

MINUTES OF THE CROCKETT CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 4<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024 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 REGULAR SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT: IANTHIA FISHER, DENNIS IVEY, DARRELL JONES, NATRENIA HICKS, AND MIKE MARSH. CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: CITY ADMINISTRATOR JOHN ANGERSTEIN, CITY SECRETARY MITZI STEFKA, ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR LEE STANDLEY, AND POLICE CHIEF CLAYTON SMITH. ELBERT JOHNSON WAS NOT PRESENT.

#### OPEN MEETING WITH INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Mayor Fisher called the regular session open and gave the invocation. All joined in the pledge.

#### RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Fisher recognized all visitors present and thanked them for their attendance.

**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.)*

- Mayor Fisher – Recognized CEIDC Executive Director James Gentry for receipt of service award from Texas Economic Development Council.
- Michael White – Requested street repairs in Rolling Hills subdivision.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### 1. REGULAR SESSION: OCTOBER 21, 2024

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2024 regular session. Council member Ivey seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

#### BUSINESS

##### 2. CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH VEPO ENVIROTRAX FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF BACKFLOW PREVENTION INSPECTIONS, CUSTOMER SERVICES INSPECTIONS, AND GREASE TRAP INSPECTIONS

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to approve the service agreement with Vepo Envirotrax for the management of backflow prevention inspections, customer services inspections and grease trap inspections. Council member Ivey seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

3. CONSIDER AND APPROVE AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT, TEXAS AMENDING CHAPTER 10, GARBAGE AND TRASH OF THE CROCKETT CODE; AMENDING SECTION 10-29, RATES, TO CHANGE THE RATES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; CONTAINING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Council member Hicks 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 10-29, Rates, to change the rates; providing a severability clause; containing a repealing clause; and providing an effective date. Council member Jones seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

4. CONSIDER AND APPROVE A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT, TEXAS, SELECTING A GRANT WRITER / ADMINISTRATOR TO ASSIST THE CITY WITH THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION OF A CONTRACT, IF AWARDED, FROM THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (TDA) FOR THE TEXAS COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND (CDBG-CD)

Mr. Angerstein informed council that the city received three (3) responses to the city's requests for proposals for grant writing and administration of \$750,000 CDBG-CD grant.

- Grantworks – 6.6% (\$49,500)
- Traylor and Associates – 6.6% (49,500)
- Langford CMS – 10% (\$75,000)

Council member Jones questioned the need for hiring a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to write the grant when the city has a grant writer in-house. Mr. Jones referred to the employee by name and said he is being paid \$60,000 per year. Mr. Angerstein explained that the employee mentioned is not a grant writer and grant writing is not in the job description for that position. Mr. Jones and Mrs. Hicks continued to discuss the point after being warned by the City Administrator and the Mayor that the discussion of personnel matters was not allowed in open meeting and wasn't an agenda item.

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to approve a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Crockett, Texas, selecting Traylor and Associates to assist the city with the submittal of an application for funding and administration of a contract, if awarded, from the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) for the Texas Community Block Grant Program – Community Development Fund (CDBG-CD). Motion passes 3-2. Council members Jones and Hicks voted against. Mayor Fisher broke the tie with an affirmative vote.

5. CONSIDER AND APPROVE REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BUILDING & STANDARDS COMMISSION

Mr. Angerstein explained that Charles Arnold had resigned from the Building & Standards Commission and asked council to approve the appointment of Scott Sheley as his replacement. Mr. Sheley has been an alternate member of the B&S Commission. Council member Jones made a motion to approve reappointment of Scott Sheley to replace Charles Arnold as a member of the Building and Standards Commission. Council member Hicks seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

6. CONSIDER AND APPROVE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CAMP STREET/SOUTH 3RD STREET FROM WEST GOLIAD TO CAMP STREET CAFE FOR WEDDING ON NOVEMBER 16, 2024 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 12 PM TO 7 PM

Mayor Pro Tem Marsh made a motion to approve the temporary closure of Camp Street/South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street from West Goliad to Camp Street for wedding on November 16, 2024 between the hours of 12 PM and 7 PM. Council member Ivey seconded the motion. Motion passes 3-2. Council members Jones and Hicks voted against. Mayor Fisher broke the tie with an affirmative vote.

7. CONSIDER AND APPROVE BID FOR PHASE 1 BUILDING RENOVATIONS OF THE VO-TECH CENTER AT 1505 SOUTH 4TH ST

Council member Jones made a motion to approve bid for Phase 1 building renovations of the Vo-Tech Center at 1505 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Pro Tem Marsh seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0.

Council members Jones and Hicks asked for clarification about the possible consequences of two propositions on the November 5, 2024 general election ballot. Mr. Jones asked the City Secretary to quote him in saying, "I checked with the Appraisal District and the word out there is that taxes will go down 30%, but they say the taxes will not go down at all." Mayor Fisher informed them they could ask for an item to be placed on a future agenda to discuss it further.

## ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, Mayor Fisher adjourned the meeting at 7:23 P.M.

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Dr. Ianthia Fisher, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Mitzi Stefka, City Secretary