

**CITY OF SANTA FE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 9, 2015 7:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
12002 HWY. 6  
SANTA FE, TEXAS**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Ralph Stenzel.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Ralph Stenzel  
Mayor Pro-tem Jeff Tambrella  
Councilmember Bubba Jannett  
Councilmember Pat McCrary  
Councilmember Wanda Wagner  
Councilmember Joe Carothers  
City Attorney Ellis J. Ortego  
City Manager Joe Dickson  
Director of Administrative Services Pam Wood  
Absent: City Secretary Janet L. Davis, excused

The invocation was given by and the pledge of allegiance to the U. S. Flag and to the Texas Flag was led by City Manager Joe Dickson.

Mayor's and City Manager's Report:

- a. The minutes of 3/16/15 and 3/26/15 were approved as presented.
- b. Mayor Stenzel presented a Certificate of Recognition to Winnie Corsaro for her many years of dedicated service to the City of Santa Fe citizens and community.
- c. Mayor Stenzel presented a proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month
- d. Mayor Stenzel presented a proclamation for Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month
- e. Chief Campbell reported that while responding to a call at a storage unit, one of our police officers was bitten by a vicious dog and received medical treatment.

Planning and Zoning Business:

Old Business: None

New Business:

**1. Consideration and possible action: Granting/denying request for abandonment of a portion of the alley from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between Jackson and Peck and authorizing the Mayor to execute the documents necessary to transfer ownership**

Community Services Director Diana Steelquist said Mr. Cano purchased two tracts of land not realizing that an alley was between the two lots. The Planning Commission held a public hearing last month and there was no opposition to the abandonment. There are no utilities in the alley. The Planning and Zoning has recommended approval of the abandonment request. Motion by Councilmember Carothers, seconded by Councilmember Wagner to grant the request for abandonment of a portion of the alley from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to 3<sup>rd</sup>

Street between Jackson and Peck and to authorize the Mayor to execute the documents necessary to transfer ownership. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

City Business (Other):

Old Business: None

New Business:

**1. Consideration and possible action: Approval of Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation water and sewer line extension "Project B" located on Tower Road between Maple Street and Highway 6**

City Manager Joe Dickson said a branch of Petroleum Distributing of Texas, Gas Dude, is in the process of a feasibility study to construct a gas/convenience store at the corner of Tower Rd. and Hwy. 6 across the highway from the existing Shell station. They have asked the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation for help with the cost of installation of a water and sewer line. The proposed water and sewer line extension would be located between Maple Street and Highway 6 on Tower Road. As an incentive, the SFEDC Board of Directors approved up to \$50,000 as a one-third partnership in the project to help with the cost of the water and sewer line extension, and the Board has requested an easement from Gas Dude at the rear property line for use in future extensions. Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Wagner to approve the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation water and sewer line extension "Project B" located on Tower Road between Maple Street and Highway 6. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**2. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution finding that CenterPoint Energy Entex's ("CenterPoint" or "Company") Statement of Intent to increase rates filing within the City should be denied; finding that the City's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the Company; finding that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; and requiring notice of this resolution to Company and Legal Counsel**

City Manager Joe Dickson said CenterPoint Gas has requested a rate increase and if we do not deny the request, the rate increase will go into effect on May 1. By denying the rate increase, the Gulf Coast Coalition of Cities, on behalf of their member cities, can review the request and identify adjustments that should be made to the Company's request. Motion by Councilmember McCrary, seconded by Councilmember Wagner to adopt the resolution finding that CenterPoint Energy Entex's ("CenterPoint" or "Company") Statement of Intent to increase rates filing within the City should be denied; finding that the City's reasonable rate case expenses shall be reimbursed by the Company; finding that the meeting at which this resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; and requiring notice of this resolution to Company and Legal Counsel. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

Officer Beaver introduced our new canine puppy, Hondo, donated to the City through a grant program, and trained in narcotics detection and tracking suspects. Hondo is taking over for retired canine, Kujo.

**3. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution regarding tax assessment and collection services by the Galveston County Assessor Collector of Taxes**

City Manager Joe Dickson said the current agreement with the Galveston County Tax Assessor Collector for tax collection services will expire July 31, 2015. In an effort to streamline the renewal process, the tax collector has requested each entity adopt a resolution requiring her office to perform assessment and collection duties as provided by the Texas Property Tax Code. The rate per parcel for the upcoming tax year will be reduced slightly from \$0.27 to \$0.256. They are also proposing to disburse payments on a daily basis as opposed to holding funds for disbursement until they total \$1,000. They do an excellent job for the City and staff recommends adoption of the resolution. Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to adopt the resolution regarding tax assessment and collection services by the Galveston County Assessor Collector of Taxes. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**4. Consideration and possible action: First reading of an ordinance of the City of Santa Fe, Texas, amending Chapter 1, General Provisions, Section 16, Regulation of Sex Offender Residency, to increase the distance requirement for establishment of sex offender residency**

Police Chief Kenneth Campbell said staff has been approached by a concerned citizen requesting an increase in the distance requirement for establishment of sex offender residency. The city currently requires a distance of 1,000 feet, but most agencies in the county require a radius of 2,000 ft. The distance requirement for current sex offenders would be 'grandfathered' at 1,000 feet, but once they move, the new distance requirement would be enforceable. The consensus of Council was to increase the distance requirement to 2,500 feet. Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to pass the first reading of an ordinance of the City of Santa Fe, Texas, amending Chapter 1, General Provisions, Section 16, Regulation of Sex Offender Residency, to increase the distance requirement to 2,500 feet for establishment of sex offender. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**5. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing staff to seek bids for an electronic digital marquee for City Hall**

City Manager Joe Dickson said we discussed repairing the marquee during last year's budget workshops. We have received insurance proceeds from the hail storm that we can use, so staff would like authorization to seek bids for a new marquee. Staff would prepare specifications for a new electronic digital marquee for City Hall. The consensus of Council was to prepare two sets of specs for a marquee – One for something similar in size and type to what we have now and one for something a little larger with varied color capabilities. Motion by Councilmember Tambrella, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to authorize staff to seek bids for an electronic digital marquee for City Hall. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

Summary of action from this agenda, request for future agenda items, and scheduling future meetings  
The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 23, 2015.

Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

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RALPH STENZEL, MAYOR

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Janet L. Davis, City Secretary