

**CITY OF VENUS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018**
Council Chambers 103 W. 3rd Street
Venus, Texas 76084

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

James Burgess, Mayor
Jeannie Prazak, Place 1
Laurna Shaw, Place 2
Jeanie Toland-Scott, Mayor Pro-Tem, Place 3
Geronimo Hernandez, Place 4
Robert McCurdy, Place 5

Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. followed by the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

CITIZEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- Citizen, Sandra Jones who resides at 112 Mt. Vernon Ln. thanked the city for letting her serve on the Home Rule Charter Commission. She explained that she believes the Home Rule Charter will be good for the City of Venus.
- Citizen, Linda Harris who resides at 120 Mt. Vernon Ln. spoke asking the council to allow the citizens of Venus to be given a chance to vote on the Home Rule Charter.

PROCLAMATIONS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING A PROPERTY INTO THE CITY LIMITS OF VENUS, TEXAS FOR APPROXIMATELY 8.0 ACRES OF LAND WHICH WAS VOLUNTARILY REQUESTED THROUGH A PETITION FILED BY WALID ALAMEDDINE OF SALDENA PROPERTIES, LP IN ASSOCIATION WITH PALLADIUM PROPERTIES.**
Council Member Prazak made a motion to approve the item as presented, Resolution 06-2019-02, Seconded by Council Member Shaw. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).
2. **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RESOLUTION GRANTING A PETITION FOR ANNEXATION FROM PROPERTY OWNER RABWA INVESTMENT, LLC, A TEXAS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, OF PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS JOHNSON CAD PROPERTY ID 95750, GENERALLY LOCATED SOUTH OF E 5TH STREET, NORTH OF E COUNTY ROAD 109 AND EAST OF WHEAT VALLEY**

BOULEVARD AND BEING AN APPROXIMATE 17.35 ACRE TRACT OF LAND SITUATED IN THE WILLIAM HILL SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 379, JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS; SETTING A DATE, TIME, AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN PROPERTY BY THE CITY OF VENUS, TEXAS; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY SECRETARY TO HAVE PUBLISHED NOTICE OF SUCH PUBLIC HEARINGS; AND DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF A SERVICE PLAN.

3. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER AN ORDINANCE CANCELING THE SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE CITY OF VENUS ON SATURDAY MAY 4, 2019, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADOPTING A HOME RULE CHARTER.

Mayor gave a speech against the Home Rule Charter. He explained several issues he had. The City Attorney, Brenda McDonald, intervened during Mayor Burgess' speech explaining it was off topic from what the actual item was regarding. Mayor Burgess decided to continue. Council Members Prazak and Council Member Shaw spoke in favor of the citizens needing to have the chance to vote for or against the Home Rule Charter, rather than having it decided for them. Council Member Hernandez brought up one of the sections in the Charter the Mayor had spoken about in his speech he had an issue with. The issue Mayor had stated that was in the Charter explained, in order for a citizen to get a place on the ballot for a general election, there would need to be 10 registered voter that would have to sign a petition on behalf of a citizen wanting to run for office. Council Member Hernandez was in agreeance with Mayor Burgess. Hernandez spoke saying he felt like he was losing all of his power. City Attorney, Brenda McDonald and other Council Members had a discussion saying the charter only refers to having a petition signed by citizens in the recall, initiative, and referendum section. Mayor Burgess asked if anyone had any other comments. Council Member McCurdy spoke in favor of the citizens of Venus needing to get the chance to vote on the Home Rule Charter. Council member Prazak made a motion to respect the work of the Home Rule Charter Commission, deny the Ordinance, and have the Home Rule Charter on the ballot for the May 4th Election. Seconded by Council Member Shaw. Motion Carried (3,0) with 2 against, (Scott)(Hernandez).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

{recessed into Executive Session at 7:33 p.m.}

- **551.072 *Deliberation of request for proposal property exchange 105 e. Us hwy 67.***

RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

{reconvened into Regular Session 8:04 p.m.}

- **TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NECESSARY.**

After Executive Session City Attorney, Brenda McDonald made a correction to one of her statements given during item 3. She explained she was incorrect on the recall, initiative, and referendum being the only place the charter refers to a petition being signed. The charter does state a person running for office needs 10 signatures to run.

Council Member Shaw made a motion to accept the proposal form Champion and authorize the city Administrator to negotiate a contract for the purchase of a new City Hall facility on the terms discussed in Executive Session and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract

and the deed conveying the current City Hall property. Seconded by Council Member Prazak. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

I. ADJOURNMENT: 8:05 p.m.

APPROVE: _____
James Burgess, Mayor

DATE: _____

ATTEST: _____
Rana Gamel, City Secretary