

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION

OF THE CITY OF DUMAS, TEXAS

JULY 21, 2008

6:30 P.M.

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT THERE CAME AND WAS HELD A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DUMAS, TEXAS IN THE CITY HALL OF SAID CITY:

Members Present:

Mayor Mike Milligan
Mayor Pro Tem Pat L. Sims
Commissioner John D. Harris
Commissioner James Mahaffey
City Manager Vince DiPiazza
City Attorney Tom Moore

Members Absent:

Commissioner Mike Salim

Others Present: Kim Rehkopf, Tommy Raper, Dottie Williams, Larry Appel, Ralph Bynum, Sam Cartwright, Larry Payne, Damon Admire, Kayte Cook, Dale Alwan, and Colt Farney.

Mayor Milligan called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Mahaffey asked about the following bills: Xcel Energy, \$15.74 for a late charge fee to administration. City Manager Vince DiPiazza said he would check on this bill. Mayor Milligan said this could have happened because there is a new person in accounts payable. Commissioner Harris suggested the city do a direct draft on utility bills and stated there is a better way to pay regular city bills rather than running 1,000 checks per month. Finance Director Dottie Williams said due to the cost of the system software is not feasible. Mayor Milligan suggested customer refund checks and city utility bills be automatically drafted. Mr. DiPiazza said he would talk to city auditors and see if the draft check system is allowable. Sherwin Williams, \$648.17 for the police department. Police Chief Dale Alwan said this is for exterior paint at the animal shelter. Chief Alwan said the interior walls are separating and this cost would be presented at budget sessions. Mayor Milligan asked how old the animal shelter facility was and Chief Alwan said eleven years old. Lt. Flood and two prisoners did the painting. A motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sims, and passed unanimously to approve the July 7, 2008 Regular City Commission meeting minutes and paying the bills.

Mayor Milligan opened the Formal Session.

Dumas Independent School District (D.I.S.D.) Superintendent Larry Appel told the Commission the traffic at the junior high school and the grade schools are heavily congested. Mr. Appel said last year a child was struck by a vehicle at an elementary school. Mr. Appel

said the D.I.S.D. board is proposing adult crosswalk guards be placed at the all elementary campuses and that D.I.S.D. would participate as a partner with the city and share the cost. Mr. Appel said other key project points are pavement markings, installing signs to designate school safety zones, and designate certain streets to be permanent or temporary one-way streets. D.I.S.D. Police Chief Larry Payne presented maps showing each of the schools, their crosswalks, and the proposed one-way streets. Chief Payne said the proposed one-way streets are at Green Acres Elementary the 300 Block of Oak, Morningside Elementary 600 Block of Powell, junior high school in the 400 Block of Zauk. Chief Payne said the streets could be designated as permanent or temporary one-way streets. Chief Payne said the school district is proposing pavement markings to designate school safety zones and new 20 mph speed limit signs to designate school safety zones from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. instead of 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Chief Payne said solar powered flashing signs could be installed that read "do not enter" or "one-way" when flashing. Chief Payne presented costs concerning one-time expenses, annual expenses, and initial cost expenses. The 2008-2009 city and school district expenses are \$24,067.50 each and the projected 2009-2010 expenses for the city and the school district are \$7,200 each. Police Chief Dale Alwan suggested the city consider the proposed one-way street on Zauk Avenue be designated a one-way street throughout the school year because it would confuse citizens if it were temporary or just during school hours. The city commission recommended that the school district designate the one-way street at the junior high school from E. 3rd Street to E. 5th Street, year-round, instead of from the parking area to E. 5th Street. To clarify and prioritize, the issues are, to designate and paint crosswalk zones, hire adult crosswalk guards, order speed limit and one-way signs. City Manager Vince DiPiazza said the city would move forward with the pavement markings and hire crosswalk guards. City Attorney Tom Moore said that he would provide an interlocal governmental agreement to the school district and prepare an ordinance concerning the one-way streets. A motion was made by Commissioner Mahaffey, seconded by Commissioner Harris, and passed unanimously to approve designating one-way streets in the 300 Block of Oak, 600 block of Powell, E. 3rd Street through E. 5th Street and Zauk Avenue, hire crosswalk guards for elementary schools, paint paving markings to designate school safety zones, and change the speed limit signs to 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. during school hours for the Dumas Independent School District.

Dumas/Moore County Chamber of Commerce and visitors center CEO Sam Cartwright presented their proposed 2008-2009 tourism budget. Mr. Cartwright said he is projecting \$142,160 for the 2008-2009 year. Mr. Cartwright said the chamber of commerce receives quarterly, 40% of the hotel/motel and occupancy tax. Mayor Milligan told Mr. Cartwright he would like to see a detailed expense report on how the money was spent during for the last fiscal year. Mayor Milligan would also like to review the profit and loss figures for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman, Kirk Pope, said that the Chamber of Commerce would present a financial statement annually so the city commission could review everything spent. Mr. Cartwright said the Chamber of Commerce just had their annual audit and he would also present that to the Commission. Mayor Milligan said that with two new hotels being built, the hotel/motel tax would increase, and there's possibly something else the Chamber of Commerce could spend money on. Commissioner Harris said if there is a hotel tax increase, they have discussed in the past that an event center could be built. Mr. Cartwright said he could get costs to implement a kiosk system that could be used at places that visitors frequent. Mr. Cartwright said the Chamber of Commerce could put some of their money with the city funds to improve the grounds at the visitors center. Mr. Cartwright said they are building new billboards in Texline, Texas

and that expenditure would be 15,000. Mr. Cartwright said a few years ago he presented to the commission that \$40,000 be spent for an electronic sign for the visitor center. City Manager Vince DiPiazza said in the proposed budget it shows funds for an administrative contract, and said the city does not have an administrative contract with the Chamber of Commerce, only has a lease contract on the facility. Mr. DiPiazza said the commission might consider a defined administrative contract with the Dumas/Moore County Chamber of Commerce and visitors center. Mayor Milligan said he would like to have the profit and loss information for the museum and the arts center also. A motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Mahaffey, and passed unanimously to table this item until a profit and loss report is presented.

City Manager Vince DiPiazza presented a resolution authorizing the submittal of a grant application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Mr. DiPiazza said the city would apply for \$500,000, which is the maximum. The grant application deadline is July 31, 2008. A motion was made by Commissioner Mahaffey, seconded by Commissioner Harris, and passed unanimously to approve Resolution No. 08-15 authorizing submittal of a grant application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

City Manager Vince DiPiazza presented the second reading of ordinances for the adoption of the residential code and the fuel gas code. A motion was made by Commissioner Mahaffey, seconded by Commissioner Harris, and passed unanimously to approve the Second & Final Reading of Ordinance No. 1048 adopting the 2006 International Residential Code and Ordinance No. 1049 adopting the 2006 International Fuel Gas Code.

City Attorney Tom Moore presented the second reading of an ordinance closing the public hearing and assessing costs for 14th Street paving project. Mr. Moore said the ordinance presented, states the city will receive five annual assessment payments. Mr. Moore said at the last meeting the Commission discussed seven annual assessment payments. Mayor Milligan asked what the Powell Estate portion would be and Mr. Moore said approximately \$70,000. Mr. Moore said the 14th Street paving assessment project total is \$205,000. Mayor Milligan suggested the city buy the land between the Alley Café and Mikee's Jewelry as part of the Powell Estate's assessment payment. Mayor Milligan said the Powell's would sale the property for \$12,000, which the city could take as an in-kind payment and remove the \$12,000 from their assessment cost. The consensus of the Commission agreed that the city purchase the property. Mayor Milligan said the city could make needed repairs on the property if they owned it. Mr. Moore will contact the Powell Estate attorney. A motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sims, and passed unanimously to approve the Second & Final Reading of Ordinance No. 1051 closing the public hearing and assessing costs for the 14th Street paving assessment project with the amendment to change the annual payout term to seven years in lieu of five years and to trade property between the Alley Café and Mikee's Jewelry for approximately \$12,000 for a portion of the Powell Estate assessment cost.

City Manager Vince DiPiazza presented the first reading of ordinances to allow D.E.D.C. to participate in the city retirement plan and authorizing restrictive prior service credit to city and D.E.D.C. employees. A motion was made by Commissioner Mahaffey, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sims, and passed unanimously to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 1052 allowing D.E.D.C. to participate in the city retirement plan and

Ordinance No. 1053 authorizing restrictive prior service credit to city and D.E.D.C. employees.

Finance Director Dottie Williams presented an ordinance for collection services on fines and fees for municipal court. City Manager Vince DiPiazza said this was proposed at the last commission meeting but must be enacted by an ordinance. A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Sims, seconded by Commissioner Harris, and passed unanimously to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 1054 for collection services on fines and fees for municipal court.

Finance Director Dottie Williams presented the annual review of the investment policy. Ms. Williams said the city investment policy was adopted by a resolution and it must be reviewed annually. Ms. Williams is not recommending any changes to the policy. City Manager Vince DiPiazza said the city does not have any cutting edge type investments; the city has money in local government investment pools, bank deposits, and certificates of deposit. A motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sims, and passed unanimously to approve the annual review of the city's current investment policy.

City Secretary Kim Rehkopf stated that the park board took no action concerning the naming of the park located at E. 3rd Street and S. Bliss Avenue. Ms. Rehkopf said the park board recommended the park be named "Bliss Park" but had no objection of naming the park "Jack Hickman Memorial Park." A motion was made by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sims, and passed unanimously to name the park located at E. 3rd Street and S. Bliss Avenue "Jack Hickman Memorial Park."

Mayor Milligan recessed into executive session at 7:43 p.m. for deliberation regarding real property to discuss the sale of city property. Mayor Milligan recessed the executive session at 8:15 p.m. and reopened the regular meeting. There were no decisions or votes taken.

Meeting adjourned.

Mike Milligan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Vince DiPiazza, City Manager