

Somerville City Council
Regular Meeting
November 14, 2017

The Somerville City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting, on November 14, 2017, at the Somerville Senior Citizens Center. Present were Mayor Ken Tharp; Alderman Don Murray, Alderwoman Kim Camarillo, Alderwoman Angelia Beene, Alderman Joel Brock and Alderman Jeff Schoppe; City Administrator Ben Griffin; City Secretary Rose Rosser; Visitor's Register - on file in the City Secretary's Office.

CALL TO ORDER

6:05 PM - The meeting was called to Order at this time by Mayor Tharp.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation was given by Alderman Murray. Pledge of Allegiance followed immediately thereafter.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

All Council Members were present at this meeting.

WATERLINE REPLACEMENT

Motion made by Alderman Murray to **approve** awarding the bid for Waterline Replacement on Highway 36 to Palasota Contracting at \$155,087.50 **Seconded** by Alderwoman Camarillo. Motion **carried** unanimously.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Viola Blazek presented a petition with 48 signatures of citizens who believe that Sherii Lynn Alexander should be reinstated to the position at the Somerville Senior Citizens Center as Director. Celeste Graham, Kay Cooper and Tina Coleman also spoke on behalf of Sherii Alexander.

Hope Reinsch presented a petition with 55 signatures of citizens who believe that Interim Police Chief Joe Brown, should be appointed to the position of Chief of Police.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Alderwoman Beene to **approve** the Minutes of the October 10, 2017 regular City Council meeting and the October 17, 2017 Special Called Council Meeting. **Seconded** by Alderman Schoppe. Motion **carried** unanimously.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Motion made by Alderwoman Beene to **approve** the monthly financial report, monthly sales tax report, quarterly mixed beverage tax report and open invoice report payments. **Seconded** by Alderman Schoppe. Motion **carried** unanimously.

WELCH PARK SUB-LEASE

Sandy Thompson representing Welch Park Enterprises addressed the Mayor and City Council in reference to the Welch Park Sub-Lease Renewal. Mike Rhodes, Linda Faust, Sherii Alexander, Eric Kline, James Patschke, David Lancaster and Dawn Kline also spoke on behalf of Welch Park Enterprises.

Motion was made by Alderman Schoppe to **table** the Welch Park Sub-Lease to Welch Park Enterprises. **Seconded** to **table** by Alderwoman Beene. Motion to **table carried** unanimously.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Tharp presented a Santaville Proclamation to Alderwoman Beene.

SANTAVILLE

Alderwoman Beene addressed Mayor and City Council on behalf of Santaville requesting \$500.00 from Hotel Motel Tax for Santaville advertising. Motion made by Alderman Murray to **approve** \$500.00 from Hotel Motel Tax Fund for Santaville Advertising. **Seconded** by Alderman Schoppe. Alderwoman Beene **abstained**. Motion **carried** with one abstention.

CHALLENGED HUNTER DEER HUNT

Paul Machemehl addressed the City Council on behalf of the Burleson County Wildlife Association requesting \$750.00 from Hotel Motel Tax Fund for Challenged Hunter Deer Hunt. Motion made by Alderman Murray to **approve** \$750.00 from Hotel Motel Tax Fund for Challenged Deer Hunt. **Seconded** by Alderwoman Camarillo. Motion **carried** unanimously.

RESOLUTION R17-014 / CDBGDR

Motion made by Alderman Schoppe to approve **Resolution R17-014**, a resolution authorizing the submission of a Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Application. **Seconded** by Alderman Brock. Motion **carried** unanimously.

PURCHASING POLICY

Motion made by Alderwoman Beene to **approve** a Purchasing Policy for the City of Somerville, Texas. **Seconded** by Alderwoman Camarillo. Motion **carried** unanimously.

SMOKING POLICY

Motion made by Alderwoman Beene to **approve** a proposed smoking policy for the City of Somerville. **Seconded** by Alderwoman Camarillo. Motion **carried** unanimously.

POLICY RESTRICTING MINORS FROM OPERATING CITY VEHICLES/EQUIPMENT

Motion made by Alderman Schoppe to **approve** a policy to restrict minors from operating city equipment or vehicles, effective immediately. It will be the City's policy that city employees and city volunteers must be 18 years old and possess a valid Texas Driver's license to operate any city equipment or vehicle whether that equipment or vehicle is owned, rented or borrowed. The City is adopting this policy to limit its liability regarding minors operating equipment. **Seconded** by Alderman Murray. Motion **carried** unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

7:02 PM - Executive Session was called to Order at this time by Mayor Tharp. For the purpose of discussing resignations submitted and the employment of the City Manager in accordance with Personnel Matters (Section 551.074, Texas Government Code). Present in executive session were Mayor Tharp, Alderwoman Camarillo, Alderwoman Beene, Alderman Schoppe, Alderman Murray, Alderman Brock and City Administrator Griffin. All others were excused from the building.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

7:35 PM - Executive Session was reconvened to open session at this time by Mayor Tharp for:

- (a) discussion and taking possible action to accept and take any necessary action as a result of any resignations submitted and to take necessary action regarding the employment of the City Manager and entering into related agreements; and (b) if needed discuss and approve entering into an agreement with Texas First Group to provide an interim City Manager. No action was taken on either of these agenda items.

POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Interim Chief Joe Brown reported on Police Department Activity for the month of October 2017 and had Officer Carlos Suazo introduce himself to Mayor and City Council.

MUNICIPAL COURT ACTIVITY REPORT

Rose Rosser reported on Municipal Court Activity for the month of October 2017.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Administrator Ben Griffin reported that Kathy Pollock was unable to attend the meeting but that she has been very busy in Code Enforcement.

MAYOR'S REPORT AND COMMENTS

Everything with the road repairs is moving right along.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

NONE

ALDERMAN'S COMMENTS

Alderman Brock thanked everyone for sharing.

Alderwoman Camarillo thanked everyone for support, compassion and respect for fellow citizens.

Alderwoman Beene said ditto and glad that everyone came out tonight.

Alderman Murray thanked and appreciates everyone.

Alderman Schoppe thanked everyone and said that Council makes decisions based on citizens comments.

ADJOURN

7:38 PM - Motion made by Alderman Schoppe to **approve** adjourning the meeting at this time. **Seconded** by Alderwoman Beene. Motion **carried** unanimously.

Passed: _____

Ken Tharp, Mayor

I, Rose Rosser, City Secretary for the City of Somerville, Texas, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the records for the City of Somerville, Texas, and that the above is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting held on November 14, 2017.

Rose Rosser, City Secretary