



Regular Meeting of the Breckenridge City Commission

Tuesday, January 05, 2021 at 5:30 PM

Breckenridge City Offices Commission Chambers
105 North Rose Avenue
Breckenridge, Texas 76424

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Durham called meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

INVOCATION

Invocation led by Rev. Melinda Lane

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance led by Stacy Harrison

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Request to approve Minutes of the December 1st, 2020 City Commission Meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Cyprian, Seconded by Commissioner Blue to approve Minutes of the December 1st, 2020 City Commission Meeting.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Blue, Commissioner Cyprian, Mayor Pro Tem Durham

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

None

Interim City Manager Dixon explains new legislation now allows the public to address each item at the time the Commission is on that agenda item. The Commission can have rules to maintain control of the meeting.

REPORTS

Interim City Manager Dixon mentions that the weather has created trees, limbs, and debris all over town, requiring city crews working to clean and haul off the debris.

CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed below are considered to be routine by the City Commission and will be enacted with one

motion. There will be no separate discussion of items unless a Commission Member or Citizen so request, in which event, the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence.

2. Request to approve Departmental Reports
3. Request to approve Resolution 21-01 authorizing exemption of certain vehicles from requirements of Chapter 721 of the Texas Transportation Code, Identification of City and County vehicles and heavy equipment
4. Request to approve Cemetery Clean Up News Release

Motion made by Commissioner Blue, Seconded by Commissioner Cyprian.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Blue, Commissioner Cyprian, Mayor Pro Tem Durham

INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

5. Request to approve Ordinance 21-01 the Electric Franchise Agreement with Oncor

Interim City Manager Dixon explains that the City is a member of the Steering Committee. The steering Committee has a Law Firm (name) that reviews and all cities are well represented.

Motion made by Commissioner Blue, Seconded by Commissioner Cyprian.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Blue, Commissioner Cyprian, Mayor Pro Tem Durham

6. Request to approve Ordinance 21-02 for Amending the City Code Section 15 Parks and Recreation, Article II - Lake Daniels

Interim City Manager Dixon explains what issues need to be further addressed (hunting, hogs, dam).

Mayor Pro Tem Durham moves to table Ordinance 21-02 for Amending the City Code Section 15 Parks and Recreation, Article II - Lake Daniels.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Durham, Seconded by Commissioner Cyprian.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Blue, Commissioner Cyprian, Mayor Pro Tem Durham

7. Discuss and consider acting on an Interlocal Agreement with County to combine Administration Services of the JP and Municipal Courts

Interim City Manager Dixon we will not take action tonight. Commissioner's Rob Durham and Russell Blue were elected to sit on the committee. We have attended meetings discussing issues of an elected official as Justice of the Peace and the Municipal Court Judge future compatibility and the County having jurisdiction over City Ordinances. We are ultimately looking at combining the administrative services only. Where we would no longer have a clerk and would use their clerk and split those costs and our Municipal Court

office being in the County Courthouse. Savings to County or City is undetermined until we have decided upon all issues to be addressed in the agreement.

No Motion Needed.

8. Discuss and take appropriate action to ratify the 1996 Interlocal Agreement with County on the provision for Cooperative Street Maintenance

Interim City Manager Dixon an agreement from 1996 was located between County and City for the purpose of street maintenance. This agreement is still in effect today. Dixon read the main points of the agreement.

Motion made by Commissioner Cyprian, Seconded by Commissioner Blue.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Blue, Commissioner Cyprian, Mayor Pro Tem Durham

9. Request to Appoint Interim City Manager

Interim City Manager Dixon explains that his position was temporary and that he has accepted a position in Castorville, TX. The committee that brought me in, met and is recommending the City Secretary, Heather Robertson-Caraway to be Interim City Manager.

Motion made by Commissioner Blue, Seconded by Commissioner Cyprian.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Blue, Commissioner Cyprian, Mayor Pro Tem Durham

10. Discuss and consider appropriate action on Interlocal Agreement with County on Public Safety

Interim City Manager Dixon as discussed before if the Sheriff and the Police Chief are not on board this should not be forced on them - would cause problems within the community.

No motion needed.

11. Discuss and consider appropriate action for contracting a firm to locate and employ a City Manager

Interim City Manager Dixon we have received two quotes for the Commission to review and choose one to assist them with locating a City Manager. This process can take 3 to 6 months or longer. Strategic Government Resources not to exceed \$24,900 and CHC at not to exceed \$23,000.

Breckenridge Industrial Foundation has funded SGR for the purpose of bringing me in as Interim and may have strings attached.

Virgil Moore stated if you may want assistance you can inquire with the Industrial Foundation.

Motion made by Commissioner Cyprian, Seconded by Commissioner Blue to hire SGR as the firm to locate and employ a permanent City Manager.

Voting Yea: Commissioner Blue, Commissioner Cyprian, Mayor Pro Tem Durham

CITY MANAGER REPORT

It has been a true pleasure serving you and the citizens of Breckenridge. I felt welcomed from the first day and can easily see why so many folks come back home to Breckenridge. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to work alongside your hardworking and dedicated staff. I hope that I will have left the City “better than I found it” and that you feel my services were worth the time and effort you have invested. I believe great things are in store and hope to be able to continue to help whoever is chosen to be the City’s permanent City Manager. This has truly been an honor and a privilege.

12. TDEM – CRF

The City of Breckenridge has been allocated \$319,385 to be used on COVID-related expenditures that were not previously budgeted. To-date, the City has expended \$319,365! Huge Kudos to Heather and the rest of the staff for finding ways to make good use of these funds. Heather has also been informed that because of her efforts, the City of Breckenridge has been the first City to comply with each deadline set by the State for administration of these funds. Heather’s actions mean that the City will be first in line once the reimbursement checks get cut.

13. Combined Services Committee

The City/County Combined Services Committee met in November to discuss the various county and city services and ways that these may be provided to improve efficiency and lower cost. There were three areas discussed: public safety (police and sheriff), the street departments, and JP and Municipal courts services. All three of these items were discussed earlier on this agenda as individual consideration items.

14. Cost of Services Analysis

The cost-of-Service study that the City Commission authorized at its December meeting is now underway through the consulting company, New Gen Strategies. The first step in the process is to compile an enormous amount of data related to the operations and maintenance of the City’s existing water and wastewater distribution and collection systems. The initial data request accompanies this report. The City’s staff has already gathered and submitted almost all this information. I anticipate that this process will take 3 to 4 months. The second step will to be work with the City’s financial advisors and bond counsel to establish appropriate rates for the various customer classes (residential and commercial etc.)

15. Possible Election Propositions

Depending on what actions the City Commission would like to take, there may be several propositions that would be needed to be established for the May election. Each item will

have its own section in State law and may have different requirements regarding when and how the elections are held. The propositions that I have discussed include the potential repeal of the ¼ cent property tax reduction sales tax and the implementation of a crime control and prevention sales tax. In addition, depending on which city services are combined with the county, there may be charter amendments that will need to occur. Finally, although it does not require action on the City's part, there may be an election to establish an emergency services district in the county. The discussion on whether a district is warranted and what shape it might take should begin as early as possible in January. The City, county and representatives from the volunteer fire departments, city fire department, hospital and AMR ambulance service should meet to discuss how this new tax revenue could be utilized to further support emergency response in Stephens County.

ITEMS NOT REQUIRING FORMAL ACTION

None

ADJOURN

Motion made to adjourn at 7:11 PM by Commissioner Cyprian, Seconded by Commissioner Blue.
Voting Yea: Commissioner Blue, Commissioner Cyprian, Mayor Pro Tem Durham