

The Regular Council Meeting of August 28, 2012 was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

MAYOR

Ron Reinhard

OTHERS

Shannan Kinsley
Chief C.E. Rutledge
Brenda Reinhard
Don Reddout
Sandra Schneider
Susan Beavin
Gigi Duke
Mark Peavy

Lee Holleway
Holly Jenkins
Trisch Currier
Pat Tiner
Irene Scharf
Natalie Chandler
Murry Hughey
Laurie Hawkins

COUNCILMEMBERS

Don Nettle
Jennifer Nottingham
Mitch Thornton
Lynn Tiner
Jeff Waldrop

A quorum was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 24, 2012 Regular Council Meeting were reviewed. Councilperson Nottingham stated on page 2, under Fire Department Report, 3rd line down, the record should reflect "They had four other agencies assist them" and the remaining sentence of "It's in the same area that they had a fire years ago and had to call in Forest Service's to do a water drop" should be placed at the end of the paragraph. The motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Councilperson Nottingham, seconded by Councilperson Tiner and passed. Councilperson Waldrop and Councilperson Thornton abstained as they were not present at the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS BY CITIZENS AND VISITORS

Mayor Reinhard stated Presentations by Citizens and Visitors is a time for all interested to bring before City Council concerns and comments. City Council can ask for clarification but can't engage in discussion.

Brenda Reinhard stated Mandie Waldrop couldn't be present this evening so she asked Brenda to notify City Council and all interested that SLPC will be holding a Board Meeting on September 8th at 10:30 a.m. Following the meeting, they'll have a cleanup of the premises to get it ready for the City 50th Birthday Celebration and ask that all come out to help.

Lee Holleway stated he moved into Grey Forest 7 months ago because of the wildlife. This wildlife includes the peacocks that live on his and Sandra Schneider's properties. He stated the peacocks are not violent or messy. They are great birds and hope the City doesn't plan to get rid of them.

Holly Jenkins stated she feels the same way about the peacocks and wildlife in Grey Forest. She stated the thought of the City getting rid of them breaks her heart and hopes no one is in on the conflict of them disappearing. She stated if people don't like the peacocks, they shouldn't feed them and they'll stay off your property.

Trisch Currier provided City Council a handout with an update on the peacocks. She stated the peacocks have made themselves at home on her property. This year's crop of baby chicks is growing fast and she fears how many they will have next year. Recently several cars have stopped to photograph the birds and she doesn't like people stopping in front of her house. Trisch Currier stated again, she asks that action be taken to stop this invasion.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS/FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mayor Reinhard reviewed the July 2012 Monthly Financials. He stated the financials are on track and fairly close to performing as budgeted. Mayor Reinhard stated the 2012/2013 Proposed Budget was submitted last week as required by law and is on the City website. He met with Councilperson Nottingham and Councilperson Thornton to get recommendations for the budget. They will set a date later this evening for the Public Hearing and the budget will be approved at the September Council Meeting.

COUNCIL/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilperson Nottingham stated Scenic Loop~Boerne Stage Alliance is going to Austin on Thursday to speak before the Texas Transportation Commission about not closing the Old Spanish Trail. Susan Beavin is putting together the application for historical markers and will be the next focus of the Alliance. WIAC has not met. The Madla Board is actively working on the Circle of Friends, paths and a draft plan of the butterfly garden. The Madla Conservancy is fundraising and you can purchase a paver to be engraved and included in the development of the park for \$75.00. Councilperson Nottingham stated they welcome and greatly appreciate anyone interested in volunteering.

POLICE DEPRATMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Chief Rutledge stated the July 2012 Monthly Activity Report has been provided. He stated the 2nd Annual Tour for Children bike ride will be on Saturday, September 8th at 8:00 a.m. It's a big event that that goes through Grey Forest. They will have additional officers on duty in the City. Restrooms will be available at City Hall and the Fire Department.

PUBLIC WORKS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Rutledge stated Public Works has been chipping and helping out at Madla Park where there's time. He stated we are losing a lot of trees in the right-of-ways and is working with Laurie Hawkins on identifying trees that are a problem. Laurie Hawkins stated she has only gone through part of the City so far but has identified 19 trees in decline. She stated they have seen a lot of hypoxlon canker this year and it's a very aggressive fungus that strikes when a tree is stressed or already in decline. Laurie Hawkins stated she will continue to work with the Chief and coordinate a rating system for removal or treatment. They are still concerned with the tree in front of City Hall. She stated the trees identified range from a 4 inch juniper to 40 inch red oak.

GFU UTILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Reinhard stated the utility is doing well. The recent rain has helped the water levels. The wells continue to do well but ask that you do your best to conserve. The GFU Board Meeting was moved to tomorrow night.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Don Reddout stated the July 2012 report has been provided. There was one call in the City but was cancelled en route. They are on track in their current budget and are working on the budget for the new year.

Mayor Reinhard stated he will move into the New/Old Business Agenda. This is for Council deliberation and discussion. If he recognizes somebody in the audience or asks someone to speak, they will allow that input.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. DISCUSS AND ACT ON INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE CITY OF GREY FOREST TO IMPLEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE CHAPTER 706

Mayor Reinhard stated we entered into contract with the Texas Department of Public Safety in 2007 and have been under contract for years with the Failure to Appear Program. It's offered by the Driver License Division under the Transportation Code. To continue contracting, the City must enter into the amended contract. The only difference in the amended contract is the court is required to immediately notify them when no cause exists to deny renewal of a person's driver's license. Under the existing contract, courts had 5 business days to report compliance. The motion to accept the amended contract and support the Mayor signing the Interlocal Cooperation Contract was made by Councilperson Waldrop, seconded by Councilperson Nettle and passed unanimously.

2. DISCUSS AND ACT ON SETTING DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON FISCAL YEAR 2012/2013 MUNICIPAL ANNUAL BUDGET

Mayor Reinhard stated the budget has been submitted and a Public Hearing must be held as required by law. City Council discussed dates available and agreed they would like to hold the Public Hearing prior to adopting the budget at the September Council Meeting. The motion to hold the Budget Public Hearing September 17, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. was made by Councilperson Waldrop, seconded by Councilperson Nottingham and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

3. DISCUSS AND ACT ON ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GREY FOREST ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC ZONES, STOP AND YIELD INTERSECTIONS, ORDERING THE ERECTION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF SAID ORDINANCE

Councilperson Thornton stated he's heard a lot of concerns that reducing the speed limits would penalize people. He stated that is not his intentions for bringing this up. His concern is solely safety for the kids and more are moving into the area. Councilperson Thornton provided a handout showing the average stopping distances needed at different speeds. He stated in different areas around the City, he had his son walk around the corner while he would drive and stop at the current speed limit. There were several areas with blind spots where it would be impossible to see someone and several areas where there was not enough distance to stop at the current speed limit. Councilperson Thornton stated signs could be posted inside the city "Speed Limit 15 mph Unless Otherwise Posted". He asks Council to look at yield signs at Lovers Lane/Sherwood Trail and Park/Bluebonnet. There was discussion that most agencies don't enforce until going 10 mph over the speed limit. They would want to make sure the Police Department is enforcing. Councilperson Waldrop stated the concern is the overall public safety and he can't see how lowering the speed limit 5 mph would be that big of an inconvenience to anyone. Councilperson Nettle stated past reports have shown, most people are doing the speed limits, it's the few that break it. There was discussion on posting signs "Children Playing". More mirrors and cleaning the current mirrors was discussed. Speed bumps were discussed but the concern of interference with the flow of water down the middle of the streets was brought up. Councilperson Nottingham stated she would prefer stop signs rather than speed bumps. Mayor Reinhard stated they've had good discussion and would like to see if Councilperson Thornton could work with the Chief on the feedback and bring back a recommendation. He stated there was discussion on signs, speed limits and mirrors. He would like to see them address each separately and voted on individually.

4. DISCUSS REVIEW OF ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE NO. 51, AMENDMENT NO. 51-D REGULATING LIVESTOCK AND ALL AMENDMENTS REGULATING ANIMAL CONTROL

Councilperson Thornton reviewed the recommendations to the animal ordinance. He stated the recommendations are a combination of our current ordinance and the City of Helotes Animal Ordinance. The general substances of both entities ordinances were the same but portions of the Helotes ordinance were used because the wording/format appeared clearer. The most significant change requires citizen concerns first be arbitrated by representatives of the City, the animal owner and the sponsoring organization. Also significant, disputes relating to number of animals based on property size and all configuration matters are submitted to the Board of Adjustment rather than City Council. Mayor Reinhard stated the ordinance has to be sent to the City Attorney for thorough review and will probably take a few meetings.

5. DISCUSS UPDATE ON THE CITY OF GREY FOREST 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Brenda Reinhard thanked the 50th Year Anniversary Committee for all their hard work. She stated they have a lot of areas in need of help. They've received \$2,500 in donations to go towards decorations, restrooms, etc. The Helotes Echo will be attending and taking photos. The formal invites will be prepared this weekend and mailed Monday. Mark Peavy is handling the music and entertainment. He's received a great response from NISD to be involved in this aspect. The next Committee Meeting is Thursday. They encourage all to help at the cleanup at SLPC, September 8th at 10:30 a.m. to get the premises ready for the celebration. City Council thanked the committee for their hard work.

The motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilperson Waldrop, seconded by Councilperson Thornton and adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

These minutes were written/recorded by Shawana Kinsley.

These minutes were approved as written amended on the 25th day of September, 2012.

Signed: Ronald G. Reinhard
Ronald G. Reinhard, Mayor