

MINUTES
FRITCH CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY MAY 17, 2016
CITY ANNEX 509 W. BROADWAY FRITCH, TEXAS
7:00 P.M.

- 1. Call to order.** Mayor W. Kelly Henderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council members present: Arlin Audrain, Denise Campbell, Richard Hein and new Council member Dwight Kirksey. Arturo Gutierrez was absent. City Employees present: Steve McKay, Cindy Cook, Cody Benge, Monte Leggett, Ed Adamson, Abby White.
- 2. Invocation – pledge of allegiance.** Invocation led by Council Member Audrain. Pledge of Allegiance led by City Manager Steve McKay.
- 3. Presentation of certificates of election, statement and oath of office.** City Secretary Cindy Cook presented certificates of election, statement of officer and oath of office documents to W. Kelly Henderson, Richard Hein and Dwight Kirksey.
- 4. Recognize new council members and visitors – Mayor Kelly Henderson.** Mayor Henderson told new Council member Dwight Kirksey, “Congratulations and my condolences!” Mayor told returning Council member Hein that he had enjoyed the past two years and looked forward to the next two.
- 5. Open forum.** Museum Director Abby White made a formal invitation to the Council and those in attendance to attend the Council of the Red River War. This is a gathering which began about twelve years ago that educates about the Red River War which started in our county at Adobe Walls. Quannah Parker’s family will offer the Indian blessing for the event. This event will take place in Historic Old Mobeetie Texas on June 26 and June 27. Barbara Vaughn of 511 Wagon Wheel informed the Council that she continued to have faith that the Lord will give you wisdom to solve our water problems. She asked two questions. 1) What is happening with the retrofitting or updating of the wells and combining water system? Mayor responded that the wells have been tested and we have the potential to double or triple our production. The pumps need to be lowered past the static lines. The wells were tested at 400 gallons a minute. We will look to test at 600 and 800. 2) I have a senior citizen friend whose water was turned off but she continues to receive a bill for \$50 a month even though she has no service. Ms. Vaughn was told to have this person come to City Hall to have the matter taken care of.
- 6. New business:**
 - A. Discuss and take action on appointing Mayor Pro Tem.** Nominations: Council member Arlin Audrain nominated by Council member Campbell and Council member Richard Hein nominated by Council member Arlin Audrain. Vote: 2 for Audrain and 2 for Hein. Mayor broke the tie by saying since Council member Audrain had filled the Mayor Pro Tem position for the last two years that he would vote for Council member Hein giving him the opportunity. Vote Hein – 3 Audrain – 2.
 - B. Approve minutes of the following meetings: April 19, 2016.** Council member Kirksey made a motion to approve the minutes of April 19, 2016 as read. Second made by Council member Audrain. Vote 4/0.
 - C. Discuss and take action on accounts payable.** Mayor Pro Tem Hein made a motion to approve the accounts payable as presented. Second made by Council member Campbell. Vote 4/0.
 - D. Discuss and take action on presentation from Plains Internet about accessing City’s tower.** Robert Prothero spoke to the Council about the possibility of renting space on the water tower. This is a wireless internet company in Amarillo, Dumas, Etter, Cactus, Sunray, Plainview, Hart, Nazareth, Olton, Panhandle, White Deer, Skellytown, Borger and Fritch. Mr. Prothero said they had been receiving calls from Fritch for several years and if they had access to the water tower they would be able to reach 200 – 300 more customers. Plains Internet is a direct competitor of Windstream and Cable One. Mr. Prothero said they are the only internet company offering 60 day money back guarantee. Plains Internet is proposing giving the City offices free internet in exchange for space on the tower or they could do a franchise fee. This item was tabled. No action taken.
 - E. Discuss and take action on bid for Lots four (4) thru eight (8), in Block twenty-nine (29), of Canadian River Park, Unit 4, an Addition to the City of Fritch, Hutchinson County, Texas in the amount of \$1,000.00 by Perry and Kevelyn Dyer.** Council discussed the amount being offered as opposed to the appraised value of the lots. It was stated that these lots have been off of the tax roll since August 13, 2004. It was noted that being back on the tax roll was very important. Mayor Pro Tem Hein made the motion to approve the bid for Lots four (4) thru eight (8), in Block twenty-nine (29), of Canadian River Park, Unit 4, an Addition to the City of Fritch, Hutchinson County, Texas in the amount of \$1,000.00 by Perry and Kevelyn Dyer. Second made by Council Member Kirksey. Vote 4/0.

- F. Discuss and take action on new prosecutor for court matters.** Misty Walker is an attorney with over 15 years of experience. She was the Wheeler County Attorney from January 2005 to December 2012. The Council was given an information sheet on Ms. Walker's experience. Mayor Pro Tem Hein asked if we have a current prosecutor. He was told yes but she is very rarely available to assist with our Municipal Court matters. Ms. Walker said since she has no boss to answer to, she would be available to assist us. Council member Kirksey asked if we were considering Ms. Walker to be the City Attorney and is it a bad idea to open up to the community that we are looking for an attorney? City Manager McKay said he had never done that. We currently use Daren Brown as the City attorney but Fritch is Mr. Brown's last City. Chief Leggett said that our court is backed up with citations wanting to go to docket. It has been over a year since we held docket. Our other prosecutor simply does not have time. We should be going to docket every quarter. Ms. Walker is the only one who has expressed interest in working within our current fee structure. Council member Campbell made the motion to approve Misty Walker as the new prosecutor for court matters. Second made by Council member Audrain. Vote 4/0.
- G. Discuss and take action on Resolution 2016-4 casting a vote to elect directors for Moore County Appraisal District for the years of 2016-2017.** The City of Fritch has one vote out of a total of 5001 votes that may be cast to elect directors for Moore County Appraisal District. The candidates are Chris Johnson, Deana Houlette, Leighton Stovall and Donna Barbour. Council member Audrain made the motion to cast the City's one vote for Deana Houlette. Second made by Mayor Pro Tem Hein. Vote 4/0.
- H. Discuss and take action to close Canadian Street—from Eagle Boulevard to Nara Visa Lane--due to drainage interference.** This is a dirt road that has very little traffic. When it rains, people like to take their four wheelers on it. Chief Leggett said he had one person that had turned over when they went mudding on this road. Recently, TXDOT had reworked the road for us to help keep water off of the highway. Council member Kirksey made a motion to temporarily close Canadian Street—from Eagle Boulevard to Nara Visa Lane--due to drainage interference and public safety. Second made by Council member Campbell. Vote 4/0.
- I. Discuss and take action on adding Public Works Director Cody Bengé to signature card for Amarillo National Bank.** Council asked how many were able to sign the checks at this time: Cindy Cook, Monte Leggett, Emily West, Steve McKay and Mayor Henderson. Is Mr. Bengé bonded: No. Mayor Pro Tem Hein stated he would like to limit the number of people able to sign checks because of past experience. Mayor Henderson stated that this is not a trust issue but our citizens need security. Council member Audrain said he would like for Mr. Bengé to be bonded. Council member Kirksey said it is good business to limit the number of check signers. This item was tabled.
- J. Discuss and take action on closing 200 block of North Robey Avenue on June 18, 2016 for Museum celebration.** There will be vendors and a street dance for the Museum celebration. We have closed this section of the road before for the Christmas gala and for the street dance. Mayor Pro Tem Hein made the motion to close the 200 block of North Robey Avenue on June 18, 2016 for Museum celebration. Second made by Council member Kirksey. Vote 4/0.
- K. Discuss and take action on Proclamation of Lake Meredith Aquatic and Wildlife Museum Day.** Mayor W. Kelly Henderson read the Proclamation designating June 18, 2016 as the Lake Meredith Aquatic and Wildlife Museum Day.
- 7. City officers' reports.**
- A. Report from City Manager.** Manager McKay informed the Council that there will be a newly elected official's class on July 28 and 29 in Granbury. This used to be a four day class that they have condensed to one and a half. The registration fee is \$125 if registered before July 14. We will be looking at the NIMS classes again. All elected officials must have some of these classes and anyone who would deal directly with FEMA will need all of the classes. On the bond payments, we will need \$382,750 in order to pay the August payments and the promissory note. By October 1, we should owe only the February and August payments. Sales tax for this month broke a new record with \$30,785.93. Mayor Pro Tem Hein asked about the contractor who was supposed to come and work on the roads. Manager McKay said he would contact him to see if he forgot about us. He is in high demand. Council Member Kirksey asked if had bids for repairing the roofs on City Hall, the Annex and Museum/PD buildings. He also stated that because water had leaked onto some of the electronic equipment in City Hall, that the computers were unable to access the Network. Which building is in need of repair first? Manager McKay stated that if we could move our electronic equipment to the server room away from the leak then it would be more important to repair the wall in the Museum/PD building. We will try to get three quotes for these repairs.

- B. Report from Chief of Police.** Council reviewed the police report and had no questions for Chief Leggett.
- C. Report from Public Works Director.** Director Bengé informed the Council that we will not have to re-drill any of the wells. It is possible that the water production could be as much as 800 gallons a minute. Manager McKay said we need to invest in some 60 – 65 KW generators. Council member Audrain said he had been hearing stories that are circulating on FaceBook about phenomenally high water bills. Do we check out these bills before we send them out? Director Bengé said the usage should be confirmed at the time of reading. Manager McKay said by law we don't have to. I have never called someone and told them we suspect a leak without that person going ballistic. Director Bengé said when we re-read the meter we usually take the customer to physically see the reading. Council member Kirksey asked if most repairs are done outside of the City. Answer: 70 - 75% of the repairs are outside of the City.
- D. Report from Fire Chief.** Chief Adamson reported that the number of runs had dropped considerably since last month because of the moisture. The bad thing about the moisture is the vegetation will grow knee high to a giraffe. Our members are working on repairs to the vehicles instead of us having to send them to a garage. Hopefully our runs will be less this month. Please keep the vegetation cut by your house and fences. Keep a fire Barrier. We are looking at community wide protection by having a plan with the area land owners and ranchers where we would have permission to cut a fire barrier around the town. Currently, all burn bans have been lifted.
- E. E.D.C. Report.** No report.
- F. Crime Control Report.** Dwight Kirksey said with the increase in sales tax, the Crime Control had accumulated quite a bit of funds. He said at the last meeting, while he was absent, that there were some discussion about things that were not proper. He is re-educating the board about what can be discussed during the meetings. If it happens again, Council member Kirksey said he would ask the council to vote to disband the Crime Control. He also reported that James Qualls with the Hutchinson County Sheriff's Department is the main coordinator of the Neighborhood Watch.
- 8. Mayoral/councilmember announcements.** June 21st is the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- 9. Future agenda items.** Proposals for the roof work. Possibly have Engineer Dwight Brandt come to discuss future projects.
- 10. Adjourn.** Council member Audrain made a motion to adjourn. Second made by Council member Campbell. Vote 4/0.

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

Mayor W. Kelly Henderson

Cindy Cook, City Secretary