



-MINUTES-
Venus City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 12, 2018

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 Texas Government Code, notice is hereby given of a Regular Meeting of the Venus City Council, to be held in the City Council Chambers at 103 West 3rd Street, Venus, Texas 76084 on Monday, March 5, 2018

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

REGULAR AGENDA

Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM, then led the invocation, and the pledge of allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS BY THE MAYOR

No announcements

CITIZENS PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments

PROCLAMATIONS

No Proclamations

PUBLIC HEARING-7:05 PM

- **CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING TO REJECT OR GRANT A REQUEST RECEIVED ON JANUARY 10, 2018 FROM TOM BARTON OF WALL 009 LLC FOR APPROXIMATELY 101.49 ACRES OF LAND TO BE VOLUNTARILY ANNEXED BY THE CITY OF VENUS, TEXAS.**

Bob Sandlin, representing Wall Homes, presented the plans for the development that will be built on the land being voluntarily annexed. Councilmembers asked questions regarding progress and prices of the homes being built in the development. No one from the public spoke.

ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC HEARING-7:10 PM

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND RATIFY THE PAYMENT OF BILLS FROM MARCH.

Councilmember Hernandez had a question regarding a few of the bills. City Staff addressed his question. Councilmember Prazak made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hernandez to approve the consent agenda with clarifications of councilmember Hernandez's questions. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

REGULAR AGENDA

1. PRESENTATION BY JIM SABONIS WITH HILLTOP SECURITIES IN REFERENCE TO FINANCING OPTIONS FOR CITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.

Jorge Delgado, with Hilltop Securities, spoke on behalf of Jim Sabonis. Mr. Delgado presented the financial plan and future steps to the city council for city infrastructure projects. City council and Mr. Delgado had a discussion over what bank the loan would go through, the receipt of the credit rating, the interest rate and the length of the loan for financing the projects.

2. APPROVE PLAN OF FINANCE FOR CITY OF VENUS, TEXAS COMBINATION TAX AND REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2018 AND DIRECT STAFF TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PLAN.

Mayor Burgess presented the item and explained to council the city's road and sewer issues. He explained how the city facilities need renovating. The Mayor and council had a discussion regarding the city's financials. Councilmember Prazak made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Shaw to approve item 2 as stated. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

3. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE COMBINATION TAX AND REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION; AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT.

Mayor Burgess presented the item, Councilmember Prazak made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Scott to approve item 3 as stated. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

4. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON GRANTING A VARIANCE OF THE MASONRY REQUIREMENT IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE FOR ACKER HOMES FOR 3 NEW HOMES LOCATED IN THE 500 BLOCK OF OAK ST.

Mayor Burgess presented item 4 then asked Economic Development Director, Zach Goodlander, to explain the details of the variance. Mayor Burgess then stated what the current city ordinance indicates about masonry. Chris Acker with Acker homes spoke explaining how his company likes to keep the historic look of buildings and homes and how they like to use hardy plank. Mr. Acker commended Mr. Goodlander for his eagerness in seeking him out to build in Venus. Council was very receptive of the ideas Mr. Acker has in store for construction in Venus. Councilmember Prazak made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Shaw to approve item 4 as stated. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

5. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE LA RAZA FINAL PLAT FOR A PROPERTY IN THE VENUS ETJ LOCATED AT 1200 S. FM 157, GEO ID 126.0379.00160 FOR CARLOS NOE MAGANA.

Mayor Burgess presented the item, Councilmember Prazak made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hernandez to approve item 5 as stated. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

6. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE VENUS RIDGE IV FINAL PLAT FOR A PROPERTY IN THE VENUS ETJ/PROPOSED ANNEXATION LOCATED ON COUNTY ROAD 501, GEO ID 126.0358.00070.

Mayor Burgess presented the item, Councilmember Shaw made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Scott to approve item 6 as stated. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

7. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 639-2018-03 TO ACCEPT LANDOWNER MARIE WILLOUGHBY'S REQUEST FOR A TRACT OF LAND TO BECOME A PART OF VENUS'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION, NAMELY; A TRACT IDENTIFIED BY ELLIS COUNTY CAD NUMBER 00.9257.901.002.00.115

Mayor Burgess presented the item, Councilmember Shaw made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Hernandez to approve item 7 as stated at 8:12 PM. Motion carried unanimously (5,0). *(correct ordinance number was stated when item was approved. In packet the ordinance numbers for items 7 and 8 were flipped)*

8. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 640-2018-03 TO ACCEPT LANDOWNER JOYCE AND JAMES HOWARD'S REQUEST FOR A TRACT OF LAND TO BECOME A PART OF VENUS'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION, NAMELY; A TRACT IDENTIFIED BY ELLIS COUNTY CAD NUMBER 00.4022.000.001.00.115.

Mayor Burgess presented the item, Councilmember Prazak made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Shaw to approve item 7 as stated at 8:13 PM. Motion carried unanimously (5,0). *(Correct ordinance number was stated when item was approved. In packet the ordinance numbers for items 7 and 8 were flipped)*

9. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VENUS, TEXAS, AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO PROVIDE FOR THE REHABILITATION AND REPAIR OF THE SIDEWALK AWNING AND POLES ALONG SECOND STREET BETWEEN SOUTH MAIN AND SOUTH WALNUT STREETS.

Mayor Burgess presented the item, City Administrator/Chief of Police, Michael Boese explained the item to council. Councilmember Hernandez asked if staff had received any other quotes. Mr. Boese explained the company the city staff has used to do work on other city facilities is very trusting and do a good job. Councilmember Shaw made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Prazak to approve item 9 as stated. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

10. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A NEW RATE REVIEW MECHANISM (RRM) TARIFF TO GOVERN FUTURE ANNUAL RATE FILINGS BY ATMOS MID-TEX. THE ORDINANCE AND THE TARIFF ARE RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE CITIES SERVED BY ATMOS MID-TEX.

Mayor Burgess presented the item, Councilmember Hernandez made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Scott to approve item 10 as stated. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

11. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A NEW VEHICLE FOR THE VENUS POLICE DEPARTMENT USING EXISTING BUDGETARY FUNDS TO REPLACE A 2011 CHEVROLET POLICE VEHICLE WITH OVER 135,000 MILES.

Mayor Burgess presented the item and asked City Administrator/Chief of Police, Michael Boese explained the money is already appropriated. Councilmembers asked how many full-time police officers are employed with the city right now. Mr. Boese said 12 officers are currently employed with the city. Councilmember Prazak made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Scott to approve item 11 as stated. Motion carried unanimously (5,0).

12. PRESENTATION OF THE 2017 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT FOR THE VENUS POLICE DEPARTMENT AS PRESENTED BY CAPTAIN JAMES GROOM.

Captain, James Groom presented data collected in 2017 regarding racial profiling.

13. PRESENTATION OF MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- **POLICE DEPARTMENT** - Captain James Groom
- **FIRE DEPARTMENT** - Chief Allen
- **PUBLIC WORKS AND WATER/SEWER** - Public Works Director Cesar Roca
- **ADMINISTRATION** - City Administrator Michael Boese

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session

REGULAR AGENDA

ACTION TAKE AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Action needed

ADJOURNMENT: 9:05 PM

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Rana Gamel, City Secretary

James Burgess, Mayor