

**CITY OF SANTA FE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 14, 2014 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 Joe Carothers  
Councilmember Bubba Jannett  
Councilmember Pat McCrary  
Councilmember Wanda Wagner  
City Attorney Ellis J. Ortego  
City Manager Joe Dickson  
City Secretary Janet L. Davis

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 7/10/14 were approved as presented.

Planning and Zoning Business:

Old Business: None

New Business:

**1. Consideration and possible action: Granting/denying request by David Lippert for a variance from Chapter 8, Subdivisions, Code of Ordinances, Subsection 6.1.1.B. and 6.2.2, and from Article 4, Zoning Districts, Santa Fe Zoning Ordinance, Subsection 4.01.04.B, Lot Width, requesting a reduction in the lot frontage requirements from 80 feet to 30 feet for 5.916 acres located at 5110 Ave. T, Santa Fe, Texas**

Community Services Director Diana Steelquist said Mr. Lippert owns 3 lots off Avenue T and one of the tracts does not have any road frontage. She said he would like to create a 3-lot subdivision with two of the flag lots having only 30 feet of frontage on Ave. T; however, our current requirement for areas zoned AR is a minimum of 80 feet. Ms. Steelquist said the Planning and Zoning Commission denied the variance request because they felt the situation is self-imposed since a 2-lot subdivision is possible under current regulations and a 3-lot subdivision would be possible if a road was built off Ave. T to access those three lots. She said the lot configuration may be considered unique which may justify the granting of the variance request, except there are many properties in Santa Fe with this same configuration. Mr. Lippert is appealing the Commission's decision to the City Council based on the fact that he would have to remove

several pecan trees, some very rare, to build a new road. He said he lives on one lot and his granddaughter would like to build a home on one of the lots. He wants to keep the property within his family and he plans to do so with the number of children and grandchildren that live in the area. Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Wagner to grant the appeal request by David Lippert for a variance from Chapter 8, Subdivisions, Code of Ordinances, Subsection 6.1.1.B. and 6.2.2, and from Article 4, Zoning Districts, Santa Fe Zoning Ordinance, Subsection 4.01.04.B, Lot Width, requesting a reduction in the lot frontage requirements from 80 feet to 30 feet for 5.916 acres located at 5110 Ave. T, Santa Fe, Texas, to allow the three-lot subdivision. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

City Business (Other):

Old Business: None

New Business:

**1. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing Mayor to execute Resale Deed conveying 1.211 acres off 28<sup>th</sup> Street, a part of Outlot 424, Alta Loma Outlots, Galveston County, Texas, (tax acct #1095-0000-0425-002) to Ana Argueta**

City Manager Joe Dickson said this is a tax foreclosure by the Santa Fe I.S.D. The city's portion of tax revenue from the sale would be \$345 of the \$1,076 originally owed. Motion by Councilmember Carothers, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to authorize the Mayor to execute the Resale Deed conveying 1.211 acres off 28<sup>th</sup> Street, a part of Outlot 424, Alta Loma Outlots, Galveston County, Texas, (tax acct #1095-0000-0425-002) to Ana Argueta. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**2. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing execution of the Interlocal Agreement, and related documents, with the City of League City for implementation and operation of the Gulf Region Information and Dispatch (GRID) System**

Public Safety Director Kenneth Campbell said we currently have an agreement with the County for high speed data connectivity for a shared law enforcement records management system. He said we would like to exhaust that agreement, which expires on September 14, 2014, and move into a consortium with the City of League City to share law enforcement records. He said we could also utilize their mapping support, and they have other additional software modules that we could benefit from immediately. Chief Campbell said the fees are based on calls for service by each agency and those fees should decrease as more agencies join the consortium. Motion by Councilmember McCrary, seconded by Councilmember Wagner to authorize execution of the Interlocal Agreement, and related documents, with the City of League City for implementation and operation of the Gulf Region Information and Dispatch (GRID) System. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**3. Consideration and possible action: Carpeting for City Hall Lobby area**

City Manager Joe Dickson said Mainland Carpet has located an additional pallet of carpet squares that match the carpet squares installed in the main work area of City Hall if we want to install them in another area, perhaps the lobby, of City Hall. The consensus of Council was that carpet in entry ways is never a good idea.

**4. Consideration and possible action: Discussion of proposed tax rate, vote on proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year, and schedule public hearings, if necessary**

City Manager Joe Dickson said we briefly discussed tax rate possibilities in previous budget workshops, but a formal vote to propose a tax rate is needed so a notice can be published in the newspaper. Public hearings are only required if an increase in the effective tax rate is proposed. Motion by Councilmember Tambrella, seconded by Councilmember Jannett to propose the effective tax rate for the upcoming fiscal year. The motion passed the roll call vote three to two. Those voting for: Councilmember Tambrella, Councilmember Jannett, and Councilmember Wagner. Those voting against: Councilmember McCrary and Councilmember Carothers.

**5. Workshop: Discussion of 2014/15 proposed general fund operating budget**

City Manager Joe Dickson briefly reviewed the discussions from the previous budget workshops and reminded Council that the proposed property tax revenue is based on the effective tax rate. Council discussed the animal control and shelter costs through the health district and options to consider for withdrawing from participation with the County. Since the last budget workshop, staff has added \$3,176 for crime scene barcode software, \$1,000 for crime scene supplies, and \$38,500 for wages and benefits for a new mechanic position. We will need to address a vehicle and tools for the new mechanic's position, and anticipated savings is difficult to forecast until we have a year's worth of history to analyze. Mr. Dickson said this budget does not include any funds for economic development marketing, so we may want to consider adding \$5,000 for those services. The consensus of the Council was to add \$5,000 for consulting services to market the city and promote economic development. Councilmember Wagner reported that the drainage district has pulled out of the storm water pollution prevention contract with the county and that may increase our costs for participation in this joint contract. Also briefly reviewed was a proposed ordinance amendment for the use of community park fees for beautification projects in addition to improvement and maintenance of existing and future parks.

Announcements: The General Land Office (GLO) will present a Certificate of Completion for Hurricane Ike Disaster Recovery Grant Round One program projects on August 21, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Summary of action from this agenda, request for future agenda items, and scheduling future meetings  
The next regular meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 28, 2014, at 7 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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RALPH STENZEL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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Janet L. Davis, City Secretary