

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 COUNTY OF ANDERSON §
 CITY OF PALESTINE §

The City Council of the City of Palestine, Texas convened in a Worksession and Regular Meeting on Monday, July 14, 2008 at 4:30 PM, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 504 N. Queen Street, Palestine, Texas, with the following people present:

CAROLYN SALTER	:	MAYOR
KATHI MASONHEIMER	:	COUNCILMEMBER
VICKEY CHIVERS	:	COUNCILMEMBER
JIM YELVERTON	:	COUNCILMEMBER
ANDREA BAIRD	:	COUNCILMEMBER
STEVE PRESLEY	:	COUNCILMEMBER
R. DALE BROWN	:	CITY MANAGER
JANELLE WILLIAMS	:	CITY SECRETARY
RONALD D. STUTES	:	CITY ATTORNEY

Councilmember Denmon was absent; a quorum was present.

WORKSESSION – 4:30 PM

Mayor Salter called the worksession to order at 4:30 PM.

Angelou Economics presented a project update on the PEDC strategic plan to Council.

Motion was made by Councilmember Chivers to adjourn. The worksession was adjourned at 5:32 PM.

CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING 5:30 PM

Mayor Salter called the regular meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Pastor Linda Herron of First Presbyterian Church, and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC RECOGNITION

Fire Chief Henry York presented Council with the Department of Defense Patriotic Employer Award in recognition of the city's cooperation and support of employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force. The city was nominated for this award by Fireman Eric Gartman who was recently called to active military service.

Public Works Director Ron Sullivan introduced Roy Crouch as the new Facilities Maintenance Superintendent to Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Alyn Lang of ACCESS requested funding of \$25,000.00 during the city's fiscal year 2008-09.

Henry Kitchens addressed Council regarding gambling that pays cash money at the VFW Hall.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Salter reported that the Governor's Fitness Council will have its first audit from the state on July 28th. She also reported that the preliminary plan for Reagan Park was presented to the Parks Advisory Board this month.

Mayor Salter advised that the city and county held a meeting to discuss juvenile criminal activity. She also advised that applications will be taken for a Youth Advisory Council and may be formed depending on interest, the tennis association will be meeting at Old Magnolia to discuss applying for grant money for a tennis complex, and applications for the Deann Evans award are available to employees.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- 1) Monthly Departmental Reports
 - a) Municipal Court
 - b) Public Works
 - c) Library
 - d) Development Services
 - e) Fire
- 2) Update on Accusation of Theft
- 3) Update on IRS Audit
- 4) Report of City Attorney Fees

City Manager Dale Brown advised Council that members of Staff were available for any questions regarding departmental reports, update on IRS audit and report of city attorney fees.

Police Chief Larry Coutorie advised Council that the citizen that spoke at the last meeting regarding a theft found the ring at his home.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Yelverton, seconded by Councilmember Presley, to appoint Eric Gooch to Historic Landmarks Commission. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Consider an Ordinance to Revise Regulations for the Collection of the Hotel Occupancy Tax
- 2) Consider a Resolution for Grant Application with East Texas Council of Governments for Purchase of a Surveillance Camera
- 3) Minutes of Worksession and Regular Meeting of May 19, 2008

Motion was made by Councilmember Baird, seconded by Councilmember Chivers, to approve all Consent Items as presented, adopting **Ordinance O-61-08** and **R-20-08**. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider Authorization to Contract with Everett Griffith, Jr. & Associates, Inc. for Engineering Services Regarding a Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station

Motion was made by Councilmember Presley, seconded by Councilmember Baird, to authorize the City Manager to contract with Everett Griffith, Jr. & Associates for professional services regarding a solid waste transfer station. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

Consider an Ordinance Abandoning Selkirk Avenue

Motion was made by Councilmember Yelverton, seconded by Councilmember Masonheimer, to adopt **Ordinance No. O-62-08** abandoning Selkirk Avenue. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

Consider Sanitation Rate Increases from Allied Waste Services

After discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Baird, seconded by Councilmember Yelverton, to table sanitation rate increases from Allied Waste Services. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

Consider Freese and Nichols Professional Services Agreements for Fiscal Year 2007-08

Motion was made by Councilmember Presley, seconded by Councilmember Yelverton, to approve the Freese and Nichols, Inc. Professional Services Agreement for the amount of \$88,000.00 and authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement for these services. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

Consider an Ordinance Approving Budget Amendments for fiscal year 2007-08

Motion was made by Councilmember Baird, seconded by Councilmember Yelverton, to adopt **Ordinance No. O-63-08** approving budget amendments for police department vehicle, solid waste consulting and IRS audit. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

Consider a Resolution Approving the Assignment of the Cable Television Franchise and the Cable System to Windjammer Communications, LLC

After discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Baird, seconded by Councilmember Chivers, to table the resolution. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

Discuss Zone Change Request from I-2 (General Industrial District) to C-3 (General Retail Commercial District), County Block 1216, Tract 1D, 6 Acres, Michael E. Hess/Applicant (Z-08-12) and set a public hearing on July 28, 2008

Motion was made by Councilmember Baird, seconded by Councilmember Chivers, to schedule a public hearing for the zone change request on July 28, 2008. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.

ITEMS FROM COUNCIL

Councilmember Presley reported that the Lone Ranger event at Texas State Railroad was very successful. He advised that overall numbers are down a little as expected.

Councilmember Yelverton commented that the La Quinta Inn is having good crowds, and does not appear to be taking away from other motels.

Councilmember Baird reported that National Night Out has been changed to October.

At 7:28 PM, Mayor Salter announced that Council was going into a Closed Session, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 to discuss personnel.

CLOSED SESSION

Discuss and Conduct Annual City Manager Performance Evaluation

RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

At 8:49 PM, Mayor Salter reconvened the Council into open session.

Take any action necessary resulting from Closed Session relative to Annual City Manager Performance Evaluation


No action was taken on this item.

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Councilmember Chivers to adjourn at 8:49 PM. Upon vote, motion passed unanimously.


CAROLYN SALTER, MAYOR

ATTEST:


JANELLE WILLIAMS, CITY SECRETARY