



**City of La Vernia**  
**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**VIA TELEPHONE & VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

January 14, 2021  
6:30 PM

**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order** – Mayor Gregory called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and declared a quorum. All members present.

**2. Citizens to be Heard** – no citizens to be heard.

**3. Consent Agenda**

*(All consent agenda items are considered routine by City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember requests an item be removed and considered separately.)*

- A. Minutes from the December 10, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting
- B. La Vernia Police Department – Reports, Traffic Violations & Arrests; and Number of Occurrences by Offense for the month of December
- C. Check Register and financial report for the month of December
- D. Investment report for October – December 2020.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Recker makes a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilman Oates. **Motion passes: 5-0.**

**4. Presentation**

**A. Presentation from Armstrong, Vaughn & Associates regarding the FY 2020 Annual Audit.**

Phil Vaughn presented the Annual Audit for the City. He stated there is a letter that accompanies the audit report that requires communications to the board but there is no findings this year. Mr. Vaughn pointed out a few items to the board in regards to the general fund for the year and compares to the year which were mixed – sales tax and municipal court were down. On the expenditures we were under budget by \$51k and over in a few areas such as Police Department and the Park. He stated we have about \$1.6 million in the net change which is about a year of cost – very healthy. He went over utilities and streets. Very minimal to touch on he stated.

**MOTION:** Councilman Hennette made a motion to approve the FY 2020 Audit, seconded by Councilman Oates. Motion passes: 5-0.

**5. Discussion/Action**

**A. Discuss and consider action on the purchase of new election equipment, two (2) Express Vote machines, through Election Systems & Software (ES&S).**

City Secretary stated that the County recently switched out there voting machines, as most entities are doing away with the Dominion Voting machines. Councilman Hennette stated he hadn't heard any of that. I stated I had reached out to ES&S and spoke to the regional representative, Matt Kunz in which he provided a brief overview of the machines and supplied a few documents. City Secreatray stated that I would like an approval for

two machines and with the County purchasing the machines it would be a great group to fall back on should any questions or problems arise. Mayor Gregory stated that on the electronics at the end of the voting cycle it does a tally. I advised it will not tally, as we are not requesting the approval of the DS200 tote. Councilman Hennette stated that he was fascinated that we can buy whatever we want and that state does not have a recommendation – to include the county – and we get to make this decision on our own as a small city. Councilwoman Recker asked if it was a requirement that we have an electronic machine and I advised no it is not, she stated it was more of a convenience and I advised yes. Council asked to come back with additional bids from two other vendors and we would revisit this at a Special Meeting. In the meantime, City Secretary will reach out to City Secretary Group and the Secretary of State for any recommendations.

**B. Discuss and consider action on street projects for FY 2021, which would include scheduled projects from FY 2020.**

Mayor Gregory stated that we are going to lump two years worth of work in this year. City Administrator sent emails between John and herself. This email shows the recommendations that he has from last year and this year. It's more or less if you all are good with this list and next month we go out for bids or if Council wanted to add or take away from the list. Councilwoman Recker asked what the surface sealant would intel and the reason she was asking is because the road was poorly done and did not want the same outcome if we were going to be spending the same money. Councilman Hennette asked when they make the recommendation, they make it based on what they need. City Administrator stated yes, they have an engineer come out and provides a survey and then puts a spreadsheet together for the board. Councilwoman Recker stated that if the road is anything like Kimball then she would be ok with that. City Administrator stated that was a chip and seal and Forrest and the City stated that is not what they want. Mayor Gregory stated it is not the overlay like it has been over the past several years, he stated based on the paperwork they are putting 2" worth of asphalt. John Mooneyham, with CEC, that there was no discussion of an overlay on Forrest however he would have to get back with us. He stated they picked that one based more on a preventative measure, mentioned that they noted it was a rough ride and was recommended as a surface sealant, put a seal coat down with 2" of asphalt or reconstruction. They believe if they put a surface sealant it would give it a few more years. Mayor Gregory stated he would like to see a number with a sealant and overlay. Mr. Mooneyham stated he would go back and run some numbers and get back with the Council. Councilwoman Recker thought that the repairs looked adequate on the other streets. Mr. Mooneyham stated there was also protentional for additional repairs on Kyle and Silverado St., repair them sooner than later. Mayor Gregory requested updated numbers from John as we were going to be calling a special meeting.

**6. Ordinance**

**A. Discuss and consider action on adopting Ord. No. 011421-01, designating the City's official newspaper.**

**MOTION:** Councilman Hennette makes a motion to adopt Ord. No 011421-01, designating the City's official newspaper, seconded by Councilman Oates. **Motion passes: 5-0.**

**B. Discuss and consider action on adopting Ord. No. 011421-02 amending Chapter 36 (Utilities) to include averaging of sewer rates.**

City Administrator stated that this originally came to us as a resolution but was changed to an ordinance. Mayor Gregory stated he did put this in his article for the newspaper in hopes of all citizens to see and read.

**MOTION:** Councilman Poore made a motion to approve Ord. No. 011421-02, seconded by Councilman Hennette. **Motion passes: 5-0.**

**7. Resolution**

**A. Discussion and consider action on approving Resolution 011421-01, adopting the City's Investment Policy.**

City Administrator stated this was a standard policy and no changes were made.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman Recker made a motion to approve Resolution 011421-01, adopting the City's Investment Policy, seconded by Councilman Hennette. **Motion passes: 5-0.**

**8. Items Specific to Future Line Items on the Agenda**

- Streets
- Elections

**9. Adjourn-** Councilman Poore made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Hennette. All were in favor; meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM.

  
Martin Poore, Mayor Pro-Tem

  
Brittani Porter, City Secretary

