

The Town of Ceredo Town Council met in regular session on Monday, February 5th, 2024, at Ceredo Town Hall. The Mayor, Paul A. Billups, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Those present included the Mayor, Paul A. Billups, and Councilmen Steve Diamond, Ron Jarrell, Oscar Adkins, Joe Ratcliff, Robert Leslie was absent due to family emergency.

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

The Mayor asked if Council had any additions or corrections to the minutes of the February 5th, 2024, Regular Session. None being heard and on a motion by Steve Diamond and a second by Oscar Adkins, Council voted to accept the January 8th, 2024 Regular Session minutes as presented. All were in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Mayor, Paul Billups, presented Council with the account balances for each account and the expenditures for February 2024. The Mayor asked if Council had any questions on the Treasurer's Report. None being heard, on a motion by Oscar Adkins and a second by Steve Diamond, Council voted to accept the Treasurer's report for February 2024 as presented. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Ceredo Volunteer Fire Department EMS

Chief Rob Robson of the Ceredo Volunteer Fire Department addressed Council regarding the status of EMS service in Wayne County and the proposed EMS Levy that will be on the May, 2024 primary ballot. Wayne County Commissioner Jeff Maddox took part in the explanation for council, providing details on increased funding for local fire departments as well as increased ambulance service for the county.

Special Levy Election

Matt Myles, maintenance foreman, addressed council concerning the Jordan Branch Pump Station. During recent high water, it was discovered that the outflow pipes from the pump station were leaking and that the sluice gate on top of the levee appears to have a bend in the screw rod. The Mayor expressed that both issues should be immediately remediated, and with the consent of Council, the Mayor will contact an engineering firm to have the issues inspected and a cost estimate for repairs.

Jarrell Council Resignation

The Mayor presented the resignation of Ron Jarrell from the Town Council. Councilman Jarrell resigned to avoid a conflict with taking the position of stormwater manager.

Henry Byard Appointed to Council

The Mayor announced that council had voted to appoint Henry Scott Byard to the vacant seat on the Town Council. Following the announcement, the Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Byard.

Water Utility Tariff

Discussion was held concerning an application for an increase in the water utility tariff, necessary to maintain operating funds and stay in compliance with bank covenants from long-term utility bonds.

Council, on motion by Scott Byard and second by Steve Diamond, voted unanimously to proceed with the Public Service Commission application.

Ordinance to Create Planning Commission – Second Reading

The Mayor presented second reading of the ordinance to create the Ceredo Municipal Planning Commission, a commission required to formulate a long-term plan for future development and possible zoning of the town. After reading and discussion, on motion by Oscar Adkins with second by Joe Ratcliff, the ordinance was adopted.

Adjournment

No further business was brought before the Council. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Paul A. Billups, Mayor

Attest: Jacob Skeens, Clerk