

CITY OF BUNKER HILL VILLAGE

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUNKER HILL VILLAGE, TEXAS AUGUST 16, 2011 – 5:00 P.M.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The mayor suspended with the pledge

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Essary called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 11977 Memorial Drive, Houston, Texas.

Present:

Mayor Derry D. Essary
Councilman Keith Brown
Councilman Dave Ellis **
Councilwoman Susan Schwartz
Councilman Jay Smyre
Councilman Jay Williams

Also in Attendance:

Ruthie Sager, City Administrator
Kelly Johnson, City Secretary/Director of Finance
Steve Smith, Dir of Public Works/Blding Official
Loren Smith, City Attorney
Tom Ramsey, City Engineer

**Councilman Ellis left at 6:40 p.m.

III. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for citizens to speak to council relating to agenda and non-agenda items. Comments are limited to three minutes. If the topic the speaker wishes to address is on the agenda, the speaker can either speak at this time or defer comments until such time the item is discussed.

Speakers are required to address council at the microphone and give their name and address before voicing their concerns.

Note: To comply with provisions of the Open Meetings Act, the City Council may not deliberate on items discussed under this agenda item. Items that cannot be referred to the city staff for action may be placed on the agenda of a future City Council meeting.

No comments

IV. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Frostwood Elementary traffic control site plan

The mayor met with representatives from Spring Branch Independent School District (SBISD) and their traffic engineer, Mr. Manu Isaac. Mayor Essary said he believed they have come to an accommodation on the traffic control plan. The mayor said of course it would have to come to city council for approval.

The mayor said the basic plan is to provide traffic holding lanes on both the Gessner and Plantation sides that would hold approximately 2,000 feet of automobiles. He also said it

would mean the Plantation intersection north of Memorial Drive would have a right turn lane going west bound on Memorial Drive because of the increased traffic.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding status of the water system as it relates to the drought

Mr. Steve Smith, Director of Public Works/Bld Official, showed a slide presentation on the current water usage compared to last year. The mayor said some of the other municipalities are or have implemented water restrictions. The mayor said that he probably is going to ask council to grant him authority to do some type of water restrictions for Bunker Hill Village. He said it's not so much out of an emergency, but to be pro-active because of our neighbors and realizing we do take surface water from the City of Houston. The mayor said we will probably go to our Stage 2 Drought Conservation Plan.

Mr. Smith said he contacted City of Houston and was told that there are no plans to restrict wholesale water to the City of Bunker Hill Village.

The mayor said that we are going to notify our residents of the mandatory water restrictions two ways. He said one being through our Delta Alert autodial system and secondly, to follow up with a letter mailed to all the residents.

Motion was made by Councilman Ellis and seconded by Councilwoman Schwartz to authorize the mayor to initiate a Stage 2 Drought Conservation Plan as specified. Motion carried 5-0.

V. **CONSENT AGENDA**

“ALL MATTERS LISTED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ROUTINE BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND WILL BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION, THERE WILL NOT BE SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF THESE ITEMS. IF DISCUSSION IS DESIRED, THAT ITEM WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.”

- A. Minutes of the July 14, 2011 Special Council Meeting
- B. Minutes of the July 19, 2011 Regular Council Meeting
- C. July 2011 Financials
- D. Klotz Associates, Invoice No. 711106, in the amount of \$58,800.00 for professional services rendered from June 16, 2011 to July 15, 2011 in connection with Bunker Hill Village Strey Lane Drainage Improvements Design Bid and Construction Phase Services
- E. Notice of August 17, 2011 Public Hearing on 2012 Fiscal Year Budget for the Harris County Appraisal District
- F. Authorize R. P. Sager, RTA, to calculate and publish the 2011 effective and rollback rate

Motion was made by Councilman Williams and seconded by Councilman Brown to accept the consent agenda as stated. Motion carried 5-0.

VI. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPLICATION FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PERMIT PHASE II FROM EXTENET SYSTEMS, INC., TO INSTALL FIBER OPTIC CABLE AND SMALL REMOTE NODES FOR TRANSMITTING RF SIGNAL, WITH AN UNOBTRUSIVE ANTENNA CLUSTER IN A QUASI-OMNI PATTERN ON UTILITY POLES**

Mr. Dave Schneider, with Extenet Systems, said back in 2007 Extenet received approval and put fourteen nodes in Bunker Hill Village. He said T-Mobile has joined their system and wants to take their service further south therefore they need to add 4 more nodes.

Motion was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilman Smyre to approve the application for a Right-of-Way Permit for Extenet Systems. Motion carried 5-0.

VII. STREY LANE PROJECT

A. Meeting with City of Houston representatives

Mr. Ramsey, with Klotz Engineering, met with representatives from the City of Houston regarding the potential partnership between Bunker Hill Village and the City of Houston to address their drainage needs in the area of Riedel. He said they are reviewing the potential details relating to that and are to get back with us within the next week.

Mr. Ramsey said the plans on the Strey Lane Drainage Project are moving forward per the schedule and will be able to submit the final plans to Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) the first week in September.

The mayor said from a meeting he attended yesterday, he thinks HCFCD has raised the bar on getting final approval on our project. He said effectively what HCFCD has done is not only do we have to make sure there is zero impact at the outfall at Pebble Hill, but we need to make sure we are having no impact on the northern watershed north of Taylorcrest. The mayor said with HCFCD raising the bar, it tells him our project is going to cost more and stretch out our timeline.

B. Meeting with TIRZ representatives

The mayor said he met yesterday with twelve representatives, including Allan Potak with HCFCD, Mayor Sue Speck of Hedwig Village, Klotz Engineering, City of Houston, and the TIRZ. Mayor Essary asked Councilman Smyre to summarize the meeting. Councilman Smyre said the Mayor stated at the meeting that this meeting should have occurred in January when we, Bunker Hill Village, were working on this. Councilman Smyre said it's no secret that the Strey Lane Drainage Project has gotten all kinds of attention. He said there is a merging belief this is no longer a Bunker Hill project, but a regional solution.

Councilman Smyre said the meeting was called by the TIRZ. He said the TIRZ proposal was not written, the proposal was verbal. He said they proposed two connected 8 x 10 culverts running down Strey Lane. He said the proposal would also include the western portion of Hedwig Village. The TIRZ is prepared to compensate Bunker Hill. The mayor said before Bunker Hill could do anything we would have to have something in writing to take to council for approval.

Again Councilman Smyre said this project is no longer considered a Bunker Hill solution but a regional solution. Councilman Smyre said it was his opinion we move forward as planned because we have seen nothing in writing from any of the entities.

The Mayor said Bunker Hill Village has taken the stand, our project has been financed, bonds have been sold and money is in the bank. He said the preliminary engineering has been done and we have preliminary approval from HCFCD. The mayor said that Bunker Hill Village will continue to be open minded but we are not slowing down or stopping with our plans.

Councilman Ellis said it was his opinion that we will be able to accommodate our residential neighbors to the north and Hedwig Village. He said the issues created by the commercial development to the north, the TIRZ, require upstream detention.

The mayor said he was concerned about the new hurdle, the comment made regarding drainage north of W151. Mr. Ramsey said our project should not create a problem north of W151.

Councilman Smyre said the benefit to Bunker Hill Village would be the financial assistance on the Strey Lane Drainage Project and the savings could be used on the east side.

C. Engineering status of the project

Plans to be completed by the first week in September and given to Harris County Flood Control District.

D. Discussion and possible action on a possible cost sharing arrangement

No action taken

VIII. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING MINUTES OF THE JULY 14, 2011 PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION REGARDING FENCES IN THE REQUIRED FRONT YARD ALONG MEMORIAL DRIVE

Mayor Essary said he wants to remand this issue back to Planning and Zoning. He said there is a property at the corner of Memorial Drive and Briar Forest that is for sale. He said people have taken an interest in buying the property only if they could have a fence in the front yard. Councilman Smyre said this is the only house on Memorial that faces a four lane street. The mayor said the lot is an eye sore and we need to fix it.

Mr. Loren Smith, City Attorney, said Planning and Zoning needs to meet and make a written recommendation to council.

Motion was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilman Smyre to request the Mayor to refer the issue of fences along Memorial Drive back to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a recommended solution or possible ordinance. Motion carried 4-0. (Councilman Ellis left prior to vote)

IX. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Submission of delinquent tax roll as of August 9, 2011

Ms. Sager said by state law she is required to present the delinquent tax roll to council annually. Ms. Sager pointed out that most of the delinquents are deferrals.

X. FIRE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

A. Discussion and possible action regarding allocation of cost to replace consolidated fuel system at the Village Fire Department at a cost of \$2,336.00 to Bunker Hill Village

The mayor said this is outside the budget because the Memorial Villages Water Authority, which uses the fuel system, does not pay a budget allocation. Mayor Essary said \$2,336 is Bunker Hill Village's share of the cost.

Motion was made by Councilman Smyre and seconded by Councilman Williams to approve. Motion carried 4-0. (Councilman Ellis left prior to vote)

XI. POLICE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

A. Police Department Activities

Chief Brye said they had their monthly Police Commission Meeting last night. He said they approved to replace an older vehicle with a new Ford Fusion. He said they also discussed the water restrictions among the villages. Chief Brye said they are not enforcing any water restrictions for non-compliance. He said they would notify the water authority of any non-compliance.

Chief Brye said there were no burglaries in the villages but one robbery. Chief Brye said they also talked about the health insurance premiums.

- B. Discussion and possible action concerning approval of the 2012 MVPD budget. Total budget is \$4,052,441.34 (including a capital request of \$82,300.00). Bunker Hill Village obligation is \$1,350,813.78

Commissioner Soanes said the Budget for 2012 represents a decrease of 1.6% from the 2011 Budget and a 6% decrease from the 2009 Budget. Commissioner Soanes stated that the total budget was just over four million dollars with a capital budget of \$82,300, of which \$75,000 alone is to purchase police radios that are required for compliance with the City of Houston and Harris County. Commissioner Soanes said in order for the budget to be adopted all three cities have to approve and he said that the City of Piney Point Village and the City of Hunter's Creek Village have already met and approved the budget.

Commissioner Soanes highlighted several line items that changed in the 2012 Budget. He said we had a rate reduction with TMRS primarily due to market performance. Another line item that changed was an increase of \$23,000 in health and dental rates. He said we will not know the insurance rates until November and there is always a risk the amount could be higher or possibly lower.

Commissioner Soanes further stated an elimination of a \$40,000 contingency. He said this was to help replace an officer immediately when there was a vacancy. Commissioner Soanes said that staff feels they could manage any transition during a vacancy. Another line item increase was in gasoline of \$25,000. The increase in gasoline is from the price and increase in patrol hours. Commissioner Soanes did point out the 2012 Budget included an increase for a cost of living adjustment for all personnel of 1.5%.

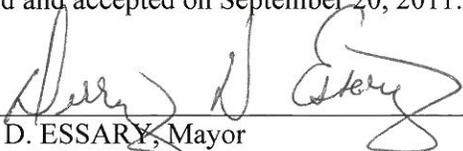
Commissioner Soanes said the Police Commissioners have worked hard on the budget and asked council to approve the 2012 Budget.

Motion was made by Councilman Ellis and seconded by Councilwoman Schwartz to approve the 2012 Memorial Villages Police Department Budget as presented. Motion carried 5-0. (This agenda item was taken out of order and Councilman Ellis was present for the vote)

XII. ADJOURN

Motion was made by Mr. Loren Smith and seconded by Councilman Brown to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Motion carried 4-0. (Councilman Ellis left prior to motion)

Approved and accepted on September 20, 2011.


DERRY D. ESSARY, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kelly Johnson, City Secretary