

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING: February 3, 2015

Public Hearing:

Mayor Muska called the Public Hearing to order at 5:35 pm.

Council members that were present – Cheryl Marak, Brian Muska, Al Vanek. Steve Vanek was delayed and showed up at 5:40 pm. Jay Gerik was absent. Judy Langford with Langford Community Management Services spoke in regards to the City of West's potential submission of a 2015-2016 Community Development Block Grant. She stated West was selected in 2014 and currently is in the process of the sewer plant's inflow pipes' being replaced which is a \$275,000 project. In case West was selected to receive the 2015 grant, she said that the City engineers are currently looking at potential places for improvement in the city and that there are already a few ideas in place. She stated that water and sewer projects are the most likely to be funded. Most applicants that apply for this grant are either with cities and counties. The city's portion of the grant would be a 10% match.

Mayor Muska asked the public three times if anyone had any questions or comments. No one responded. Mayor Muska asked the council if there is a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Cheryl Marak made the motion, Al Vanek seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried to adjourn out of the public hearing at 5:45 pm.

1. Call to order: Mayor Tommy Muska called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
2. Mayor Muska gave the pledge and Steve Vanek gave the invocation.
3. Roll Call: council members that were present – Cheryl Marak, Brian Muska, Al Vanek, Steve Vanek, and Mayor Tommy Muska. Jay Gerik was absent.
4. On a motion by Steve Vanek, seconded by Al Vanek minutes for January 5, January 6, January 20, and January 27, 2015 were approved. All in favor, motion carried.
5. On a motion by Steve Vanek, seconded by Brian Muska to approve bills for January 2015. All in favor, motion carried.
6. Citizen Comments: Robert Zahirniak spoke on behalf of the History of West Museum. He has been working with Luke Wendeborn (VISTA Program) on scanning in all of the pictures that are on the Wall of Honor in the Depot. He also asked if the Museum could have the four glass display cases that are currently in the depot. Steve Soukup spoke in support of waiving the building permit fees for Sokol. He asked the council to please consider a one-time waiver to honor the Matus family since they supported Sokol so much. Georgia Hutyra spoke on behalf of the History of West Museum. She would like all of the Mayor pictures that are in the Depot to be moved to the Museum. She feels that the museum could use these pictures to create a wonderful gallery of all of those who have served in city government.
7. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: approve resolution for the submission of a 2015-2016 Community Development Block Grant to the Texas Department of Agriculture. Mayor stated that there was no objection during the public hearing. On a motion by Al Vanek, seconded by Cheryl Marak to approve the resolution submission for the 2015-2016 Community Development Block Grant. All in favor, motion carried.
8. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Sokol – Laura Berger requests to waive building permit fees. Laura called City Hall the day before and requested to be taken off of the agenda.
9. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Luke Wendeborn – potential community garden location. Luke is a VISTA leader and he would like to start a community garden. He and Mayor went scouting for locations and came up with five potential spots. Their two favorite locations are at the Community Center and also a plot by the Fire Department. Brian Muska thought that the Community Center makes the most sense; it has the most room and ample parking. Having a community garden would help with overall city beautification and it would also improve the property values in the city. We could also have a nonprofit group help run it. Luke has already spoken to the Girl Scout's and they are interested in being involved in this project. Mayor Muska said that this would also be wonderful project for the Senior Citizens. Luke stated that residents could pay a small fee for a plot to grow a crop/produce and they could sell it or use it for themselves. He is not certain on the fee cost, but ideally we would like to be able to cover the cost of water. On a motion by Steve Vanek, seconded by Brian Muska to give Luke permission at the community center to secure location for community garden including a feasibility study and gain more information to move forward. All in favor, motion carried.
10. Discussion, consideration, action, if any re: update/approval of Fire Marshall. CJ will get with Emanuel Mitchell in regards to this. Emanuel cousin is Fire Marshall in Waco and he will get more information on this subject. No action was taken.
11. Discussion, consideration, action, if any re: Ross Fire Department request donation of old West City park equipment for the Ross Community Park. Mayor Muska received a request from the City of Ross and their Fire Department they would like to have our old park equipment since they are starting their own park. This would include: four seesaws, one wooden set of swings, and one tripod held tire swing. All of this equipment is currently installed at our old city park and once the park construction begins it will be torn down anyway. Mayor spoke to our City Engineer and he recommends a waiver releasing the city of any liability from this equipment donation. On a motion by Cheryl Marak, seconded by Steve Vanek to donate the old park equipment to the City of Ross. The City of Ross will be responsible for removing the old equipment and they must sign a waiver releasing the City of West of any liability. All in favor, motion carried.

12. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: West Day at the Texas State Capitol – February 18, 2015. Closing of City Hall in observance of West Day. Every two years the City of West is honored at the Capitol for West Day. This year Dr. Smith is the physician of the day and Reverend Crowder has been asked to do the invocation at the house. Mayor stated that we will be bringing 80 dozen kolaches and the Junior Historians will be helping to pass those out. On a motion by Steve Vanek, seconded by Al Vanek to close city hall in observance of West Day on February 18. All in favor, motion carried.

13. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Renaming of Hutto Street (located next to Bold Spring's Tire and Lube). This road connects to I-35 and Mr. Louis Mynarcik has lived on the corner of that street for many years. Mayor suggested that we rename it Mynarcik St. Steve Vanek stated that since the street has never been used, he thought it was a good idea. TX Dot has plans to put in a driveway and Bold Spring will have their entrance on Hutto St. This will also help with the Fire Department so that they can have easy access. On a motion by Al Vanek, seconded by Cheryl Marak to rename Hutto St., Mynarcik St. Steve Vanek, Cheryl Mark, and Al Vanek were all in favor. Brian Muska voted no. Motion carried.

14. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Council retreat potential date and location. Mayor thought having a retreat for the council would be a good team building function as well as the perfect time to plan for the future of the city. He stated that White Bluff's in Whitney would be a good location. He suggested having it for a day and a half sometime in the Spring or early Summer. He mentioned that Suzanne Hack would be a good mediator for the meeting. Steve Vanek thought it was a great idea and he said it would be helpful to brain storm with everyone to benefit the city. Al Vanek stated that he was all for it, but not to delay too late since in June we start working on the budget. No action was taken.

15. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Potential changes to monthly council meeting times. Cheryl Marak brought up that we have no resolution with exact start time/date for monthly council meetings. Mayor said that he would have Skip work on a resolution for this making all workshops begin at 5:30 and all regular council meetings start at 6:00. Steve Vanek said to make sure that in the resolution we have stated that during certain times and circumstance the date and time may change, it needs to be on a case by case basis. No action taken.

16. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Affirm and approve the City of West membership in the McLennan County Rural Transit District. Mayor said that this program was just getting started. He said that they have around \$30 million dollars in federal government money for this project; it does not cost the city anything. McLennan County originally was with HOT COG and they broke away to have their own transit district. Right now, they just have one single stop (one driver) and you must call two days ahead of time to schedule. They then come to your house and pick you up, but you must find your own way back home. They would eventually like to offer a better service with having both a way to Waco and then a way home on a daily basis (with the last stop around 7 pm). This item was tabled until further research could be provided.

17. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Nominate an elected official as a designee to serve as a member of the governing body of the McLennan County Rural Transit District. No action since agenda item #16 was tabled.

18. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Suzanne Hack – update on LTRC. Mayor stated that Suzanne could not attend but that she would give an update at the next council meeting in March. He did say that the LTRC has an office at the PointWest bank drive-thru but they have given up the Kotch building and their warehouse.

19. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: city hall personnel and posting of clerk position. On a motion by Cheryl Marak, seconded by Al Vanek to post the clerk position on our City Website and in The West News. All in favor, motion carried.

20. Executive Session: Under the provisions of Government Code 551, the Council will meet in Executive Session to discuss:

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- 1.) *Executive Session:* A closed meeting will be held pursuant to *Section 551.074 of the Government Code (V.C.T.A.)* to address the following positions: court clerk, water clerk, and assistant city secretary.
- 2.) *Executive Session:* A closed meeting will be held pursuant to *Section 551.071 of the Government Code (V.C.T.A.)* included, but limited to, legal matters.

Council convened into Executive session at 7:14 pm and exited out at 7:57 pm.

21. Discussion, consideration, action, if any, re: Monthly Departmental Reports. On a motion by Steve Vanek, seconded by Al Vanek to approve monthly departmental reports. All in favor, motion carried.

22. Council member comments and requests for items to be placed on future agendas: Brian Muska spoke about reworking the city hall internet network. He would like the wireless to be done right and more secure. Cheryl Mark spoke about the bill approval process – would like supporting documentation.

23. On a motion by Al Vanek, seconded by Brian Muska we adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



Shelly Nors, City Secretary



Tommy Muska, Mayor