

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 27, 2019

A Regular Meeting was held by the Grey Forest City Council of the City of Grey Forest, Texas on August 27, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Grey Forest City Council Chambers, 18502 Scenic Loop Road, Grey Forest, Texas.

The following members present to-wit:

Mayor Phillip Howard	Council member Sean Skaggs
Council member Susan Darst	Council member Geri Poss
Council member Kimberly Verity	Council member Jennifer Nottingham

Staff Present:

Sgt. Scott Ristow	City Secretary Shannan Kinsley
Chief Rene Rodriguez	Assistant City Secretary Joni Baker

Citizen's Present:

Don Reddout
Madeline McCloskey
Kathleen McCloskey
Susan Beavin
Emory Bluhm
Lynn Tiner
Jeff English
Pat Tiner
Gigi Duke
Jorge Cantu

Call to Order – City Council Regular Session

Mayor Howard called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Opening Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States

(Mayor Howard)

Consent Agenda Items

Minutes – Consideration and/or action regarding the approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 23, 2019. Council consented to change on pg. 2, under the Grey Forest Community Board Update where it states “pool” to “Deep Springs Dam” and the 7th bullet down add “bamboo” after mulching. Madla Update, change the 2nd bullet to reflect “A Citizen promised a donation for poop station”. Pg. 4, Agenda Item No. 3, Scenic Loop Road Maintenance Plan, 5th line down, change “stripping” to “striping”. Pg. 5, 3rd paragraph, change the word “outline” to “mandate” and then add quote marks (“) around the words “guideline” and

“not allowed”. Mayor Howard recognized *Council member Verity who moved to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Council member Skaggs. The vote was unanimous with Council members Nottingham, Darst and Poss voting for and no one voting no. Motion passed.*

Hearing of Residents - None

Mayor Announcements

- Mayor Howard announced two topics.
 1. Citizen complimentary email: Compliment from citizen regarding Sgt. Ristow for helping a citizen. Public Works crew was given recognition on their work on roads during the heat of summer. City Secretary was given recognition for all her hard work. Mayor Howard sent a Thank You card stating that the workers are a dedicated team putting the City first.
 2. Water Well Repair – Replaced wiring and pump in one of the wells.

June 2019 Monthly Financials

- Continue working on payroll for employees.

Council/Staff Announcements – None

Committee Announcements/Reports – None

Grey Forest Community Board (GFCB) Update

- Madeline McCloskey announced Grey Forest Arbor Day is November 2, 2019. Preparing for Memorial trees with plaques. Will be planting small \$45.00 and large \$100.00 trees.
- Experiment started in August for Port-a-Potty placed near the Community Center and will be continued for a couple of months.
- Matt Galvan continues to clear Deep Springs Dam and bamboo.

Senator Frank L. Madla, Jr. Natural Area Update

- Council member Nottingham announced maintaining trails and watering trees once a month.
- October 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. will be hosting a Moon Viewing and Star Watching get together. Astronomer will come with a telescope.

City Events and Announcements

Thursday, October 3rd

Moon Viewing and Star Watching

Astronomer will bring telescope

Tuesday, October 8th

National Night Out

Education and Games

Saturday, November 2nd

Grey Forest Arbor Day

Plant Memorial Trees with Volunteers

Board of Adjustment Update - None

Police Department Activity Report - Announcements of July 2019 Monthly Report. Mayor Howard recognized Chief Rodriguez who provided the following announcements:

- 1060 hours worked, 4338 miles driven, 282 total calls for service, 26 Summons, 27 total stops with 6 warnings, 1 Violation of City Ordinance.
- Police Department began the follow up phone calls on the Knock & Talk Program.
- Hired Officer Randall Sanders.
- Deputy Chief Frank Francis and Chief Rodriguez are coordinating a training curriculum.
- Sgt. Elliot Rodriguez attended Code Enforcement training from June 17-21 and Passed Certification test on 08/14/2019.
- Prosecutor Darrell Dulling asked for Officers to refrain from citing large trucks traveling in either direction until completely passing the Fire Station driveway in order to demonstrate that no effort was made to turn around.
- Theft of stolen mail/checks from mailboxes in front of house. Contacted Postmaster on 08/20/2019 to discuss and bring ideas.
- Sgt. Scott Ristow announced National Night Out on October 8th at 7:00 p.m.

Public Works

- Chipping has started
- Signs will be going up on roads regarding the one course application
- Work will continue on Scenic Loop Road

GFU Utility, Operation Update

- Announcements provided by Jeff English – Completely replaced pump and piping in Well #2. Well #1 is scheduled for this fall. Well was down on Saturday only. Water continues to do well. New water tank is awesome.
- No employee turnover.
- Ahead of Budget on revenues and under budget on expense.
- Serve 800 square miles

Fire Department - Announcements of July 2019 Incident Report. Mayor Howard recognized Don Reddout who will provide the following announcements:

Total of 5 calls; 3 Medical, 1 fire prevention and 1 ruptured pipe. Average response time 3.2 minutes.

Update on new Fire Station – breaking ground next month. Contract has been signed. Still negotiating a few details. There will be a Grand Opening Ceremony.

New Business

1. **Presentation by C-6 regarding recycling trends.** Mayor Howard recognized Jorge Cantu. Jorge Cantu, owner of C-6 discussed problems that are happening with recycling. The industry has changed with single stream recycling where everything goes into one container. The idea was to get everybody involved and participation increased when recycled products could all go into one bin. Then cross contamination began occurring. China began buying raw material; it was bailed together and shipped. The United States was unaware that China was dumping, and unusable materials were ending up in rivers, streams and the ocean harming sea animals. Efforts are now underway to change the process. China no longer has a market for recycled items. Several communities are raising rates to residents because of the cost of getting rid of the product. It is getting very expensive now as they are warehousing it and trying to find buyers. Recycling facilities are wanting to renegotiate agreements and do not want to give the same previous terms. It's costing more to take products to the recycling center than to the landfill. Jorge Cantu stated C-6 will continue renegotiating the contract for recycling disposal fees. Grey Forest is a small community, but is still a portion. Nothing will change at this time, but he wanted to give Council a presentation to inform them the problems they are having in the recycle industry.

2. **Discuss and Act on Reappointment of Board members to the Grey Forest Utilities (GFU) Board of Trustees** – Mayor Howard recognized Jeff English. Jeff English stated Pat Tiner has volunteered her services for a second four-year term. Mrs. Tiner has provided an outstanding service and the Board of Trustees unanimously voted to recommend she continue her service as a member of the Trustees.

Mayor Howard recognized *Council member Nottingham who moved for reappointment of Pat Tiner for a second four-year term. The motion was seconded by Council member Verity. The vote was unanimous with Council members Darst, Skaggs and Poss voting for and no one voting no. Motion passed.*

3. **Discuss and Act on Amendment to the City Policies and Procedures regarding use of the City Marquee** – Mayor Howard recognized Shannan Kinsley. Shannan Kinsley stated the policy was sent to the City Attorney, Ryan Henry for review. The proposed amended language and recommendation is based on what Council's feedback was at the last Council Meeting. Council had a lengthy discussion.

Mayor Howard recognized *Council member Darst who made the motion to throw the whole thing out and read managed at the Mayor's discretion. The motion was Seconded by Council member Nottingham. The vote was unanimous with Council members Verity, Skaggs and Poss voting for and no one voting no. Motion passed.*

4. **Discuss and Act on Chapter 12, Article 12.05, Truck Traffic** – Mayor Howard stated the ordinance that prohibits "Truck Traffic" has no turning point on either end of the City for trucks to turn around once drivers see the sign. The prosecutor has recommended officers not ticket the trucks until they are given a chance to turn around. He's asking for a sign and place to give trucks one last chance to turn around. Mayor Howard acknowledged Council's

consent to defer item until Council receives the exact verbiage from the City Attorney to change the ordinance.

5. **Discuss and Act on request by the Grey Forest Community Board (GFCB) to reallocate budgeted funds and amend the City of Grey Forest Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Budget** – Mayor Howard recognized Madeline McCloskey. Madeline McCloskey stated the Board is requesting to reallocate unused budgeted funds to continue the invasive plant removal efforts. They are requesting the remaining unused reserve funds of \$10,726.22 be moved to Community Grounds, E-11.E minus \$200 for operations/maintenance.

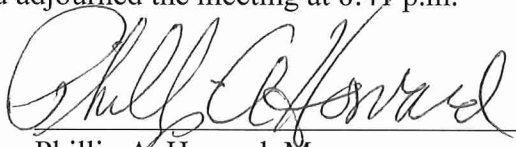
Mayor Howard recognized *Council member Darst who made the motion to move all remaining funds into Community Grounds, E-11.E minus \$200.00. The motion was seconded by Council member Poss. The vote was unanimous with Council member Nottingham, Verity and Skaggs voting for and no one voting no. Motion passed.*

6. **Discuss procedures for City Council and Board members regarding Social Media postings** – Mayor Howard recognized Council member Verity. Council member Verity stated other Boards that are part of the City are posting information to the General Public such as; Air BnB at the Madla Cottage and Poop Stations. This does the City and residents a disservice and confuses everybody. Boards need to go through the correct channel before posting on Social Media. Mayor Howard stated the Mayor is the spokesperson for the City and represents the City. At the bare minimum, there should be a check system with the Mayor. Council member Nottingham stated the Madla Board has been discussing using the Cottage at Madla Park as a very limited rental and put it on Social Media. Mayor Howard stated the Madla Board had not agreed to do this nor was it brought to Council for consideration. If you are exchanging money and offering public lodging, then you have gone into a total new business venture. This goes against the ordinances. There needs to be coordination within the City. There is nothing wrong with discussing it but it can't be posted on Social Media before it has been decided. Council consented to Council member Darst arranging Social Media education for Council and all Board members.


Unfinished Business – None.

Adjournment –

There was no further business, Mayor Howard adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.


Phillip A. Howard, Mayor

ATTEST:


Shannan Kinsley, City Secretary