

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024
7:00 P.M., CELESTE CITY HALL

Council present: C. White, K. Phillips, J. Minter, and J. Brooks in at 7:04 PM. Absent: T. LaFavers. Others present: Mayor S. Cole, Tommy Bonneville, Tevin Johnson, Juan F. Fernandez, Rickey Lewis, Andrew Holt, Bruce Chamberlain, and David Brannam.

- 1. Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. A Quorum was established.**
- 2. Open Forum- Citizens to be heard. (Limit 3 minutes per citizen).** Mr. Chamberlain wanted to thank all of the participants who helped in the search and rescue of his son during the ORV accident he experienced.
Tevin Johnson spoke regarding the requested changes to the concept plan that was submitted by Stephen Dean Homes.
Rickey Lewis introduced himself to the council and expressed his interest in the Public Works Director position.
David Brannam addressed the council members about the delayed response from the city engineers on the preliminary plat that was submitted.
- 3. City Council Comments-**K. Phillips spoke regarding the verbiage about water leak adjustments and would like to have it changed to read clearer.
- 4. Consent Agenda.**
 - A. C. White made a motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes from Tuesday, February 6, 2024, K. Phillips 2nd, all for.
 - B. Department Reports.
 - i. Police Department report Chief Joe Pell.
 - ii. Water/Sewer report Robert Collingsworth.
 - iii. Fire Department report Tommy Bonneville.
 - iv. Building Permit report.
 - C. C. White made a motion to approve the city financials, J. Minter 2nd, all for.
- 5. New Business.**
 - A. Discussion and Action: C. White made a motion to grant the setback variance for the replat of the lots 7-8 700 US 69 from 10' to 8', K. Phillips 2nd, all for.
 - B. Discussion and Action: C. White made a motion to award the fencing contract for the water tower to Holster Lawn and Fencing, J. Brooks 2nd, all for.
 - C. Discussion and Action: C. White made a motion to award the contract for the mowing at the sewer plant to Holster Lawn and Fencing at \$2,680.00 per month and at a rate of \$75.00 an hour above the contracted term. J. Brooks 2nd, all for.
 - D. Discussion and Action: C. White made a motion to table for discussion in Executive Session.
 - E. Discussion and Action: C. White made a motion to table until a contract could be drawn up, J. Brooks 2nd, all for.
 - F. Discussion and Action: K. Phillips made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-0305A, C. White 2nd, all for. K. Phillips made a motion to adopt necessary civil rights and fair housing policies associated with the City's TxCDBG Grant, J. Brooks 2nd, all for.

- G. Discussion: The City council reviewed and discussed the Section 3 presentation required for TxCDBG Contract CDV23-0090, including employment opportunities for Section 3 low-income workers, new hiring practices, contractor outreach, and tracking work hours for all CDBG grants and contracts.
- H. Discussion and Action: C. White made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-0305, J. Minter 2nd, all for.

6. Executive Session 8:19 P.M.

Executive Session – In compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Sec. 551.071. CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY; CLOSED MEETING. A governmental body may not conduct a private consultation with its attorney except when the governmental body seeks the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation; or a settlement offer; or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter.

Sec. 551.072. DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY; CLOSED MEETING. A governmental body may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.

Section 551.074 authorizes certain deliberations about officers and employees of the governmental body to be held in executive session: to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.

Return to Opens Session 8:56 P.M.:

- A. Discussion and Action on item D tabled: C. White made a motion to renew the licensed operator contract for the sewer plant with Troy Horst at a monthly rate of \$2,200.00 for 12 months with a 30-day termination clause, J. Brooks 2nd, all for.
- B. Discussion: Schedule time for interviews for the Public Works Director position.

7. C. White made a motion to adjourn 8:58 P.M., J. Brooks 2nd, all for.



Cherie Hubbard, City Secretary



Shaunna Cole, Mayor