

City of Wallis
Regular City Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 16, 2022

This is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting for the City of Wallis, Texas held on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 6.00pm.

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Main Jr. called the meeting to order at 6.01pm.

2. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by Mayor Pro-Tem, Clark Main Jr.

3. **Roll Call and Certification of Quorum**

A quorum was present. Present were Councilmember James King, Councilmember Melissa McFarland, Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Main Jr., and Councilmember Joell Prado.

4. **Communication from the Public**

John Horne, who is remodeling a home on Guylar Street, expressed his concern with the Bureau Veritas Inspector who has been assigned to his property. He believed he was being failed on final finishings which should not be included in a Rough Inspection.

5. **Consent Agenda**

Motion made by Councilmember James King, second by Melissa McFarland, to approve the Minutes from the October 19, 2022 Regular Meeting and the October 28, 2022 Special Council Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Department Report**

i. **Public Works – No action on monthly report.**

Royce Macha reported that the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the smart water meters has been advertised in the Sealy newspaper. GrantWorks will be handling the contractors. Once installation dates have been established, homeowners will be given advance notice via door hangers.

Public works is currently working on sewer line issues at two (2) separate properties.

The 'No Engine Brake' signs have been ordered and should be delivered within the week.

- ii. Police Department – No action on monthly report.

Chief Moseley informed Council that the Police Department had been awarded the Crime Victims Grant for 1 more year.

Sergeant Sharpe is retiring on November 27, 2022 but will stay on as a non-paid reserve. Al Cordeiro was introduced as the new hire in the Police Department.

The Wallis Chamber of Commerce will be holding their Christmas Parade on Saturday December 17, 2022, starting at 6pm. The route will be the same as previous years, starting at S. 9th Street, heading down Hwy 36 and ending at the American Legion Hall. Motion by Councilmember Melissa McFarland, and second by Councilmember James King to close the affected streets for the duration of the parade. All were in favor and motion passed unanimously.

Chief Moseley raised concern over lack of compliance with regards to permits within the city. It is permissible for the Code Enforcement Officer to issue stop work orders if unpermitted work is being carried out.

- iii. Municipal Court – No action on monthly report.

7. Financial Review

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Joell Prado to approve the financial reports and payment of monthly bills. All in favor and motion passed unanimously.

8. New Business

- i. Discuss and Act on 2023 Holiday Calendar

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Joell Prado to approve the 2023 City Holiday Calendar and that we should observe June 19th as an additional Federal Holiday which will be added to the calendar. All were in favor and motion passed unanimously.

- ii. Amended Ordinance No. 233-A

Act on and Adopt Ordinance # 233-A

AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF WALLIS ORDINANCE NO. 233 ESTABLISHING AND PROVIDING RATES FOR SERVICE OF THE WATERWORKS AND SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF WALLIS, TEXAS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; ESTABLISHING AND PROVIDING FOR FEES FOR CONNECTION TO SAID SYSTEM; REPEALING PROCEEDINGS IN CONFLICT OR INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT.

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Joell Prado to approve Ordinance No. 233-A if amended to say the following:

“Any sewer line 6ft or deeper, will be charged at the current contractor price”

Motion passed 3-1. Councilmember Melissa McFarland voted against.

iii. Discuss and Act on adopting a Rental Housing Ordinance for the City of Wallis

After lengthy discussions with both Council and the public, this item has been tabled to next month so the proposed Ordinance can be reviewed by the City of Wallis attorney.

Some of the items to be addressed include: fees, violations, annual rental property registrations and notification of tenant changes via utility changes.

The main objective of the Ordinance is to ensure the public health and safety of the citizens. A landlord, taking rent money has a responsibility to provide a safe home for his tenant. Safety inspections should be carried out after each tenant change.

iv. Agenda Request

Discuss and Act on Agenda Request from Bernie Garner re City of Wallis Voting Rights

Mr. Garner asked that, if living outside city limits but using city water and sewer, he should be able to vote. If he can't vote then others who do live outside the city and still have the ability to vote, should have that ability revoked.

Motion by Councilmember Melissa McFarland and second by Joell Prado to contact City Attorneys Olson & Olson to discuss City of Wallis Voting Rights. All in favor and motion passed unanimously.

v. Discuss and Act on Authorization to submit Request for Qualifications for Auditing Services

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Melissa McFarland to advertise and request RFQ from certified CPAs to do our City Audits. All in favor and motion passed unanimously.

vi. Discuss and Act on Code Enforcer Pay

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Joell Prado, to compensate our Code Enforcer at a rate of \$30 per hour and for the Code Enforcer to provide an invoice so he can be compensated for work already carried out. Motion passed 3-1. Councilmember Melissa McFarland voted against as she would like to look at the budget in more detail.

vii. Discuss and Possible Action on Sunset Estates Development

Councilmember James King met with the new developers for Sunset Estates regarding their need for water and sewer and the subsequent need to rebuild Railroad Street. Along with those developers, and a second developer who is looking to build town homes, they are agreeable to funding the work and being paid back from a percentage of the Ad Valorem taxes when the homes are complete. There will be no financial burden on our citizens.

Motion by Councilmember Joell Prado and second by Councilmember Melissa McFarland to move forward and continue these conversations/negotiations with the developers. All were in favor and motion passed unanimously.

viii. Discuss and Possible Action on Bluebonnet Water Conservation District Permit Amendment

We currently have pumping capabilities to handle Sunset Estates but our permit is not sufficient for that amount of water. Councilmember James King explained that we can ask for a 10% pumping capacity increase each year to cover population growth. This would require a simple permit amendment and a \$150 fee.

Motion by Councilmember Joell Prado, and second by Councilmember Melissa McFarland to send an amendment to have the permit extended by 10% pumping capacity each year in 2022 and 2023. All were in favor and motion passed unanimously

ix. Discuss and Possible Action on Passing an Ordinance to regulate multiple occupants in one facility or residence

City Attorney has been working on an Ordinance to address the above but it was not available for the City Meeting. The item was tabled for discussion at a Special City Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday November 23, 2022 at 6pm.

- x. Discuss and Possible Action on annexing the property located at 7146 Highway 60

No action required. Property is already fully in the city limits.

- xi. EDC Updates

Marti Frost reported that the EDC has purchased and closed on a 1-acre lot behind 1st Street. The idea is to gravel the area and turn it into a parking lot.

Both Mr. Marini's Empanada House and the Brandt 1910 events facility are moving forward.

The sidewalk grant is also moving forward and we should be ready to go out for construction bids in late December/early January.

- xii. Planning Committee Updates

Currently working on updating City Ordinances to the Website.

- xiii. Future Agenda Items

- i. Proclamation in Honor of the late Mayor Dennis L. Diggs
- ii. Discuss and Act on Adopting a Rental Housing Ordinance for the City of Wallis
- iii. Discuss and Act on Code Enforcer Pay

9. **Adjourn Meeting**

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Melissa McFarland to adjourn the meeting at 8.37pm. Motion passed unanimously.


Clark Main Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem


Lesley Doherty, City Secretary

ATTEST: