



Town Council Meeting

Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 PM
102 W. Bailey Street, Ponder, TX 76259

NOTICE

THE TOWN COUNCIL FOR THE TOWN OF PONDER, TEXAS, WILL CONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION AT 6:00 P.M., IN PONDER TOWN HALL, AT 102 W. BAILEY STREET, PONDER.

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Poole called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Matthew Poole
Council Member Ginger Deussen
Council Member Tracy Lynch
Mayor Pro-Tem Nick McGregor
Council Member Lael McWilliams

ALSO PRESENT TO BE SWORN IN

John Bassler
John Estes

ABSENT

Council Member Brandy Couch

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Poole led both.

OPEN FORUM FOR CITIZEN INPUT (Please limit to 5 minutes per person and if you wish to speak on a particular agenda item, please list the agenda item next to your name).

This is a time for the public to address the Town Council on any subject. However, the Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the Town Council from discussing issues which the public has not been given seventy-two (72) hours' notice. Issues raised may be referred to Town Staff for research and possible future action.

Michelle French, member of the Ponder Chamber of Commerce. She reported that the COC is interested in making a positive impact in Ponder. They are working on an outreach program to support the schools and would like to partner with the Town to see how they can be of service.

She is also the Denton County Tax Assessor and is willing to come out and give a TNT 101 presentation for the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider and act on approval of the May 8, 2023 and May 16, 2023 minutes.
2. Approval of the May 2023 Financial Statement.

Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Council Member Lynch, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Council Member Lynch, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams

ORAL STAFF REPORTS

Gary Morris - a lot going on including fiber. Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor asked for an update on the park. Gary said it had been repaired. McGregor also asked if there was a need for help with park maintenance? Gary stated that other than us servicing the trash etc, we would love any help that we can get. Council Member McWilliams asked Gary about the fiber issues that he reported to Sheri Clearman. Gary stated that the fiber is in the dedicated easements in the neighborhoods and as long as they are in the easements, it is between the homeowner and the company, the Town can help talk to them, but are not responsible on their private property. Old Ponder does not have an easement. We can't always make them happy but will certainly try. This is happening in many Towns. Mayor Poole said that it is COVID funds through the State.

Scott Caster - hired a new officer, Marc Stanwyck and is in training and will help with manpower issue and believes you will see a difference on the street.

Anerew Economedes - making progress on reporting system. Still working on trying to separate the County and Town calls. Should have it figured out by September.

Mayor Poole - had a good meeting with Mayor Elect John Bassler, Town Engineers and TXDot. Discussed the school road and the MUD projects. Growth can be good, but he would like for everyone to understand some things. two muds coming into our ETJ. Rockwood and TCCI Mudds (3). Rockwood plans for 1400 single family homes, TCCI 3010 single and multi-family homes. 13000 new residents right outside of our Town. 7800 kids in our schools. They will pay taxes to someone else. TCCI have done MUDDS before where they give half of the sales tax to a Town/City. WWTP - could stunt the Towns ability to grow our plant. TCCI should be at a contested case hearing. We need growth, but need controlled growth. Encourage everyone to pay attention and be aware of what the MUDDS are proposing. Another thing they are doing is taking our CCN from us. This is what allows us to provide water service in particular areas. They state allows this and gives us basically nothing for it. we have lost almost 400 acres of CCN so far. Loss of water charges, impact fees, connection fees, etc. All MUDDS are doing is trying to skirt the Town's zoning ordinances. They want to build on small lots.

Mayor Poole- Council Member requested a Governmental Structure chart. He handed it out and went over it.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- 3. Swear-in and seat newly elected members of the Town Council and Mayor. Those members are John Bassler as Mayor and John Estes, Nick McGregor and Lael McWilliams as Council Members.**

Mayor John Bassler, Council Member Estes, Council Member McWilliams and Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor took their Oath of Office, administered by Sheri Clearman, Town Secretary.

- 4. Appointment of a new Mayor Pro-Tem to serve for two years.**

Motion to appoint Nick McGregor made by Council Member McWilliams, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Council Member Estes

- 5. Consider and act on appointments to the Planning & Zoning Board. Those requesting appointments are Jeremy Johnson and Ryan Dobbs.**

Motion to appoint Jeremy Johnson and Ryan Dobbs to the Planning & Zoning Board made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Council Member Estes

6. **Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 23-05, Outdoor Fire and Burning, amending the Code of Ordinances.**

Scott Caster, Chief of Police asked that we table this item due to some language concerns.

Motion to table until the July meeting made by Council Member Estes, Seconded by Council Member McWilliams.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Council Member Estes

7. **Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 23-06 Parking Regulations, amending the code of ordinances.**

Motion to approve Ordinance 23-06, made by Council Member Estes, Seconded by Council Member McWilliams.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Council Member Estes

8. **Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 23-07 Sidewalks, amending the code of ordinances.**

Motion to approve Ordinance 23-07 as written was made by Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Council Member Estes

9. **Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 23-08 Lighting, amending the code of ordinances.**

Motion to approve Ordinance 23-08 made by Council Member Estes, Seconded by Council Member Deussen.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Council Member Estes

10. **Consider and act on approval of Ordinance 23-09, Special Events, amending the code of ordinances.**

Motion to approve Ordinance 23-09 made by Council Member Deussen, Seconded by Council Member Estes.

Voting Nay: Council Member Deussen, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Council Member Estes

Motion failed.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Ordinances 23-05 and 23-09
Michelle French
CCN
Chamber Stakeholder

ADJOURN

The Town Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices) and 551.087 (Economic Development)

Motion to adjourn at 7:17 pm made by Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Seconded by Council Member Estes.

Voting Yea: Council Member Deussen, Mayor Pro-Tem McGregor, Council Member McWilliams, Council Member Estes

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

John Bassler, Mayor

Sheri Clearman, Town Secretary

DATE: _____