

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF DUMAS, TEXAS
MARCH 17, 2014
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 DUMAS COMMISSION CHAMBERS/MUNICIPAL COURT ROOM, 124 EAST 7TH STREET OF SAID CITY:

Members Present:

Mayor Pro Tem David M. Bonner
Commissioner Michael L. Funk
Commissioner Vernon McDowell
Commissioner Steve Bodnar
City Manager Vince DiPiazza
City Attorney Tom Moore

Members Absent:

Mayor Pat L. Sims

Others Present: Kim Rehkopf, Arbie Taylor, Jim Nelson, Dwight Brandt, Dottie Crockett, Isidro Renteria, Abelardo Cano, Jose Escamilla, Reece Spencer, Mike Ramirez, Meredith Laurent, Paul J. Jenkins, and Luis Trujillo.

Mayor Pro Tem Bonner called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Bodnar asked about a payment sent to the City of Pampa for \$65.65. Finance Director Dottie Crockett said this cost was for collecting a bad utility debt. Ms. Crockett said the city gets 25% of the debt collected. A motion was made by Commissioner Bodnar, seconded by Commissioner McDowell, and passed unanimously to approve the March 3, 2014 Regular City Commission meeting minutes and paying the bills.

Mayor Pro Tem Bonner opened the Formal Session.

Luis Trujillo, representing the Templo Elim Church, asked the Commission to consider allowing utilities outside the city limits. Their property is located just south of the Dumas R.V. Resort Park and they have fourteen acres of land. Mr. Trujillo said they hope to build a church in the future, but right now they would like to plant and water trees. Commissioner Funk said the city's policy does not allow water outside the city limits. Mayor Pro Tem Bonner said it would be more cost effective to drill a water well. There was no action taken.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bodnar, seconded by Commissioner Funk, and passed unanimously to approve the Second & Final Reading of Ordinance No. 1108 rezoning property from "C", Multiple Family on the east side of N. Bliss Avenue and "I", Light Commercial on the west side of N. Bliss Avenue, to "H", Retail for Damon Admire, Whitehorse Creek Properties.

A motion was made by Commissioner Funk, seconded by Commissioner Bodnar, and passed unanimously to approve the Second & Final Reading of Ordinance No. 1109 and all matters incident and related to the issuance and sale of "City of Dumas, Texas Tax and Waterworks and Sewer System Surplus Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2014", not to exceed \$4,300,000 and authorizing the issuance of such certificates of obligation and authorizing

the execution of any necessary engagement agreements with the City's financial advisors and/or bond counsel.

Finance Director Dottie Crockett presented the homestead exemption for 2014, which is currently \$52,000 for citizens over 65 and disabled veterans. Ms. Crockett presented an exemption increase to \$54,000 and the number of totally exempt would increase by 10 to 160. The revenue lost would be just over 2,000. If the exemption was increased to \$55,000 the number of totally exempt would increase by 17 to 167. The revenue lost would be just over \$3,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Funk, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bonner, and passed unanimously to approve the 2014 homestead exemption at \$55,000 for citizens age 65 and over and for disabled veterans.

Fire Chief Paul J. Jenkins presented fire hydrant replacement bids. There were four bids received from High Plains Contractors for \$129,705 and West Texas Utilities for \$99,160. The other two bids did not meet specifications. Budgeted for this project was \$25,000. Mayor Pro Tem Bonner asked how this project would be funded if approved. City Manager Vince DiPiazza said out of the unspent fund balance. A motion was made by Commissioner Funk, seconded by Commissioner Bodnar, and passed unanimously to approve the bid from West Texas Utilities for \$99,160 for the fire hydrant replacement project (27 hydrants) for the fire department.

City Manager Vince DiPiazza told the Commission that if they were going to meet TxDOT's requirements and timeline for the line relocation on U.S. Highway 287, they should move forward. Mr. DiPiazza said the staff recommends Brandt Engineers. If Mr. Brandt can prove Hwy. 287 in the 1930's was city property, the state would have to pay for the project. Mayor Pro Tem Bonner said this project is going to be an economical hardship on downtown businesses. Mayor Pro Tem Bonner asked what it would cost to do a study. Mr. Brandt said he wasn't going to do a study, he was moving the lines, and he would present a contract showing the specific steps and costs to move the lines. Public Works Director and Mr. Brandt prefer to move the lines to the alley. A motion was made by Commissioner Funk, seconded by Commissioner Bodnar, and passed unanimously to approve hiring Brandt Engineering to develop utility relocation plans required by TxDOT's U.S. Highway 287 project.

Mayor Pro Tem Bonner opened the Work Session.

Dwight Brandt presented a drawing for proposed drilling of test water wells at the Moore County Airport. There will be three test wells. The consensus of the Commission was to proceed with drilling the test water wells.

Public Works Director Arbie Taylor discussed area drainage issues and said he would like to have an aerial topography. There are sixteen square miles that will be covered, the cost will be \$45,000 and done by Dallas Area Survey. Mr. Taylor said he needs the topography before he can come to a solution for the drainage issues. The consensus of the Commission is to proceed with the aerial topography and storm drainage planning.

Street Supervisor Jose Escamilla presented specifications for seal-coating aggregate. Mr. Escamilla said the specifications are for 2,500 tons of aggregate in order to seal-coat 150 blocks. The consensus of the Commission agreed to the aggregate specifications.

Public Works Director Arbie Taylor presented updates on the following projects: The debris fence installation will begin this week. There will be a preliminary walk through on March 26th. The pumps at the waste water treatment plant have been reprogrammed. The 14th Street lift

station went down again. The backup pumps are working. Specifications for the new lift station are complete. The adult and juvenile probation offices assisted in cleaning up trash on Hwy. 152 and there was 2,800 pounds of debris collected.

Meeting adjourned.

Pat L. Sims, Mayor

ATTEST:

Vince DiPiazza, City Manager