

MINUTES OF THE CROCKETT CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 6th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2022 IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 200 NORTH FIFTH IN THE CITY OF CROCKETT, HOUSTON COUNTY TEXAS AT 6:00 P.M.

THE COUNCIL MET IN SPECIAL SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: IANTHIA FISHER, GENE CALDWELL, MARQUITA BEASLEY & MIKE MARSH. CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: CITY ADMINISTRATOR JOHN ANGERSTEIN AND POLICE CHIEF CLAYTON SMITH. DARRELL JONES AND ERNEST JACKSON NOT PRESENT.

OPEN MEETING WITH INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Fisher called the formal session open. Mr. Angerstein gave the invocation and all joined in the pledge.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Fisher recognized all visitors present.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE OR COUNCIL *(At this time, anyone will be allowed to speak on City related matters only; no personnel matters or matters under litigation will be allowed. The length of time may not exceed three minutes. NO Council discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law.)*

- Scott Sheley – new resident, interested in becoming involved in the community by serving on a board
- Natrenia Hicks – concerns with water contract, funding of forensic audit

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: REGULAR SESSION: AUGUST 15, 2022

Council member Beasley made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2022 Regular Meeting. Council member Caldwell seconded the motion. Motion passes 3-0.

2. MAYOR'S RECOGNITION OF CROCKETT HIGH SCHOOL FFA MEMBERS

Mayor Fisher recognized and presented Certificates of Excellence to winners from Crockett High School FFA State competition held in Ft. Worth.

3. CONSIDER AND APPROVE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19, UTILITIES, OF THE CROCKETT CODE; AMENDING SECTION 19-37(a), INCREASING THE RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL WATER SERVICE; CONTAINING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; CONTAINING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mr. Angerstein explained this water rate increase is based on usage and not a flat rate increase. The rates would increase by six cents per 100 gallons used. Council member Caldwell made a motion to approve an Ordinance amending Chapter 19, Utilities, of the Crockett Code; amending Section 19-37(a), increasing the rates for residential and

commercial water service; containing a severability clause; containing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date. Council member Beasley seconded the motion. Motion passes 3-0.

4. **CONSIDER AND APPROVE AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT, TEXAS AMENDING CHAPTER 10 GARBAGE AND TRASH OF THE CROCKETT CODE; AMENDING SECTION 10-21 REQUIRING ALL LOOSE REFUSE AND KITCHEN GARBAGE TO BE PLACED INSIDE GARBAGE BAGS; AMENDING SECTION 10-29, RATES GENERALLY TO CHANGE THE RATES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; CONTAINING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

Mr. Angerstein explained that Piney Woods Sanitation, by contract, can raise rates up to three percent per year, but did not go up last year. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh said that he did not agree with the six percent in one year, they should not go back and raise by six percent. Mr. Angerstein noted they are not going back and charging for money saved last year. Mayor Fisher stated the service from Piney Woods is by far the best the city has had, Council member Caldwell agreed. Council member Beasley stated this increase was approved during the budget workshop. Council member Caldwell made a motion to approve an Ordinance of the City of Crockett, Texas amending Chapter 10 Garbage and Trash of the Crockett Code; amending Section 10-21 requiring all loose refuse and kitchen garbage to be placed inside garbage bags; amending Section 10-29, rates generally to change the rates; providing a severability clause; containing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date. Council member Beasley seconded the motion. Motion passes 2-1. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh voted against the motion.

5. **CONSIDER AND APPROVE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH PINE ANIMAL HOSPITAL AND AUTHORIZE MAYOR FISHER TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY IN ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE AGREEMENT**

Council member Beasley made a motion to approve the lease agreement with South Pine Animal Hospital and authorize Mayor Fisher to act on behalf of the city in all matters related to the agreement. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passes 3-0.

6. **REVIEW PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED FIRMS OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS TO PERFORM A FORENSIC AUDIT OF THE CROCKETT ECONOMIC & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND APPROVE THE SELECTION OF FIRM**

Mayor Fisher stated there were five proposals received, council will review all of them and then make their recommendation. Mr. Angerstein advised council to take into consideration six rating criteria when considering the proposals; relevant experience, has previously performed audits in Texas, performed audits involving governments, performed audits in Texas involving EDC's, capacity to perform with personnel in Texas and reputation, and cost factor.

The five proposals received:

Ahuja & Clark, PLLC - Plano, TX
Withum Smith & Brown, PC - Princeton, NJ
Fovis, LLP - Houston, TX
Eide Bailly, LLC - Minneapolis, MN
Weaver and Tidwell, LLP – Houston, TX

After extensive consideration of each proposal received, Council member Beasley made a motion to approve the selection of Weaver and Tidwell, LLP of Houston, TX as certified public accountants to perform a forensic audit of the Crockett Economic & Industrial Development Corporation. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh seconded the motion.
Motion passes 3-0.

7. CONSIDER AND APPROVE ISSUING A NOTICE OF AWARD TO SELECTED AUDITING FIRM; APPROVE AUTHORIZING MAYOR FISHER TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT IN ALL MATTERS RELATED TO CONTRACT; AND TO APPROVE SOURCE OF FUNDING

Council member Beasley made a motion to approve issuing a notice of award to Weaver and Tidwell; approve authorizing Mayor Fisher to act on behalf of the City of Crockett in all matters related to contract; and to approve sharing the cost equally between the City of Crockett and Crockett Economic & Industrial Development Corporation. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passes 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Mayor Fisher adjourned the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Dr. Ianthia Fisher, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mitzi Stefka, City Secretary