

**MINEOLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**WORKSHOP MEETING - MINEOLA CITY HALL**  
**JANUARY 24, 2019, 5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT** Mayor Kevin White, Councilmembers Novada Bigham, Sue Jones, Jayne Lankford, Mitchell Tuck, and Polly Jones

**MEMBERS ABSENT** Greg Hollen

**STAFF PRESENT** Mercy Rushing, Cindy Karch, David Madsen, Charles Bittner, William Crump, Curt Myers, Sherry Vann, Lynn Kitchens and Doris Newman

**OTHERS PRESENT** Hank Murphy, Wood County Monitor; Demetra Bell-Runnels, Brinson Benefits Inc.; Allene Doggett, WCIC Representative; Joyce Williams & Lynette Wood

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor White called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. and confirmed a quorum of the council was present.

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

Council Member Jayne Lankford introduced Lynette Wood to the council. Lynette Wood is a certified trail builder for mountain bike trails and has been instrumental in building the trails at the Nature Preserve. She also was the coordinator for the E150 event held at the preserve which brought 150 people to the Preserve in January.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**Item 3B** was taken first.

Employee Health Plan – time to bid.

Demetra Bell-Runnels with Brinson Benefits gave a presentation to the council of the service her company can provide as the city's Agent of Record for employee health benefits. Their company can provide the competitive bid service for health care options and assist the city in making the best decision for the city and its employees. No action was taken on this item.

**Item 1:**

Discuss City of Mineola 2020 and 2040 goals and future plans.

The council reviewed the 2020 and 2040 plan. Each department head then presented their 2030 and 2040 goals for their departments. No action was taken on this item.

**Item 2:**

Public Works discussion and reports:

- A. Bond Projects Update – William Crump updated the council on the status of the bond projects. Water tower painting is complete. The Stone St. sewer line repair project is waiting on approval from the railroad before work can begin. The wastewater treatment plant is still in the engineering and planning phase.
- B. Basketball court development timeline - William Crump let the council know that MHS Planning and Design is working on the design. Estimated completion end of August.
- C. Update on tax delinquent properties – Curt Myers updated the council on his progress working with Texas Communities Group. We expect to get a new list of tax delinquent properties by mid-February.

No action was taken on these items.

**Item 3:**

Discuss budget items for consideration in the FY 2019-2020 budget.

- A. Updates in Wards – Mayor White asked the council to bring a list of projects they’d like to see in their wards by the March meeting.
- B. Employee Health Plan – time to bid – see above
- C. Annual Audit – time to bid – Cindy Karch informed the council that we have reached our three year term with our audit firm. We can either bid for new service or extend their contract another two years. Council asked that she get pricing from the firm for the next two years and report back.

No action was taken on these items.

**Item 4:**

Discuss MEDC plans for programs and projects.

Mercy Rushing briefed the council on her current and future projects with MEDC. She also provided a tax abatement report and a retail market profile report. She will be speaking at the Sell Your City Economic Outlook Event in Tyler on January 29<sup>th</sup>. No action taken.

**Item 5:**

Discuss Mineola’s membership in the Wood County Industrial Commission.

Mayor White addressed the council and presented findings made from an open records request of WCIC. Per the interlocal agreement, WCIC agrees to provide an Economic Development plan for the county and offer support to implement that plan. When requested, WCIC rep’s informed us that no such plan existed. The city is a member until September 30, 2019, at which time the council can decide if they want to remain a member or not. No action taken.

**Item 6:**

Discuss a resolution of the city council to express its opposition to legislative interference with local services, local revenue and local control.

Mayor White addressed the council in support of the resolution. This item will be on the regular council meeting agenda on January 28<sup>th</sup>. No action was taken on the item.

**Item 7:**

Mayor’s Comments - Mayor White let the council know that we will not be taking photographs in the January meeting as planned, but will take them in the February meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor White adjourned the meeting at 8:37 PM.

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Kevin White, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cindy Karch, City Secretary