

MINUTES
FRITCH CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2016
CITY ANNEX 509 W. BROADWAY FRITCH, TEXAS
7:00 P.M.

- 1. Call to order.** Meeting called to order by Mayor Henderson at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers present: Denise Campbell, Richard Hein, Arlin Audrain and Dwight Kirksey. Employees present: Abby White, Steve McKay, Cody Bengé, Monte Leggett, Ed Adamson and Cindy Cook.
- 2. Invocation – pledge of allegiance.** Prayer given by Councilmember Audrain. Pledge led by Tara Huff of the Eagle Press.
- 3. Presentation of commendations by the Police Department.** Chief Monte Leggett presented a commendation for going above and beyond the call of duty to Lowe’s Store Manager, Kevin Keener for his assistance in the arrest of a suspect passing off a stolen check. The Assistant store manager, Randy Rhodes, helped Mr. Keener tackle the suspect.
- 4. Recognize visitors – Mayor Kelly Henderson.**
- 5. Open forum.** James Campsey - spoke to the Council concerning the number of grain trucks that come into town at this time of year. He was concerned that many of these trucks do not slow down and with the size and weight of the trucks, if they had to stop because of another car or a child, they would not be able to stop. He encouraged the police department to pay attention to these trucks. Diane Hartweg – spoke to the council concerning a drug house located near her home. She said her fiancé was stopped by an individual wanting to make a drug deal. She informed the Council that she had a riding lawnmower parked way up in her yard that was stolen. She has spent \$5000 for a fence and \$500 for a video camera alarm system. She said this is very important that the police department has the necessary funding in order to stop the drug activity. She also reported that Hollis repair was broke into and a truck with all its tools stolen. Ms. Hartweg said that her and her neighbor are planning to be part of the neighborhood watch program.
- 6. New business:**
 - A. Approve minutes of the following meetings: August 23, 2016, August 30, 2016 and September 8, 2016.** Motion made by Councilmember Kirksey to accept the minutes of August 23, 2016, August 30, 2016 and September 8, 2016 as presented. Second made by Councilmember Gutierrez. Vote 5/0.
 - B. Discuss and take action on accounts payable.** Mayor Pro Tem Hein made the motion to accept the accounts payable. Second made by Councilmember Campbell. Vote 5/0.
 - C. Discuss and take action on casting vote for Board of Trustees TML Region 2.** Motion made by Councilmember Kirksey to cast a vote for Eddie Edwards for the Board of Trustees TML Region 2. Second made by Mayor Pro Tem Hein. Vote 5/0.
 - D. Discuss and take action on rumble strips for Eagle Boulevard and Hoyne School Zones.** The school system will purchase the rumble strips and the city maintenance crew will install and maintain them. Councilmember Audrain made the motion to enter into an agreement with the school district on rumble strips. Second made by Councilmember Gutierrez. Vote 4/1. Mayor Pro Tem Hein abstained since he is a school district employee.
 - E. Discuss and take action on property, owned by the City of Fritch, at 222 Cozart Lane – Lake Meredith Harbor.** This item was tabled.
 - F. Discuss and take action to pay additional funds to the Bank of New York Mellon for 2003 bond.** Bank of New York Mellon had contacted the city that the August 2015 payment was short by \$32,904.51. City Manager McKay assured the Council that we had enough money in the 2003 Debt bank account to cover the bill. Councilmember Campbell made the motion to pay additional funds to the Bank of New York Mellon for 2003 bond. Second made by Councilmember Audrain. Vote 5/0.
 - G. Discuss and take action to approve new appointment, Linda Beam, to Fritch EDC board.** Kendall Glover said Linda Beam is the director of meals on wheels and has been heavily involved in city activities in other cities she has lived. Councilmember Kirksey said he is highly impressed with her and Councilmember Gutierrez also said he his impressed with her. Councilmember Kirksey made the motion to approve the appointment of Linda Beam to the Fritch EDC board. Second made by Councilmember Gutierrez. Vote 5/0.
 - H. Discuss and take action to pay Fritch EDC.** Previous administration had mishandled money due to the Fritch EDC. The city auditor had calculated that \$15,214 was due to the EDC. Kendall Glover, with the EDC, reported that

their figures showed \$34, 810.59. City Manager McKay recommended that we pay only the amount calculated by the auditor. Motion made by Councilmember Kirksey to pay \$15,214 to Fritch EDC. Second made by Councilmember Campbell. Vote 5/0.

- I. **Discuss and take action to pay IRS penalty for 2011 W-2's.** Manager McKay said the IRS had researched for a few months on our request to have the penalty abated but they had finally ruled that the City owed the money. Councilmember Campbell recommended that we call IRS to see if there are any other items on the City's account that we might owe on. Motion made by Councilmember Kirksey to pay the IRS penalty for 2011 W-2's in the amount of \$20,814.97. Second made by Councilmember Audrain. Vote 5/0.

J. **Discuss and take action on budget amendments for FY 2015-2016.** This item was tabled until next meeting.

7. **Executive Session: The City Council will convene into closed session in accordance with Texas Government Code Subchapter D, Section 551.074 – Personnel Matters.** Council went into executive session at 7:41 p.m. Manager McKay was asked to come into the executive session at 9:15 p.m. At 9:18 p.m., Manager McKay came out and informed the audience that his employment had been terminated.

8. **Reconvene into open session.** Council reconvened into open session at 9:19 p.m. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Hein to terminate the employment of City Manager Steve McKay. Second was made by Councilmember Audrain.

Vote 4/1. Councilmember Gutierrez voted against the termination. Mayor Pro Tem Hein also made the motion to appoint Councilmember Kirksey as the interim city manager until PRPC can be contacted. Second made by Councilmember Audrain. Vote 4/1. Councilmember Kirksey abstained from the vote.

9. **City officers' reports.**

A. **Report from City Manager.** City Secretary Cook informed the Council that the Auditors are coming in November.

B. **Report from Chief of Police.** Council reviewed the dispatch report provided by Chief Leggett.

C. **Report from Public Works Director.** Director Bengé had to leave because of a sick livestock animal. No report provided.

D. **Report from Fire Chief.** Chief Ed Adamson reported that 14 runs had been made during the month of August. Two runs made in Carson County, three inside city limits, eight in Hutchinson County and 1 in Potter County. This is the end of the fiscal year. It has been almost a year since Chief Adamson took office. He praised his people saying they had done an excellent job. We are drawing up a plan for where we want to go for the year. We have had a total of 204 runs for the year. 18% were in the city limits. 63.7% were out in Hutchinson County. Other 2% were in the other counties. A year ago, there were 17 volunteers. Now there are 25. We have had 4014 hours volunteered at the fire station or on calls. We're expecting a high fire danger when things dry out. We are working on the community wide protection plan. Chief Adamson is talking with the area ranchers. He said the Deahl ranch has already stepped up. The Fire Department will be putting in burn lines and barriers to help protect the city. Chief Adamson talked with the Council about becoming a fire wise city. He said Borger is the only fire wise city in the Panhandle. It would take a commitment by council, the fire department and the citizens of Fritch. You have to have several things to be a fire wise city which includes a community wide plan, clean up fire hazards and an education program with the school children. We are looking forward to another year.

E. **E.D.C. Report.** The EDC brought a picture showing where the disc golf course will be at the park.

F. **Crime Control Report.** No report.

Council asked Museum Director Abby White to give a report. Ms. White informed the Council that she would be making a speech at Leadership Borger at the Hutchinson County Museum on September 21, 2016. She also said she would be shadowing the director from Panhandle Museum as she gives a trunk show in White Deer. Next big event for Fritch Museum will be the Christmas Bazaar.

10. **Mayoral/councilmember announcements.**

11. **Future agenda items.** Next Council meeting will be Monday, September 26, 2016 to do budget amendments for current FY 2015 – 2016.

12. **Adjourn.** Motion to adjourn made by Councilmember Audrain. Second made by Mayor Pro Tem Hein. Vote 5/0.

READ, PASSED AND APPROVED on this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Mayor W. Kelly Henderson

Cindy Cook, City Secretary