

The La Vernia City Council held a Regular City Council Meeting on November 8, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, La Vernia, Texas.

Item No. 1. Call to Order Mayor Robert Gregory called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. Council members present were Randy Leonard, Bobby Richter, Eloi Cormier and John Richter. Staff member present were City Secretary-Treasurer Angela Cantu, Public Works Director Jason Mills, Police Sargent Danny Pitts, and Police Chief Bruce Ritchey.

Item No. 2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and an invocation was given by Mayor Gregory.

Item No. 3. Citizens to be Heard There were no citizens to be heard.

Item No. 4.A. – F. Consent Agenda The consent agenda was presented. Councilman Leonard made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Councilman Cormier seconded. **Motion carried 4 – 0.**

Item No. 5.A. Presentation Police Chief Ritchey introduced City of La Vernia Reserve Officer Charles Patty and his wife, Linda Furlow-Patty. Chief Ritchey explained Officer Patty and Mrs. Patty's involvement with the National Night Out and presented them both with a certificate of appreciation for their efforts in making this year's event a success. Officer Patty explained that he intends to have the Police Department more involved in next year's event and will be receiving additional help and funding through AACOG.

Item No. 6.A. Discussion/Action Mayor Gregory explained that after the completion of the Micah Point Subdivision the streets were never accepted by the City. Public Works Director Mills stated that the street is very well constructed. Councilman Leonard asked if there is any legal documentation that is required in order for the City to accept the streets and City Secretary Cantu stated that there is. Councilman Leonard asked Director Mills if he recommends accepting the streets and Director Mills stated that he would. Councilman Leonard asked if sewer lines need to be installed and Director Mills stated that as far as he knows, they are already installed. Mayor Gregory stated that staff will cover the bases to make sure all of the paperwork is submitted properly for the streets to be accepted at which time this topic will come back before Council for final approval.

Item No. 6.B. Discussion/Action Mayor Gregory explained that currently we spend approximately \$5,000 a year in merchant card services and while he does not like the idea of having to charge people for using a credit card the City simply cannot afford to continue to take on the costs associated with this service alone. Councilman Leonard asked if by adding a "service" charge, will we accept water bill payments over the phone. City Secretary Cantu stated that we will not for the safety and protection of our customers. Councilman Leonard suggested a \$5 flat rate charge for the service. Councilman B. Richter asked if this was only going to be for water bills and City Secretary Cantu stated that would be a Council decision. Councilman Leonard stated that he has not been in favor of this type of charge in the past however with increased cost of the service he agrees with the Mayor in that the City cannot afford to pay the entire cost and also believes the fee should be charged to all credit card fees and not just water customers. Councilman Cormier made a motion to establish a service charge for all customers paying a fee with a credit card and Councilman Leonard seconded. **Motion passed 4 – 0.**

Item No. 6.C. Discussion/Action Councilman Leonard brought the questions he had for Southwest Engineers regarding their proposal. He stated that he would like to have a workshop to review the pros and cons of the options supplied as well as the financial impact of the options. Mayor Gregory stated that he will contact David Davenport of Canyon Regional Water Authority to discuss the selling of water to them. Mayor Gregory stated that we would set up workshop to discuss this matter further.

Item No. 6.D. Discussion/Action Councilman B. Richter made a motion to go into executive session and Councilman Cormier seconded. Council entered into executive session at 7:00 p.m. Council returned from executive session at 7:26 p.m. Councilman Leonard made a motion to post for the City Administrator position and have Mayor Gregory to move forward with getting candidates for the position. **Motion carried 4 – 0.**

Item No. 7.A. Staff/Council Updates Chief Ritchey gave the Council an update on the progress of obtaining signs that are missing throughout the City. Mayor Gregory stated that he may want to talk to MDD Director Jennifer Kolbe regarding period signs throughout the downtown area. Councilman B. Richter stated asked about the stop signs in Westover and Chief Ritchey stated that the streets have been accepted and all we need to do is put up the signs and pass an ordinance to be able to enforce the signs.

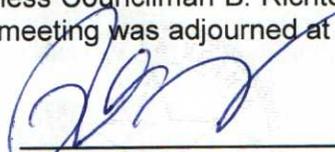
Item No. 7.B. Staff/Council Updates Director Mills stated that public works employees Bobby Caldwell and Matt Mergele will be taking the test for their class D water license and Frank Garcia will be getting his herbicide license in the spring. He also stated that the Public Works department has started maintaining and servicing all city owned vehicles.

Item No. 7.C. Staff/Council Updates The Code Enforcement monthly update was submitted.

Item No. 7.D. Staff/Council Updates There were no updates that City Secretary Cantu needed to inform Council about.

Item No. 8. Items Specific to Future Line Items on the Agenda

Item No. 9. Adjourn With no further business Councilman B. Richter made a motion to adjourn and Councilman Cormier seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Robert Gregory, Mayor



Angela Cantu, City Secretary-Treasurer

