

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012

The City Council of the City of West Columbia, Texas, convenes this the 23rd day of April, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in a special meeting in the Council Chambers, 512 E. Brazos, West Columbia, Texas.

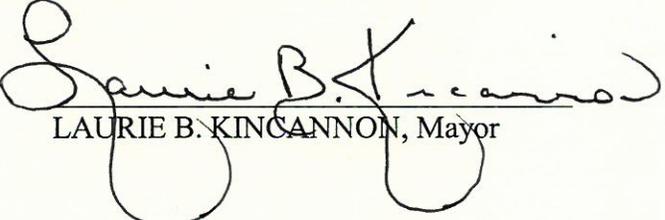
1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Mayor Kincannon. Present were Kincannon, Schwebel, Gilbert, Thomas, City Manager Sutherland and City Secretary Kuban. Absent were Tindol and Walker.
2. CONSIDER FUEL ADJUSTMENT RATE INCREASE TO COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE CONTRACT: It was discussed that Waste Connections timely submitted in writing a notice of the fuel adjustment and CPI increase for residential and commercial cart rates, but failed to address the increase to commercial dumpster customers as is pursuant to the agreement. Waste Connections representative Andy Tarango submitted the appropriate written notice and was present to address council. Motion was made by Schwebel to make the commercial dumpster rate increase effective June 1st. Motion was seconded by Thomas. Schwebel and Thomas voted Aye. Gilbert voted Nay. Motion carried.
3. CONSIDER TAXICAB PERMIT APPLICATION – MR. LAWRENCE VANDERGRIFT: Mr. Vandergriff submitted an application to operate a taxicab service within the city. He was present to address council and give a history of his previous experience with Brazosport Yellow Cab. He stated that his rates would be adjustable based on gas prices. The required 5” lettering for the permit number was suggested to be reduced to 4”. His business would operate one vehicle with himself as the sole driver in the beginning stages but may include his wife as an additional driver in the future. The specific equipment of the cab was discussed including that it would have GPS, audio and video components. He also stated that he would service West and East Columbia, Columbia Lakes and the surrounding area. Schwebel made motion to grant the permit application based on the resulting background check. Thomas seconded and all voted Aye. Schwebel made motion to allow variance for 4” lettering on cab door. Gilbert seconded and all voted Aye.
4. CONSIDER RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS: Chief Charlie Glisch and Richard Talesky were present to address council. They answered questions regarding training requirements, active member roster, ISO rating requirements and recruiting tactics. Kincannon stated the city’s appreciation of the department and suggested networking with other local departments to recruit members. Gilbert stated he felt this was the city’s obligation. Options discussed were social media advertising; increased incentives such as disability insurance; utility bill captions; letter campaign through area churches; and co-sponsored banner to hang on side of building facing Highway 35 traffic. No action necessary.
5. WORKSHOP – UTILITY ORDINANCE AND EXTENSION POLICY: Thomas reported on the Capital Improvement Committee’s recommendation of future utility extensions resulting in annexation procedures. Schwebel suggested creating an operating manual for City Manager to rely on instead of code of ordinances. Sutherland suggested addressing variables where existing wells are concerned and further recommended that connecting to sewer be required with any water connection would resolve any future issues. Gilbert stated that the committee’s recommendation for annexation did that. It was discussed that Mr. Lynch was

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still disgruntled and that Mr. Womack had not yet reported to him the outcome of the committee meeting. Schwebel stated that Mr. Lynch had sent letters to council and emails regarding city policies and that she had been in contact with him. Thomas was opposed to Mr. Lynch trying to dictate city policy when he was not a resident inside the city limits. Gilbert questioned if an existing ordinance limited wells inside the city limits to irrigation only and not for drinking. Sutherland stated there was, but felt it wasn't very clear where existing wells were concerned. Gilbert recommended that existing wells not be allowed to be grandfathered. Sutherland also stated that there was a property inside the city limits that was being proposed for an RV park. Although there was an ordinance that addressed mobile home parks, she felt it necessary to create one to address RV parks specifically to keep them from evolving into a mobile home park. With no additional suggestions or concerns it was recommended for the city attorney to draft ordinance changes discussed.

6. ADJOURN: Mayor Kincannon adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.


LAURIE B. KINCANNON, Mayor

ATTEST:


KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary