

MINEOLA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING - MINEOLA CITY HALL
OCTOBER 26, 2020, 5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT **In person:** Mayor Kevin White, Council Member Jayne Lankford **Via video/phone conference:** Council Members Greg Hollen, Sue Jones, Polly Jones, Mitchell Tuck and Cassandra Sampson

MEMBERS ABSENT None

STAFF PRESENT **In Person:** Mercy Rushing, Cindy Karch, William Crump, Charles Bittner, Lynn Kitchens and Lisa Morrison **via video/phone conference:** Doris Newman

OTHERS PRESENT Phil Major, Wood County Monitor

CALL TO ORDER Mayor White called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and confirmed a quorum of the council was present.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Kevin White

CITIZEN COMMENT – None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider approval of minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on September 21, 2020 and the Special Council Meeting on October 5, 2020.
2. Consider approval of the Financial Statement for the month of September 2020.
3. Consider approval of the Monthly Investment Report for the month of September 2020.
4. Consider approval of the Monthly Department Head Reports for the month of September 2020. (Building Inspections, Code Enforcement, Fire, Police, Main Street, Marketing, Street, Water, Wastewater)
5. Consider action to change the dates of the Regular City Council Meetings as follows: 1) December 28 to December 14, 2020 due to the Christmas Holiday; 2) September 27 to September 13, 2021 in order to set tax rate and budget as requested by the Wood County Tax Assessor.
6. Discuss and consider action on a resolution naming the Wood County Monitor as the official newspaper for the City of Mineola for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021.
7. Consider a resolution suspending SWEPCO's proposed effective date related to its statement of intent to increase rates submitted to the City on about October 13, 2020; engaging special counsel to represent the City with regard to SWEPCO's statement of intent; authorizing intervention in proceedings related to SWEPCO's statement of intent through a coalition of cities known as Cities Advocating Reasonable Deregulation ("CARD"); and directing SWEPCO to reimburse the City's reasonable rate case expenses related to SWEPCO's statement of intent.
8. Consider approval of Mineola Economic Development Board reappointments of Gordon Tiner, Barbara Dawson, Ken Pearce and Joe Williams, each for a two year term.
9. Consider approval of Parks and Open Spaces Advisory Board Member reappointments of Polly Jones, Gordon Tiner and Neal Duncan, each for a two year term.

Councilmember Greg Hollen made the motion to approve consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sue Jones and carried by a majority roll-call vote.

DISCUSSION ON ACTION ITEMS, PUBLIC HEARINGS, PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. Discuss Meredith Requests for 2021, requests due by November 13th for November meeting.

Mrs. Rushing asked the council to submit projects they would like to consider for the Meredith Grant. Submitted projects from council and department directors will be scored by priority and brought back to council for final approval.

11. Presentation of Year End Financial Reports by Cindy Karch/Finance Director.

Mrs. Karch presented the yearend financial highlights to the council.

12. Discuss and consider action on an ordinance adopting a Social Media Policy.

Mrs. Lynn Kitchens informed the council that the Social Media Policy was in addition to the current Social Media Policy within the handbook. This new policy will become an ordinance and will help guide staff on managing social media pages for the city and establish a code of conduct for anyone posting on city social media sites. She also discussed the following Digital Media Policy, which will determine how city websites and other digital media are managed.

Councilmember Sue Jones made the motion to adopt Ordinance 20-10-26-12. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Polly Jones and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

13. Discuss on an ordinance adopting a Digital Media Policy.

Councilmember Polly Jones made the motion adopt Ordinance 20-10-26-13. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jayne Lankford and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

14. Discuss and consider action on adopting the updated City of Mineola Safety Policy and Program, first established November 25, 2002.

Councilmember Cassandra Sampson made the motion to adopt the policy. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jayne Lankford and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

15. Discuss and consider action to solicit bids on city owned property, Lot 2D, Blk E, City of Mineola, located on Harris St.

Councilmember Mitchell Tuck made the motion to solicit bids on city property, Lot 2D Blk E City of Mineola, located on Harris St. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sue Jones and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

16. Discuss and consider action to amend City Council Minutes of July 27, 2020, item number 8 by adding "Lot 6, 7, 8B Blk 21 Mineola Townsites, high bid to Jeff Sandifer, LLC and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract on behalf of the City of Mineola".

Councilmember Greg Hollen made the motion to amend City Council Minutes of July 27, 2020, item number 8 by adding "Lot 6, 7, 8B Blk 21 Mineola Townsites, high bid to Jeff Sandifer, LLC and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract on behalf of the City of Mineola". The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sue Jones and carried by a unanimous roll-call vote.

17. Mayor Comments – regarding matters appearing on the agenda; recognition of community members, city employees, and upcoming events; inquiry of staff regarding specific factual information or existing policies.

Mayor White noted that downtown Mineola has been busy.

18. City Manager Briefing and Announcements

Mrs. Rushing introduced new employee Lisa Morrison. Lisa is the new Court Clerk and Assistant City Secretary and comes with many years of city experience. Doris Newman has been working with small businesses to help them apply for the many grants available to them. Gene's Photography was awarded one of these grants and are using the funds to restore and remodel their building. Out of 67 grants awarded nation-wide, only three were awarded in Texas, Gene's being one. Rotary club will be offering county-wide recycling for electronics November 14th from 9am to 1pm at the Mineola Methodist Center on Newsom St. The new City of Mineola advertising promotion video first aired in the Mineola-Pottsboro gam and has over 10.3k views. Daylight savings ends the first weekend in November. Election Day will be at City Hall and Mineola Methodist Center November 3rd. Mineola Farmers Market last day will be November 21st from 8am to 1pm. City Hall will be closed November 11th for Veterans Day and November 26th and 27th for Thanksgiving. Councilmember Jayne Lankford mentioned that the Mineola First Responders won a softball tournament over the weekend. The tournament raised funds for the East Texas Crisis Center.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items for consideration, a motion to adjourn was made and the meeting adjourned.

Kevin White, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cindy Karch, City Secretary