

City of Blooming Grove
Council Minutes
July 1, 2024

The City Council of the City of Blooming Grove held its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, July 1, 2024, at City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Ashley Mahone.

Members present were Mayor Ashley Mahone, Council Members Bill Carroll, Renee Watson, James Jones, Haley Ehly, Sarah Southard, City Secretary Sharon Settlemyer, Utility Superintendent Rory Evans, Assistant Utility Superintendent Chris Bird, Police Chief T.C. Lawhon and Officer Russell.

Haley Ehly handled the invocation after the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes -

Renee Watson made a motion and Haley Ehly seconded to approve the minutes for the May 10, June 3 and June 11, 2024, meetings. Motion carried.

Visitors –

Bill Gowan, Stephanie Gowan, Paula Southard and Peyton Southard.

Open Forum –

Stephanie Gowan explained to the council that they are beginning to work on the house at 609 N Fordyce again. Bill stated the rain had delayed everything since it was leveled.

Public Hearing-Zoning Change: Mayor Mahone opened the public hearing for a zoning change from residential to commercial for Block 12, Lot 7R. There were no comments. Mayor Mahone closed the public hearing.

Department Reports –

Administration- Sharon Settlemyer, City Secretary stated the water bills printed without problems this month. Everything else is working fine and very busy

Public Safety – Chief T.C. Lawhon reported that Juan has been approved to start work. The camera is in for the new car, the radar is shipping on the 3rd and then he will take to Mike Davis for installation. Code enforcement letters were sent out. There was a post on Facebook about tall grass. This is required every year, then if someone isn't taking care of their yard a letter is sent, then a citation. The ditches are part of the property, so everyone needs to be mowing the ditches. He has been trying to reach the owners of the property on Forgey. Mayor Mahone explained that Ruby's truck is in the shop, so she has offered to pick her up so she can mow that property. Mayor Mahone stated there have been complaints about dogs on Pecan. Chief Lawhon stated Mr. Bell was bitten by a dog, and the owner will be issued a citation. Renee Watson stated there is a cat problem, and some of the animals are diseased. Mayor Mahone is trying to get a spay/neuter clinic to come to town.

Public Works – Public Works Superintendent Rory Evans reported that there was a big leak in Dresden and that Navarro Mills had helped get it repaired. There was an interconnection made at the water tower, so when the tower is out of service the city will still have water. It will be very low pressure and no outside watering can be done. Bill Carroll inquired about street paving. Rory stated he had called and is waiting for a return call. United Rentals is getting equipment together to work

on Atkinson. The surveyor hasn't returned his call, and he thinks he's playing catch up due to the rain.

New Business Voting Items-

Haley Ehly made the motion, and Renee Watson seconded the motion to approve the zoning change from residential to commercial for Block 12, Lot 7R. Motion Carried

Haley Ehly made the motion and Sarah Southard seconded the approval of the site plan for 104 E Forgey. Motion Carried.

Renee Watson made the motion and Haley Ehly seconded the approval of the preliminary building plan for 104 E Forgey. Motion Carried.

Bill Carroll made the motion and Renee Watson seconded the approval of Ordinance #387 Adjusting Water Fees for After Hours Reconnect to \$60 and Return Check Fees to \$35. Motion Carried.

Renee Watson made the motion and Sarah Southard seconded the approval of FY23 Audit. Motion Carried.

Purchase of land next to Dresden pump station was tabled.

Renee Watson made the motion and Haley Ehly seconded the approval of bid from J&C Trailers for \$8,125. Motion Carried.

Renee Watson made the motion and Sarah Southard seconded the approval of TML Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Interlocal Agreement. Motion Carried.

Bill Carroll made the motion and Renee Watson seconded the approval of HRA Plan through TML Health for \$125 per employee. Motion carried.

Bill Carroll made the motion and Renee Watson seconded the approval of amending storm and wind damage pickup to when the public works director calls following each event. Motion carried.

Discussion Items –

Mayor Mahone discussed the mural for historical society building. She stated that according to the Code Book, Section 3.06.026 wall paintings that do not advertise do not require a permit. The mural will cost almost \$10,000 and will be a tribute to Sonny James.

Mayor Mahone explained there will need to be a budget workshop in August. August 13 at 6:00 is a tentative date.

Renee Watson made a motion and Sarah Southard seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Ashley Mahone

Attest:

City Secretary Sharon Settlemyer