there was discussion of placing a fence to restrict access until adjoining walls are properly supported. City Attorney Whitsitt recommended a temporary fence until repairs are complete to protect the safety of citizens.

MAIN STREET REHABILITATION GRANT FROM DON WILSON

Zoning Official Wilkinson explained that Don Wilson submitted an application for exterior and interior repairs at 1510 Main Street for seventy-two percent (72%) of his project for a total of \$7,592. The Main Street Advisory Board approved this application for a Main Street Historic Rehabilitation Grant. Mr. Wilson explained that part of the problems with his building were caused by the adjoining buildings.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve Main Street Rehabilitation Grant from Don Wilson for 1510 Main Street for a total of \$7,592.

There followed discussion of the adjoining property owners who should be responsible for cost of repairs, program applications, use of Main Street Funds and the change in guidelines approved in 2015. There was also discussion of the source of available Main Street funds and the use of those funds as well as the condition of downtown.

Commissioner Hinojosa's motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Spears made the motion to table this agenda item until the December meeting.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote with Commissioner Taylor abstaining from voting.

MAIN STREET REHABILITATION GRANT FROM DOUG AND MOLLY JEFFREY

Zoning Official Wilkinson explained that Doug and Molly Jeffrey submitted an application for floor rehabilitation at 1521 Main Street for seventy-two percent (72%) of the total cost in the amount of \$11,520. Molly Jeffrey explained that the building will be used to open a new store "The Refinery", which is almost ready to open.

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve Main Street Rehabilitation Grant from Doug and Molly Jeffrey for 1521 Main Street for a total of \$11,520.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote with Commissioner Taylor abstaining from voting.

RESOLUTION NO. 1001

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO DETERMINE
WHETHER CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS DESCRIBED HEREIN ARE
EACH DANGEROUS STRUCTURES AND A PUBLIC NUISANCE.**

Community Development Director Pilcher explained that structures at 700 Texas Street, 2520 Wanderer Street, 4004 Marshall Street, and 1701 Peter Cooper Street are unfit for habitation and need to be demolished. This resolution will call for a public hearing at the December meeting to determine condemnation.

Commissioner Spears made the motion to approve Resolution No. 1001 calling for a public hearing to determine whether certain structures are dangerous structures and a public nuisance.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVE BID FOR PURCHASE OF AMBULANCE

Fire Chief Oznick explained that the bid is for purchase of a cab and chassis and the remount and refurbish of the existing module. The \$109,850 cost includes taking the old box and mounting on the new cab and chassis, painting, a new generator, air conditioner and updated lighting.

Commissioner Spears made the motion to approve bid for purchase of ambulance chassis and remount and refurbish existing module from Frazer in the amount of \$109,850.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

CLOSURE OF PEASE STREET FOR THE LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE ACTIVITIES

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve closure of Pease St. between Main St and Cumberland St for the Lighted Christmas Parade activities on December 10.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT

Public Works Director Kennon explained that the engineering for the proposed Texas Department of Agriculture Community Development Block Grant (TXCDBG) project must be completed before approval of the grant. There were three proposals received and Kimley Horn negotiated a price of \$42,000. There will be no cost to the city if the grant is not awarded.

Digital Recording on file

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to approve award of engineering services contract associated with the Texas Department of Agriculture Community Development Block Grant (TXCDBG) project to Kimley Horn.

Commissioner Spears seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DELIBERATION CONCERNING PERSONNEL – CITY SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.074

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to enter Executive Session – Government Code, Title 5, Chapter 551- Section 551.074 – Deliberation Concerning Personnel – City Secretary at 7:40 pm.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to resume regular session at 8:13 pm.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no action following executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DELIBERATION CONCERNING REAL PROPERTY - WATER
GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.072

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to enter Executive Session – Government Code, Title 5, Chapter 551- Section 551.072 – Deliberation Concerning Real Property - Water at 8:14 pm.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

Commissioner Spears made the motion to resume regular session at 8:40 pm.

Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no action following executive session.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Spears made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m.



Joe Rogers
Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Byers
City Secretary