

The Regular Council Meeting of July 24, 2012 was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

MAYOR

Ron Reinhard

OTHERS

Shannan Kinsley
Lieutenant Frank Francis
Don Reddout
Brenda Reinhard
Gigi Duke
Ann Mabry
Murry Hughey
Jorge Cantu

COUNCILMEMBERS

Don Nettle
Jennifer Nottingham
Mitch Thornton - Absent
Lynn Tiner
Jeff Waldrop - Absent

A quorum was declared. Mayor Reinhard stated Councilperson Thornton and Councilperson Waldrop are out of town on work commitments and will not be present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 26, 2012 Regular Council Meeting were reviewed. The motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Councilperson Nottingham, seconded by Councilperson Tiner and passed unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS BY CITIZENS AND VISITORS

Murry Hughey stated this evening when he got off work, he received a call from his union and they gave him a job offer that he's going to take. Mr. Hughey stated he is informing Council that next Friday, August 3rd will be his last day. Mayor Reinhard stated we are sorry to lose him.

MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS/FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mayor Reinhard reviewed the June 2012 Financials. He stated there are no new line items over budget that hasn't previously been explained. Mayor Reinhard stated the official City website has been made public. They've had hundreds of hits and received several compliments on it. Mayor Reinhard stated the process of the Fiscal Year Budget is underway. He's doing an analysis of expenses this year and is trying to get more in line with what the projected income/expenses will be. He hopes to have Councilperson Thornton and Councilperson Nettle work with him as a budget committee. They will set a date for the Budget Public Hearing at the August Meeting. As they have done in the past couple of years, he would like to see the Public Hearing set for a date at least a week before budget approval so that they have an opportunity to discuss and digest.

COUNCIL/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilperson Nottingham stated Scenic Loop~Boerne Stage Alliance is still working on the non closure of the Old Spanish Trail on Boerne Stage Road in Leon Springs. WIAC did meet and is planning a field trip for the members which will include Government Canyon. Madla Park Board has received the email that the birds are gone. They are hoping to have some activity and move forward on the butterfly garden, circle of friends and landscaping. Their next Board Meeting is Sunday, July 29th at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

POLICE DEPRATMENT ACTIVITY REPORT

Lieutenant Frank Francis reviewed the June 2012 Monthly Activity Report. He stated they've received intelligence on the burglary of vehicles and have a person of interest that is already in police custody for a similar crime. The investigation remains ongoing.

PUBLIC WORKS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Murry Hughey sated Public Works has trimmed and mowed all roads except for Scenic Loop Road which he hopes to complete later this week. Mr. Hughey stated they still have a few people putting piles of brush out by the road. He stated Public Works is not picking up brush right now. If there's brush you absolutely need to get rid of, you would need to pay for a permit through City Hall.

GFU UTILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Reinhard stated the utility and wells continue to do well. The GFU Board Meeting is tomorrow night and is an Open Meeting if anyone is interested in attending.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Don Reddout stated the June 2012 report has been provided. There were 6 runs in the City, all medical/assist EMS related. Their response time in the City is still good. Don Reddout stated although it's not in the City, he will report that last week they responded to a brush fire up on Bluehill/Sams Ranch Road. They had four other agencies assist them. The area's not really assessable with the trucks and requires a lot of hand work. Don Reddout stated they did a good job containing it and even though it rains we still have brush fires. 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.

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 CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GREY FOREST AND C-6 DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, INC. EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 31, 2012

Mayor Reinhard stated we are in the budget process and the existing contract with C-6 Disposal for trash/recycling services expires on September 31, 2012. He stated we have been with C-6 Disposal for 5 years and feel they have done an outstanding job. Prior to C-6 Disposal, we were displeased with the overall service and support of the previous company. Mayor Reinhard stated if we went to once a week trash removal, it doesn't save us a lot of money. We've only had one increase over the last 5 years. They are allowed a CPI increase every year but haven't so they are doing a good job at controlling their costs. If the City decides to renew, the cost will not increase from what we currently pay. Jorge Cantu, Owner/President of C-6 Disposal stated he is able to continue to keep the costs down for Grey Forest because they renewed a 5 year contract with Helotes and because the cities are so close, the only cost he basically has to funnel to Grey Forest is man power. He stated they had one CPI Adjustment over the past 5 years and any slight increase beyond that has been for fuel costs. Councilperson Nettle stated he couldn't ask for better service. Councilperson Nottingham stated she doesn't have any plans to do this, but what would the City save if recycling was taken out. Mr. Cantu stated you would probably be looking at a savings of \$6,500 per year. He stated prior to the meeting, he was given the question of how much residence participation in recycling does Grey Forest have. He was able to talk to the supervisor and driver for the City. They tell him Grey Forest is higher than normal with probably 60-70% participation where most cities are 50% or lower. While they don't have an actual clear factual count to provide, he feels comfortable giving an average count based on them picking up in the City 52 weeks a year over the past 5 years. Mr. Cantu stated he would like to say the Grey Forest community is greener than most in terms of sensitivity to the environment and understanding what recycling does. He stated he appreciates the City giving him the opportunity 5 years ago and if given the chance to continue working together, it's his goal to make sure he does what he can where possible to work within the needs of the City. Councilperson Nottingham stated the only complaint she has heard is sometimes it takes 2-3 days to pick up dead animals and the smell can get bad. Shannan Kinsley stated those situations have been due to City staff not being available to call in the request for an additional pickup. Councilperson Nottingham stated she would like to see if maybe we can work on the communication in those situations. Jorge Cantu stated he will look into other things they may be able to incorporate to make the smell less onerous. Additionally, City staff has his personal cell number where he can be reached at all times and have used in the past. Mayor Reinhard stated given the good service and rates staying constant, he would like to propose that we renew the contract for another 5 years. The motion to renew the contract with C-6 Disposal for another 5 years under the existing terms was made by Councilperson Tiner, seconded by Councilperson Nettle and Opposed by Councilperson Nottingham. Councilperson Nottingham stated she doesn't oppose renewing the contract but would like to go with the Alternate Service of once a week trash pickup. The motion passed with 2 YES and 1 OPPOSED. Mayor Reinhard stated he will work with Jorge Cantu on getting a contract signed. Jorge Cantu stated he will not let them down.

OLD BUSINESS:

2. 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

Mayor Reinhard stated Councilperson Thornton and Chief Rutledge have been working on this item but are not ready to bring anything before Council at this time. He stated there will be no action tonight but will open the topic up for discussion. Councilperson Nettle stated he wasn't present at the last meeting but thinks it may be difficult to drive up some of the hills at 15mph and doesn't think it will change people's driving habits. He stated it may be a good idea to put stop signs in the places mentioned. Councilperson Tiner stated he's not sure about lowering the speed limit but agrees with putting stop signs. Councilperson Nottingham stated years ago they had a four way stop sign at the intersection of Bluebonnet/Park and it was removed after 2 weeks of people complaining. She stated if the bamboo was trimmed at one of the residence, you could see around that corner. Councilperson Nottingham stated she drives the speed limit and kind of resents the speed limit being lowered because other people are speeding. She would hope that rather than lowering the speed limits, they would direct the Police Department to start giving tickets where possible being aware that with some of the curves/hills, it may be hard to get speeders on radar. There was discussion that previous studies by the Police Department have shown that most people are doing the speed limit and only a few are breaking it. There was further discussion on locations for possible stop signs, lowering the speed limit on Scenic Loop Road, restricting trucks, additional mirrors at curbs and blind spots, prohibiting text usage and limiting cell phone usage to hands free only. Mayor Reinhard stated he recommends the comments/discussion be given to Councilperson Thornton and Chief Rutledge to consider and carry item over to the next agenda.

3. DISCUSS STATUS ON REVIEW OF ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE NO. 51 AND AMENDMENT NO. 51-D REGULATING LIVESTOCK

Councilperson Nettle stated he met with Councilperson Thornton with the approach of addressing the major issues such as barking dogs, 4-H and livestock to be able to bring back a recommendation to City Council. Councilperson Nettle reviewed several parts of the Helotes ordinance on animal control, 4-H and livestock that they are leaning towards recommending. He stated the Helotes ordinance is pretty well designed and much easier to read. They also found a lot of little things in the current ordinance that they are going to recommend be modified and changed to make it easier to read and consistent. They're things of not real substance, more wording but will be easier to understand. Councilperson Nettle stated the major change they are going to recommend is if the person can't meet the regulations or doesn't agree with the ruling, they will go before the Board of Adjustment to ask for a variance instead of City Council. He stated he'd like to make sure he has been provided all the ordinances regulating animals and if possible in a form where they can work online to modify. Councilperson Nettle stated they will continue to review and work on addressing more the major issues for now and then get feedback from Franklin Publishing on the remaining inconsistencies. Mayor Reinhard stated the City will get them the requested information.

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

Brenda Reinhard stated the 50 Year Anniversary Committee has been busy. They hope to have formal invites out by the end of August. Ann Mabry was able to get the ice cream donated by Grey Moss Inn. They will rent port-a-potties to prevent wear and tear on the clubhouse. A contract for the Mayor to sign will be coming soon for the port-a-potties and they are hoping the City Attorney can review. The game committee is working on old fashioned games and a movie. They continue to work on the tree dedication, music, set up/tear down committee, and are looking at activities such as a baking contest. Brenda Reinhard stated to date she has received \$1,900 in cash donations with a couple more commitments outstanding. They will be setting up a RSVP email on the website.

The motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilperson Nottingham, seconded by Councilperson Tiner and adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

These minutes were written/recorded by Shawna Kinsley.

These minutes were approved as written / amended on the 28th day of August, 2012.

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