

**MINUTES
CITY OF AMES
304 MARTIN DR. – AMES, TEXAS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 11, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

The City Council for the City of Ames, Texas held a meeting at the Ames City Hall at 6:05 p.m. Mayor Barbara Domain called the meeting to order at that time. Councilman Michael Trahan led the prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Domain conducted the roll call, at this time the members of the City Council who were present were: Mayor Barbara Domain, Michael Trahan II, Elizabeth (Liz) Hardy, and Councilwoman Audrey Harrison. Councilman Eddie White arrived late at 6:07 p.m. and Alfred Freeman Jr. arrived late at 6:15 p.m.

CITIZEN APPEARANCE

Mayor Domain asked if there were any citizens present who would like to speak to the council.

- There were no citizens present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JUNE 10, 2024 REGULAR MEETING

The council took a few minutes to look over the minutes. There was no discussion. Mayor Domain asked if she could have a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

**Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan
Seconded by: Councilwoman Elizabeth “Liz” Hardy
All in favor: 3 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

1. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE 5% RATE INCREASE OF THE PINEYWOODS TRASH SERVICE.

Mayor Domain explained that effective August 1, 2024, that Live Oaks Sanitation will be increasing their rates from \$14.63 to \$15.36, which is a 5% increase. Councilwoman Harrison asked if we had received bids from other trash services. Mayor Domain stated that we did get other bids, and that those bids came in higher than Live Oaks Sanitation, even with the increase. Marivious Allen stated for clarification that the increase is for the rate that the city pays. It is not an increase for the customers. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

**Motion to made by: Councilman Michael Trahan II
Seconded by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison
All in favor: 3 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

2. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE CHEMICAL SPILL RESPONSE TRAINING FOR THE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$160 PER EMPLOYEE FOR A TOTAL OF \$480.00.

Mayor Domain explained that she received a letter from Sigma Consulting and Training stating that OSHA will start charging a fine of \$47,000 for a city wastewater plant that processes any sewer and does not have the necessary training. The training will be in Conroe on July 17, 2024. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth “Liz” Hardy
Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr.
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

3. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICAL TRAINING FOR COUNCILMAN ALFRED FREEMAN JR. FOR A TOTAL OF \$669.00.

Mayor Domain asked for a motion. There was no discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan II
Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

4. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2024-002 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF AMES, TEXAS, APPOINTING DIRECTORS, AND OFFICERS, TO THE AMES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Mayor Domain explained that she received a letter from Sigma Consulting and Training stating that OSHA will start charging a fine of \$47,000 for a city wastewater plant that treats any sewer without the necessary training. The training will be in Conroe on July 17, 2024. Mayor Domain asked if she could have a motion. There was no discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth “Liz” Hardy
Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr.
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

5. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICAL TRAINING FOR COUNCILMAN ALFRED FREEMAN JR. FOR A TOTAL OF \$669.00.

Mayor Domain asked if she could have a motion. There was no discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth “Liz” Hardy
Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr.
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

6. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE NEW CLERKS SEMINAR TRAINING FOR JENNIFER PURNELL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$350.00.

Mayor Domain mentioned we need new clerk training for Jennifer Purnell to make sure she is approved by the state. Mayor Domain asked if she could have a motion. There was no discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan
Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

7. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A 2024 DODGE RAM 3500 CREW CAB TRUCK FOR \$12,047.34 ANNUALLY FOR 6 YEARS?

Mayor Domain explained that the city has some very old trucks and are breaking down severely. To tow the new equipment, we need new trucks. Found a cheaper truck at South Ford in Pasadena, she also mentioned the annual payment would be paid once a year. Mayor Domain asked if she could have a motion. There was no discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan
Seconded by: Councilman Al Freeman
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

8. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A UTILITY TRAILER TO TRANSPORT THE LAWNMOWER AND OTHER MATERIALS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,699.99

Mayor Domain explained that we need to get another trailer to transport the lawnmowers and weed eaters and transport other equipment and material around the city. Mayor Domain asked if she could have a motion to postpone. A motion was made to postpone. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan
Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

9. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL AUDITS FOR 2020, 2021, AND 2022 PROVIDED BY BRUNO AND TERVALON CPA.

Mayor Domain explained that she sent over the last audit from Bruno and Tervalon to everyone to review and if the Council had any questions to give her a call. She decided to postpone this item until next month to make sure all on the council has had an opportunity to read it. A motion was made to postpone. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan

Seconded by: Councilwoman Liz Hardy

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

10. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH TML FOR CYBER LIABILITY AND DATA BREACH RESPONSE COVERAGE.

Mayor Domain stated that TML sends out this letter regarding any cyber breach for liability and that an interlocal agreement needs to be signed. A motion to table was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman

Seconded by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Domain explained that the city is currently set to meet with FEMA regarding roof damage, some places where the road was washed out; there is damage to Erwin's office, and problems at one lift station. She also mentioned a new name for the second sub will be changed to Hidden Meadows. The city hopes to put signs at Ames Wood Subdivision, Bakers Subdivision and Hidden Meadows. She is also planning to put signs on the east and west side of Ames, on Hwy. 90, that says "Welcome to Ames".

After Beryl, the city went out to pick up limbs. We are planning to get a chipper to mulch the limbs and wood and offer the mulch to the citizens.

TX Dot is working along FM 160 North extending the shoulder, two feet on each side for the next few weeks extending down to 770 and will not be extending FM 160 South. TDEM is going to help the city replace older culverts.

Mayor Domain reached out to the state representative regarding culverts under the railroad tracks. Other city's culverts are being updated except for the City of Ames. She is going to reach out to the railroad commission for more answers.

Councilwoman Harrison wanted to know about the circus coming to Ames. Mayor Domain mentioned that there is going to be a circus on Mr. Ross Smith's property. The host of the circus picked up his permits. All his paperwork was in order.

Executive Session:

Mayor Doman stated that it is now 7:07 PM and the city council reserves the right to meet in a closed session on any agenda item should the need arise if applicable pursuant to authorization by Title 5 Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Mayor Domain made a motion to return from closed sessions at 7:25 p.m.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Audry Harrison

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

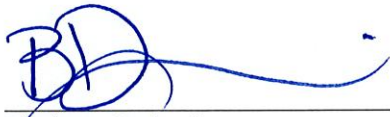
12. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Domain asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 PM.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Elizabeth "Liz" Hardy

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0



Barbara Domain
Mayor



Wellona Godfrey
City Secretary