



AGENDA ITEM COMMENTARY

MEETING NAME:	City Council Meeting
MEETING DATE:	April 15, 2024
ITEM TITLE:	Consider and take appropriate action on amending Article 15.08: Utility Construction in Public Right-of-Way.
STAFF INITIATOR:	Tara Tomlinson, Director of Development Services

BACKGROUND:

Over the past several months, Randy Hall, Randy Criswell and I have worked on updating our utility public right-of-way permitting process to ensure the best outcome for citizens and the City. In years prior, the City of WolfForth has had several utility companies come in and cause complications with city infrastructure. Our current right-of-way ordinance had many of the necessary regulations in place, but was not being applied to its full potential. Our group refined the ordinance to ensure the best results for all involved.

Signification changes that are proposed include:

- Addition of definitions for City-dedicated easement, City Engineer, and flow fill
- Removal of allowing an annual permit for companies
- Specifying what hours a company cannot bore
- Limitation to amount of area to request for locates
- Multiple title replacements acknowledging who to contact or who is responsible for certain aspects during a project
- Penalties that can occur for doing work without a permit
- Specifying timeframe to notify Public Works Department of different parts of a project
- Acceptable ways to fill in void under pavement

The final Ordinance was not yet available at the time this packet was created. A final copy of that Ordinance will be provided to Council on Monday night.

EXHIBITS:

1. Original Chapter 15
2. Proposed Chapter 15

COUNCIL ACTION/STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

City staff recommends approving an amendment ordinance to Article 15.08- Utility Construction in a Public Right-of-Way.