

City of Eden
Regular Session

The City Council of the City of Eden met in regular session Tuesday, February 9, 2021 in the council chambers of City Hall.

Mayor & City Council Members

Mayor Agapito Torres
Councilperson Don "Butch" Williams
Councilperson Luz Saavedra

Councilperson Jennifer Martinez - **Absent**
Councilperson Angela Quiroz-Regalado
Mayor Pro Tem Eddy Markham - **Absent**

City Staff/Appointed Officials

City Secretary/Admin Laura Beeson
Public Works Supervisor Ronnie Winans

WORKSHOP

Ronnie Winans provided a monthly report. Water leaks were repaired in the following areas: Allen Street, King Street, by Laundry Mat, by the Swimming Pool, off of Baygent Street, on Drinkard Street, behind Peach Tree House, on Bryan Street, at Funeral Home, and on Dail Street. SBR pumps at Sewer Plant and main Lift Station pumps were pulled and trash was removed. Sewer issues fixed on Barnett, at Doane's residence, and at 214 N. Main Street. Brush and limbs were removed from city parks and from residents' yards and mulched. Additional areas at the Cemetery were opened and cleaned up. Public Works read meters for billing and cut-offs, and took sewer samples weekly. Cooling Tower belts were replaced, the backhoe and the bobcat were greased, and several animal control calls were completed.

City Secretary/Administrator Laura Beeson provided a monthly update. We are still waiting on TCEQ approval on the USDA project. Bids are expected to go out mid-March, with bond approval expected at the end of March. The TML Elected Officials' Conference this year will be held virtually on 3/18/20. Amendments to the Ellis Well contract include changes to the term to 10 or 15 years. Our deep well, Well #3, has been pulled by a specialized pulling unit. Due to the depth, this is extremely costly. Problems found included check valves that exploded which caused the other check valves to fail. This in turn caused both the motor and the pump to go out. All will have to be replaced, exact cost undetermined, but estimated around \$70,000. City Secretary working to obtain original Articles of Incorporation, an "official" City map, and an "official" City Zoning Map. City Secretary is also working to determine best software or provider for Records Management and for Codification of Ordinances. The City had one resignation from Public Works Staff, and there is currently 2 openings for Public Works employees. Our water storage tanks were inspected, and we are waiting on the reports and overall results.

REPORTS OF OTHER AGENCIES, COMMISSIONS & STAFF

Economic Development Director Craig Pfluger provided a monthly report. All rent and IRP payments are current and up to date. Zen Body Care is sole renter at the Incubator, and Mission Mercantile rents the Foster Building. Mexico City Café is up to date on all loan payments to the Eden State Bank. A discussion was held regarding typical EEDC grants for local business ventures and regarding the digital sign with updates from Fast Signs. We are currently working with Found Media on branding and advertising pieces.

INVOCATION

Councilperson Williams provided the invocation.

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS

Citizen Robert Broad discussed pot holes in front of his house on Pecan Street. He brought this problem to City staff in September, and asked that these be fixed. City staff will attend to this issue.

CONSENT ITEMS

Councilperson Williams made a motion to approve Consent Items A, B, C, and D, seconded by Councilperson Regalado. Motion carried.

- A. Approval of January 12, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of January 19, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes
- C. Approval of Financial Statement Month Ending January 2021
- D. Approval of City of Eden Investment Report Month Ending January 2021

BUSINESS ITEMS

Councilperson Williams made a motion to approve Business Item A, an Order for a General Election for May 1, 2021 for 3 City Council seats. Motion was seconded by Councilperson Saavedra. Motion carried 3-0.

The City is waiting on a counteroffer by the Ellis family for the Ellis Well Easement Deed and Contract for Sale of Water. Councilperson Williams made a motion to table Business Item B, a Revised Ellis Well Easement Deed and Contract for Sale of Water until the counteroffer is received, and seconded by Councilperson Saavedra. Motion carried 3-0.

Councilperson Regalado made a motion to approve Business Item D, authorization for Mayor to sign TML Health Benefits Pool COBRA Continuation of Coverage Agreement, and seconded by Councilperson Williams. Motion carried 3-0.

The City can join in a group of cities to review the AEP Cost Request, thus allowing us to all work together on the best course of action, and to share the legal costs and services. Motion to approve Business Item E, Approval of and authorization for Mayor to sign Resolution of the City of Eden approving cooperation with the cities served by AEP to review AEP Texas Inc.'s requested Final Reconciliation of Advanced Metering Costs; hiring legal and consulting services to negotiate with the company and direct any necessary litigation and appeals; finding that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; and requiring notice of this resolution to legal counsel, was made by Councilperson Williams and seconded by Councilperson Saavedra. Motion carried 3-0.

Council discussed a letter to Eden CISD regarding the water utility line on Tillman Street. While this line will be replaced during the USDA Project, the City can choose to leave it in place and cut through any concrete in place over the city utility easement, or the water line can be moved to the street, which will incur additional costs of pavement repair. If the line is left in the current location, and the concrete must be cut, the City does also bear the costs for concrete saws, etc. each time a repair is needed. Councilperson Williams made

a motion to approve Business Item F, approve the letter as written, seconded by Councilperson Regalado. Motion carried 3-0.

Motion to approve Business Item G, January 2021 bills, was made by Councilperson Saavedra, and seconded by Councilperson Williams. Motion carried 3-0.

City Administrator discussed an Ordinance Granting AEP Texas, Inc. a Non-Exclusive Franchise to construct, maintain, and operate lines in the City of Eden. This is a continuation of the current franchise with AEP Texas, Inc. Councilperson Williams made a motion to move Business Item "C", Second Reading of an Ordinance Granting to AEP Texas, Inc. Company, its Successors and Assigns, a Non-Exclusive Franchise to Construct, Maintain and Operate Lines and Appurtenances and Appliances for Conducting Electricity In, Over, Under, and Through the Streets, Avenues, Alleys and Public Places of the City of Eden, Texas, to the third reading. Motion was seconded by Councilperson Regalado. Motion carried 3-0.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Agapito Torres, Mayor

Laura Beeson, City Administrator