

CITY OF HOOKS

September 21, 2020 Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Mayor		Councilperson Wright	Present
Councilperson Little	Present	Councilperson Reiter	Present
Councilperson Phillips	Present	Councilperson Murchison	Present

1. The Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore Reiter at 6:00 PM
2. The Invocation was led by Judge Lester Colley and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilperson Phillips.
3. Consent Agenda Items – Motion was made by Councilperson Little and seconded by Councilperson Phillips to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.
4. Open forum/Public Comments- Stacy Watts wanted to give the Council an update on her situation in her neighborhood and also see if there was a way to prevent the situation she had in the future. Janet Stoker spoke about a dog bite she encountered over the weekend and how she feels as though the leash laws should be looked into. She questioned if it was accurate for the law to state every day not fixed and the dog running loose if every day a citation can be given. Chief Woodard did state that was an accurate fact. Janet Stoker then asked if we could enforce that a little more.
5. Resolution No. 20-09-21A- Fire Chief Whitehurst explained the need for the new resolution. He mentioned that every 3 to 5 years the NFPA updates. For the Bowie County Fire Marshal and Hooks Fire Marshal to be on the same page, it would be best to all follow the same laws and rules. This resolution will automatically change the year of the NFPA laws to the current one the State Fire Marshal’s Office follows. Motion was made by Councilperson Little and seconded by Councilperson Wright to approve the Resolution No. 20-09-21A as presented. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.
6. Ordinance No. 20-09-21AMEND- Mayor Pro Tempore Marc Reiter explained briefly this was to balance out a few accounts that went over in the 19-20 Fiscal Year. Motion was made by Councilperson Phillips and seconded by Councilperson Murchison to approve the amendments to the FY 19-20 as presented. Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.
7. Resolution No. 20-09-21B- Mayor Pro Tempore Marc Reiter explained again for those that missed the hearing held at 5:30, this was not an increase. This is a lower rate than last year. Motion was made by Councilperson Phillips and seconded by Councilperson Little to approve the 2020 Tax Rate of the Voter Approval Tax Rate of .9109/\$100 to include the Maintenance and Operation Rate of .5865/\$100 and the Interest and Sinking Rate .3244/\$100. Motion was carried by a unanimous vote.
8. Ordinance No. 20-09-21- Motion was made by Councilperson Phillips and seconded by Councilperson Little to discuss this ordinance. Councilperson Little had a concern he wanted to voice. He stated he was absent the last budget meeting and wanted to know what happened to the salaries. He wondered why they were cut and not given like talked about. Mayor Pro Tempore also state he had completed research on a few Cities our size with

close to our revenue coming in and thought that the City Secretary position should be raised a little. He stated with everything that position holds and completes, it should be at least \$.50 more in salary. Councilperson Little made them amendment to the motion to change the salary in the Admin Fund to increase in Salary .50 to make the raise that was \$1.50 to \$2.00. With Councilperson Little motioning with the amendment, Councilperson Wright seconded to approve the raise of \$.50 and to accept the Ordinance No. 09-08-21 as presented for the next 20-21 Fiscal Year. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

9. Resolution No. 20-09-21C- Mayor Pro Tempore gave a small update on the EDA project and stated this was needed to accept the EDA Award # 08-01-05371. Motion was made by Councilperson Little and seconded by Councilperson Phillips to approve Resolution No. 20-09-21C as presented. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.
10. Authorization to issue RFQs-Mayor Pro Tempore Marc Reiter stated with the EDA Award, there are steps to be completed. The first is the Engineering Services. The Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services must be sent out to at least 5 engineers and advertised in the paper to start the process. The Engineers will have until October 5, 2020 at 10AM to get those submitted to City Secretary Andria Whitehurst for the Council to vote on the winner of the RFQ. Councilperson Phillips and seconded by Councilperson Little to authorize the RFQs for Engineering Services to follow the EDA Award # 08-01-05371. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.
11. HYSA Agreement-With a new President in place, the City wanted to go over the proposed agreement that was never signed before. With Buddy Shelton present as the new President of the Board, he had a lot to discuss. Since there was a lot of points to discuss, Councilperson Phillips asked if this agreement could be tabled until Buddy Shelton could come to the office to speak with Marc regarding the changes needed then place it back on the agenda for final approval. No further discussion was needed, and item was tabled.
12. Bruce Biddy- Bruce did not show. Item was tabled if he would like to come to next council meeting. If not, take off agenda.
13. Diane Henderson- Diane spoke about her concern for her water bill going up. She wondered why hers and why so much. Mayor Pro Tempore Marc Reiter explained the rates have not gone up since last October. While listening to Mrs. Henderson's story, he picked up on her being home more. He asked if she could be using more water while she has been home due to COVID and out of work. Diane stated she didn't think she was using anymore than normal. Mayor Pro Tempore Marc informed her to call City Secretary Andria Whitehurst to set a time with her for when a maintenance worker can come by and check the meter to make sure it isn't spinning and check everything. Mrs. Henderson acknowledged and stated she would do so. No action taken.
14. Resignation-The Council read Councilperson Little's resignation letter and listened to him speak. Motion was made by Councilperson Phillips and seconded by Councilperson Wright to accept his resignation and all wished him the best and thanked him for his service. Motion was carried by 4 to 1 with Councilperson Little not able to vote.
15. Appointing-The Council asked Mr. William Felty to step in as Council Place 1 Member. All members felt as though he would be a great person to fill the position. Motion was made by Councilperson Murchison and seconded by Councilperson Phillips to appoint William Felty. Judge Lester Colley administered the Oath of Office to William Felty. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.
16. With no further discussion, Mayor Pro Tempore Marc Reiter considers adjournment. Motion was made by Councilperson Phillips and seconded by Councilperson Murchison to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 7:05PM.

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Mayor Pro Tempore, Marc Reiter

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City Secretary, Andria Whitehurst