

MINUTES OF A REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 13, 2021- 6:00 P.M.
CITY AUDITORIUM IN THE RUHMAN C. FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
303 W. MAIN ST., KENEDY, TX. 78119

MEMBERS PRESENT: JOE BAKER (MAYOR), CINDY SAENZ (DISTRICT 1), JOHN RODRIQUEZ (DISTRICT 2), BRANDON BRIONES (DISTRICT 3), JAMES DOUGLAS (DISTRICT 4), LESLIE WYNN (DISTRICT 5)
CITY PRESENT: WILLIAM LINN (CITY MANAGER), JUDY MURPHY, RICHARD ASHE (POLICE CHIEF), JERRY HIGGINS (DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS)

1. Call Regular City Council meeting to order.

Mayor Joe Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. Roll Call and establish a quorum is present.

All councilors were present. Mayor Baker declared a quorum.

3. Prayer.

4. Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Citizen Comment.

Chris Davis with Waste Connections from Seguin introduced himself and noted he is the City's contact person with any issues regarding garbage pickup.

6. Departmental Reports.

Public Works Director Report- Jerry Higgins reported who is the head of the divisions in his staff. He mentioned Mark Garcia is over the sewer operations, Joe Hernandez, III supervises parks and streets, and Hector Salinas is responsible for the RO plant. He also stated the certifications that each of them held. Various projects were discussed like the Graham Road water line, Loma Vista pressure issues; Sewer line extensions, Building C construction at the sports complex. Councilor Saenz inquired about the names of the various ball fields if their names would be retained. She also asked if all the water meters were now changed out. Mayor Baker asked about the pile of rubble at Escondido Parkway. Councilor Rodriguez asked about the open gates at the sewer plant to see if that issue was addressed. It was mentioned the City needs to place something on the City's website listing a phone number for reporting leaks.

Police Chief Report- Chief Ashe mentioned the police department received a \$4,500 grant from Conoco Phillips. The funds were used to purchase a new drone, new exercise equipment, etc. He stated arrests were running above average especially drug arrests. Councilor Briones inquired about large trucks going through downtown. Councilor Saenz asked about stray dogs being picked up. Councilor Douglas asked about the cameras at Escondido Parkway.

7. City Manager Report.

Department Reports - Mr. Linn addressed the vacant City Secretary position. He said there were seven applicants which had telephonic interviews. Four applicants agreed to a face-to-face interview. His intention was to bring two applicants for council to interview on April 22, 2021. He then gave reports for the fire department, code enforcement, and municipal court. Councilor Douglas asked about code compliance and why there were only two notices of non-compliance sent out. He stated the whole City needs to be covered with compliance letters. The necessity of a tire roundup was mentioned. Councilor Wynn said a roll off needs to be more available and open more

hours. Earth Day was mentioned. Councilor Rodriguez questioned why the brick pile on 2nd Street was still there. Next Mr. Linn gave council an update on the amount of the savings extended to citizens due to the Winter Weather Crisis. He said \$116,830 in water and sewer bills were forgiven.

Next the pending legislation, Senate Bill 10 was discussed as it pertained to lobbying issues. The bill was left pending. Mr. Linn then discussed the American Rescue Plan which had \$19 Billion allocated to the Corona Virus issues. He stated this source of revenue would cover the purchase of the emergency generators at a cost of approximately \$731,000.

Mr. Linn mentioned the City is being considered for a \$49 million Hazard Mitigation GLO grant earmarked for Hurricane Harvey Relief. The grant would require a City match of 1% or \$490,000.

An AACOG workshop will be held on May, 10, 2021 to develop a strategic plan. Mr. Linn plans to put a survey on the City website and ask citizens to fill it out and get back to Mr. Linn by 4/30/2021.

Next item the City Manager discussed was planning a grass-roots budget workshop so citizens can be directly involved in the City's budgeting process for next year.

The Weisinger Contract to dig a Carrizo Well was discussed.

Councilor Douglas stated it would be helpful to place the AACOG survey on the Chamber and School websites. Mayor Baker inquired about the Carrizo Water line pipes and well site work.

Presentation of Financials The City Manager went over financial highlights and stated he would present to council a proposed budget amendment for their April 22, 2021 meeting. He stated there were 7.4 months of reserves to cover expenditures.

8. Consent Agenda:

- a. City Council Minutes**
- b. Approve Financials**

A motion was made by Councilor Briones and seconded by Councilor Douglas to approve the minutes and financial statements. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Ordinances/Resolutions/Other Action Items:

9. **Consideration and possible action in regard to filling two (2) vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Board to serve one (1) two-year term beginning April 14, 2021 and ending April 13, 2023; appointees to be considered are: Ms. Melissa Garcia, Ms. Madison Gonzales, Mr. Alberto Baldarramos, and Mr. Frank Nieto.**

A motion was made by Councilor Rodriguez to appoint Melissa Garcia to be a member of the Park Board. The motion was seconded by Councilor Briones. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed. A motion was then made by Councilor Douglas and seconded by Councilor Briones to appoint Madison Gonzales to be a member of the Park Board. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

10. **Consideration and possible action in regard to filling two (2) vacancies on the Planning and Zoning Board to serve one (1) two-year term beginning April 14, 2021 and ending April 13,**

2023; appointees to be considered are: Mr. Jeff Freeman, Mr. Robert Trevino, Mr. Alberto Baldarramos, and Mr. Frank Nieto.

A motion was made by Councilor Briones to appoint Mr. Jeff Freeman to be a member of the Planning and Zoning Board. The motion was seconded by Councilor Saenz. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed. A motion was then made by Councilor Saenz and seconded by Councilor Rodriguez to appoint Mr. Robert Trevino to be a member of the Planning and Zoning Board. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

11. **Consideration and possible action in regard to filling two (2) vacancies on the Kenedy Economic Development board (4B) to serve one (1) two-year term beginning April 14, 2021 and ending April 13, 2023; appointees to be considered are: Ms. Cindy Saenz and Mr. Trey Hill.** A motion was made by Councilor Wynn to appoint Ms. Cindy Saenz and Mr. Trey Hill to be members of the Kenedy Economic Development Board (4B). Councilor Rodriguez seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion except Councilor Saenz who abstained from voting. The motion passed.
12. **Consider and possible action on appointing Ms. Charlotte Schulke to the Kenedy Public Library Advisory Board for a three (3) year term beginning April 14, 2021 and ending April 13, 2024.** A motion was made by Councilor Briones and seconded by Councilor Douglas to appoint Mrs. Charlotte Schulke to be a member of the Kenedy Public Library Advisory Board. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.
13. **Consider and possible action on re-advertising for Request for Qualifications for Engineering services regarding the City of Kenedy Convention Center.** Mr. Linn stated only one RFQ was received for the convention center and he was seeking direction from council. A motion was made by Councilor Wynn and seconded by Councilor Briones to advertise in the San Antonio and Corpus Christi newspapers. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.
14. **Consider and possible action in regard to declaring the old sports complex field lights as surplus and establishing a price to sell them to the City of Poth Little League.** It was stated that the cost of these lights was funded by the 4B Economic Development Corporation. A motion was made by Councilor Rodriguez and seconded by Councilor Wynn to declare the old sports complex field lights as surplus and to sell them to Poth Little League for \$1.00. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.
15. **Consider and possible action in regard to declaring 93 gaming computer boards seized during the serving of a search warrant in February 2019 as surplus and directing the Chief of Police to properly destroy and dispose of them.** Chief Ashe stated the 93 gaming computer boards were seized from a game room on 1st Street. They have been in the police department's evidence room since 2019. A motion was made by Councilor Wynn and seconded by Councilor Douglas to declare the items as surplus and directed the police chief to properly destroy and dispose of them. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.
16. **Consider and possible action in regard to Resolution 21-03 amending the City of Kenedy July 15, 2020 Adopted Personnel Policy; Section 7.04 Dress, Appearance, and Uniforms; Subsection Uniforms**
A discussion was had about City Administrative Staff wearing uniform shirts with the City's logo on it. The different types of shirt choices were discussed. A motion was made by Councilor Wynn and seconded by Councilor Douglas to approve amending Resolution 21-03 of personnel policy Section 7.04 to reflect wearing uniform shirts by City Administrative Staff. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

17. Consider and possible action in regards to establishing a date and time to conduct a workshop for the purpose of discussing items related to creating an agreement between the Kenedy Volunteer fire Department and the City of Kenedy.

A motion was made by Councilor Briones and seconded by Councilor Saenz to set the workshop date at 6:00p.m. on April 27, 2021 for the purposes of discussing and creating an agreement between the Kenedy Volunteer Fire Department and the City of Kenedy. All voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

18. Items to consider for placement on future agendas.

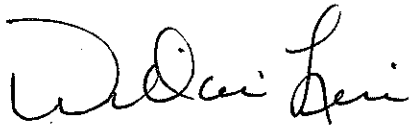
Councilor Douglas asked about an ordinance for placing items on the agenda. It was agreed that this item would be discussed after the new council members were sworn in at the May 2021 council meeting. No other action was taken on this agenda item.

19. Announcements of Community interest and/or upcoming events.

Mayor Baker announced that he hosted Coffee in the Park with the Mayor from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the 2nd Saturday of the month at the Escondido Parkway Pavilion. Approximately 8 people showed up to the event. He wanted to thank all citizens who came and City Staff for assisting with the event.

20. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 P.M.



William Linn, City Manager



Joe Baker, Mayor