

**CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL**

**JULY 7, 2020**

**7:00 p.m.**

Mayor John A. Sellers called the regular meeting of the Sulphur Springs City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. The following council members and staff were present:

Public link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8CxiG8pt3Cn8DDMgg0xr8g>

Mayor John A. Sellers  
Mayor Pro Tem Freddie Taylor  
Councilman Doug Moore  
Councilman Harold Nash Sr.  
Councilman Oscar Aguilar

Absent: None

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager  
Gale Roberts, City Secretary  
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney  
Lesa Smith, Finance Director  
Tory Niewiadomski, Community Development Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor John A. Sellers called the regular meeting of the Sulphur Springs City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. after a few minutes of streaming issues.

**PLEDGE AND INVOCATION**

Mayor Sellers led in the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag and the Pledge to the Texas Flag, and the invocation was led by Councilman Nash.

**PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were none.

**MANAGER’S REPORT**  
**COVID-19 RESPONSE –**

- Most City Offices have reopened. Police Department, Fire Department, Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant remain closed. The Municipal Library has reopened.
- Police and Fire continue to implement new procedures for dealing with persons suspected of COVID-19.
- Police and Fire employees still have their temperature taken when arriving at work.
- Department Heads, the City Manager and the Mayor meet each week (virtually) to coordinate our efforts.
- We are all wearing masks now.

**GRAYS BUILDING** – The Capital Construction Division has begun preparing the pad site for the Grays building. I expect to hire a construction manager this week. The manager will prepare and receive all bids and manage the day to day construction of the project. Each contract for foundation, structural, HVAC, roof, etc., will be a prime contract with the city. City staff will perform all dirt work, construct all sidewalks and on-street parking. Staff will also perform all plumbing and electrical work.

**SENIOR CITIZENS BUILDING** – I expect to sign a contract for architectural services later this week.

**BELLVIEW STREET** – Atmos is still replacing their gas line on this project. I don’t expect Atmos to be finished for 30 days. Suddenlink and Frontier also need to move a portion of their lines. I expect this to be a problem.

**MCCANN STREET – HOLIDAY DRIVE** - We have decided to proceed with this project, and staff is currently preparing to begin construction.

**CONNALLY STREET** – Construction continues on the sidewalk on the south side of Connally Street. We should finish in July!

**STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM** –The Street Improvement Program (SIP) is completed. Below is a list of streets which were paved this year. Only the north-bound lane of Mockingbird was paved. This was according to plan. Fortunately, the SIP came in a bit under budget, so we pave the south-bound lane of Mockingbird later this year. The SIP is funded by a combination of General Fund revenues and the Street Maintenance Fee on the water bill. Streets funded by the Street Maintenance fee are highlighted in yellow.

<u>Street</u>	<u>Between</u>	<u>Length</u>
Asphalt Repair	Various soft spot repairs	1000
Barbara	Tate to Camp	649
Cedar Springs	Hollie and Cedar Spring	3364
CMH Rd.	Hwy 67 to I-30	2535
Debord	Park to Cemetery	570
Graham	Gilmer to Oak	338
Harred	Alabama to College	470
Lake Shore	Jill to Lewis	1362
Linda	Fisher to Gilmer	1410
Longine	Middle to Park	1452
Lou and Jonas		2650
Middle	Jackson to Church	1140
Mockingbird	Shannon to Posey	3560
Myndi	Helm to dead-end	898
Nicholson	Locust to Moore	1072
Oak Grove	Jefferson to End	702
Park Cir.	Bill Bradford to all	1563
Plano/Pampa	Texas to Brinker	1362
Rosemont	Jefferson to Houston	1072
Seventh	RR to Park	1584

**CLAIMS** – We did not receive and liability claims in June.

We had 3 workers compensation claims in June. All 3 claims were from police officers. Thankfully, all 3 injuries were minor.

**REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES** – Finance Director Lesa Smith will give a year-to-date report of revenues and expenditures.

**Elsewhere around the city, employees:**

- Fertilized all athletic fields.
- Prepared baseball fields for local league play.
- Hosted a 34-team tournament.
- Replaced 17 parking and sidewalk lights at Coleman Park.
- Built stages for two events.

- Performed 12 major street repairs following utility repairs.
- Patched 157 potholes.
- Trimmed South Town Branch.
- Made drainage improvements on CR 2307.
- Installed “No Truck” signs on Whitworth.
- Shredded areas around Lake Sulphur Springs and the Airport.
- Made drainage repairs on Ryan Road and Vansickle.
- Repaired the beacon light at the airport.
- Responded to 167 calls for fire/rescue including 0 structure fires and 2 vehicle fires and 5 grass fires.
- Performed preventative maintenance on 88 fire hydrants.
- Upgraded lighting in the truck bay at Fire Station #2
- Responded to 164 animal control calls and achieved an 89% adoption rate.
- Made 2 felony arrests in the Special Crimes Unit.
- Responded to 44 accidents, wrote 443 citations, recorded 51 offenses, made 48 arrests, and responded to 2,025 calls for service.
- Treated wastewater to a daily average total suspended solids count of .32 mg/L.
- Repaired 7 water main breaks and replaced 10 water meters.
- Unstopped 13 sewer mains.
- Repaired 5 sewer mains.
- Washed 85,000 feet of sewer mains.
- Treated 166 million gallons of potable water.
- Sold 2,806 gallons of AvGas and 7,017 gallons of JetA fuel.
- Conducted 32 building inspections, 17 electrical inspections, 28 plumbing inspections, and issued 20 building permits.
- Checked out 2,780 items from the library and an additional 755 eBooks.
- Accommodated 522 computer users at the Library.

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Consider for approval the regular City Council meeting minutes of June 2, 2020; the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting minutes of May 18, 2020; the Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals meeting minutes of May 19, 2020; the Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of May 26, 2020; and the Special Economic Development Corporation meeting minutes of June 2, 2020. There was no one to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilman Moore seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1197 ESTABLISHING A FACILITY RESERVATION AND USE POLICY AND DESIGNATING CERTAIN FACILITIES AS FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE USE**

Finance Director Smith presented the staff report. City Manager Maxwell added the suggestion that City Hall be available for nonprofits only and not private use. Adam Teer with Clarion and Emily Glass with The Venue called to comment on the item. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor moved to approve the resolution with the exception that City Hall is not rented for private use, but only by nonprofits. Councilman Moore seconded and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1198 APPROVING 2020 TEXAS CAPITAL FUND DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROGRAM (TxCDBG) ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SELECTION**

Community Development Director Niewiadomski presented the staff report. The City is preparing to submit a grant application for the 2020 Downtown Revitalization Program (DRP). Applications are due September 1, 2020 and the City will need to hire a grant consultant with the application preparation and contract implementation services. Staff is evaluating two potential projects currently. The first option is to construct sidewalks and lighting along Oak Avenue from the square out to the new senior center. The second option is to replace sewer and water along Tomlinson alley from Davis Street to Oak Avenue. Staff will discuss the scope and budget for each project with the selected consultant and bring a recommendation to the August City Council meeting for permission to apply for the grant. There was a brief discussion. Keith Payne with Grantworks called in to comment. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Aguilar moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman Moore seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1199 AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC**

Finance Director Smith presented the staff report. This resolution authorizes a program to provide financial assistance to small businesses physically located in the City of Sulphur Springs. The program will provide \$2,500 in financial assistance to each eligible and approved small business for a total of up to \$220,000 in grants. A total of 88 awards would be available to our local businesses. There was a brief discussion. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilman Nash seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**The motion carried.**

**VISITORS AND PUBLIC FORUM**

No calls were received.

**ADJOURN**

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.