

City of Blooming Grove

Council Minutes

August 5, 2024

The City Council of the City of Blooming Grove held its regular scheduled meeting on Monday, August 5, 2024, at City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 6:34 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 and Police Chief T.C. Lawhon.

Haley Ehly handled the invocation after the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes -

Haley Ehly made a motion and Sarah Southard seconded to approve the minutes for the July meetings. Motion carried.

Visitors –

Emilie Parten (NavCo Chronicle), Marlene Ferrell, Kent Ferrell, Nancy Aldridge, Heather Johnson and Pastor Robert Uzzel.

Department Reports –

Administration- Sharon Settlemyer, City Secretary stated the water bills printed without problems this month. It has been busy working with Ashley on the budget. Deena has been cleaning since things are slow for the court. There have been a lot of papers destroyed that the city does not need to keep anymore.

Public Safety – Chief T.C. Lawhon reported that court was held last Wednesday and Juan stood in for him because he was doing mandatory training for the hospital. The new radar is not working and will have to be replaced. He talked to Action Sign, and they are supposed to get him a quote on the striping. Sarah asked what days the officers were working. The Chief stated that he works when he is off. Juan is going to start working nights because it is slow during the day. Tommy works on Saturdays, but he will not be working the next two due to his other job. Sarah stated that people had approached her about the gravel trucks speeding on the main street, and that there needed to be a police presence. The Chief stated he has sat on Fordyce and no trucks have been speeding, but once they see him, they drive the speed limit. When school starts, the Chief plans to be here more. Ashley stated she had spoken with Chief about getting signs that say “this is your speed”. The Chief stated they will have to be on a trailer, because TXDoT does not allow permanent signs.

Public Works – Public Works Superintendent Rory Evans reported that there has been work on Atkinson and he is hoping to get culvert put in and be finished this week. All leaks have been repaired on the transmission lines. The electrical panel for Clark Street was delivered, but Dustin needs a helper, so if anyone knows someone who would like a job. They have been doing a lot of mowing. Bill Carroll asked about the electric bill at the Dresden pump station. He stated that in the past if the bill was high, it was because the pumps were not cutting off. The pumps need to be checked. Sharon asked if that could have been caused by the big leak past the pump station.

New Business Voting Items-

Renee Watson made the motion, and Bubba Jones seconded the motion to approve Ordinance #388 changing the school zone time to end at 4:30 p.m. Motion Carried

Renee Watson made the motion and Haley Ehly seconded the approval of the variance for Heather Johnson. Motion Carried.

Bill Carroll made the motion and Sarah Southard seconded the approval of Resolution #814 Adopting the Navarro County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion Carried.

Renee Watson made the motion and Haley Ehly seconded the approval of Resolution #815 Designating NavCo Chronicle as the official newspaper. Motion Carried.

Bill Carroll made the motion and Renee Watson seconded the approval of PFIA Quarterly Report. Motion Carried.

Discussion Items –

Mayor Mahone discussed the need to change the September meeting date due to the holiday. The date will be September 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Mahone discussed a community garage sale. She stated that Barry is having a sale on October 4, 5 and 6th. They will advertise for us. Blooming Grove will have the sale on Friday and Saturday only. Permits may be purchased at city hall, and a map will be given out of the locations.

The budget workshop included questions on some line items and the need to send out an updated proposed budget via email.

Sarah Southard made a motion and Renee Watson seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Mayor Ashley Mahone

Attest:

City Secretary Sharon Settlemyer