

***Regular Meeting Minutes – Giddings City Council***  
November 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor John Dowell; Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones; Council Members Doug Gaeke, Joel Lopez, Alan Casey and Linda Pruitt.

Staff Present: City Manager Ricky Jorgensen, City Secretary Lola Hazel, Police Chief Haril Walpole, Captain Farah Ramsey, Sergeant Landis Lehmann and Officer Shannon Greer.

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Dowell called the meeting of the City Council to order at 7:08 pm on Monday, November 14, 2016, at the Giddings Municipal Building.

**2. Pledges to the U.S. and Texas Flags**

Pledges were said.

**3. Invocation and Welcome**

Council Member Joel Lopez gave the invocation and Mayor Dowell welcomed all in attendance.

**4. Announcements**

Giddings Chamber of Commerce Director Denice Harlan made an announcement about the grand opening for the new St. Marks Medical Center on Thursday, November 17th at 3:00 pm.

**5. Presentations and Proclamations**

**a. Police Officer commendation presented by Chief of Police**

Chief Walpole commended Officer Greer for two letters of commendation received from citizens.

**6. Citizens' Comments**

There were no citizen comments.

**7. Consent Agenda**

**a. Consider approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting held on October 24, 2016.**

A motion was made by Council Member Linda Pruitt and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 24, 2016.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Gaeke, Lopez, Casey and Pruitt

Nays: None

**8. New Business**

**a. Discuss and take possible action on authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Texas Department of Agriculture for the CEFCO Texas Capital Fund Grant Project.**

City Manager Ricky Jorgensen gave an overview of this item. Jorgensen explained the City must enter into this contract with the state to allow CEFCO to build the deceleration lane and the traffic signal for the CEFCO truck stop. Jorgensen further explained the grant is for \$375,000.

A motion was made by Council Member Alan Casey and seconded by Council Member Joel Lopez to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Texas Department of Agriculture for the CEFCO Texas Capital Fund Grant Project.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Lopez, Casey and Pruitt

Nays: None

**Abstained: Gaeke**

**b. Discuss and take possible action on authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Fikes Wholesale, Inc. for the CEFCO Texas Capital Fund Grant Project.**

City Manager Ricky Jorgensen gave an overview of this item. Jorgensen explained this contract is also for the CEFCO project, but is a separate agreement between the City and Fikes Wholesale, Inc. for the construction of the deceleration lane and traffic signal. Jorgensen further explained Fikes will be responsible for any amount in excess of the \$375,000 grant amount.

A motion was made by Council Member Alan Casey and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Fred Jones to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Fikes Wholesale, Inc. for the CEFCO Texas Capital Fund Grant Project.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Lopez, Casey and Pruitt

Nays: None

**Abstained: Gaeke**

**c. Consider Resolution 408-2016 authorizing the removal of barriers on North Montgomery Avenue at its intersection with East Brenham Street opening the road to allow public access.**

City Manager Ricky Jorgensen gave an overview of this item. Jorgensen explained removal of the barriers would allow access from the Hickory Creek Subdivision into the park by way of North Montgomery Street. Jorgensen stated Staff believes the barriers were put in place to prevent speeding in the park, but a concession stand is now in the park on North Montgomery Street which would prevent such speeding. Jorgensen further stated the barriers are being disregarded and someone drove around the barriers.

Council Member Linda Pruitt asked what residents in the neighboring homes think about removal of the barriers. Jorgensen explained its unknown what neighboring residents think about the barrier removal.

Council Member Joel Lopez stated he lives in the neighborhood that would be affected by the barrier removal. Lopez further stated speeding is an issue near his residence. Lopez further stated he could see the benefit to removing the barriers but also expressed concern for safety of residents walking in the park.

Council then discussed options outside of approving Resolution 408-2016.

A motion was made by Council Member Linda Pruitt and seconded by Council Member Doug Gaeke to maintain the existing barriers on North Montgomery Avenue at its intersection with East Brenham Street and allow the addition of barriers as necessary.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members Jones, Lopez, Gaeke, Casey and Pruitt

Nays: None

**d. Consider Ordinance No. 812 authorizing the placement of stop signs on Biscayne Street and Raymond Street at their intersections with North Montgomery Avenue, and on North Montgomery Avenue at its intersection with East Brenham.**

No council action taken. Item d was not addressed as it was proposed on the basis of an approval of Item c. Item c did not pass as presented.

**e. Consider Ordinance No. 813 to impose a moratorium on the issuance of permits for mobile food units and portable buildings for the use of preparation and/or sale of food and beverages within city limits of Giddings.**

City Manager Ricky Jorgensen gave an overview of this item. Jorgensen stated this is being presented as the City is receiving more inquiries from permit applicants on food trucks and similar businesses. Jorgensen explained this would not apply to nonprofit organizations holding annual events. Jorgensen explained the moratorium would allow Staff to do the necessary research in order to put proper regulations in place regarding food trucks and similar businesses. Jorgensen further explained the City's current ordinances do not address such businesses.

Council asked Staff to bring the vendor ordinance and proposed moratorium ordinance back for further discussion at the next meeting. No action taken at this time.

**9. City Manager's Report, And Announcements**

1. Police Department receiving drug incinerator
2. Goal to have only one council meeting in November and only one in December
3. Met with TxDOT and Union Pacific regarding railroad crossing getting stuck
4. FEMA payment coming soon
5. Hiring process has begun to replace library director

**10. Adjournment**

Mayor Dowell adjourned the meeting at 7:57 pm.

ATTEST:

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Lola Hazel, City Secretary

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John Dowell, Mayor