

The La Vernia City Council held a Workshop on January 22, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, La Vernia, Texas.

**Item No. 1. Call to Order** Mayor Gregory called the workshop to order at 6:30 p.m. and declared a quorum. Councilmen Randy Leonard, Bobby Richter, John Richter, and Eloi Cormier were in attendance. City Secretary-Treasurer Angela Cantu and Public Works Director Jason Mills were also in attendance.

**Item No. 2. Discuss** Councilman Leonard outlined five options to discuss regarding proceeding with the City's well projects. *Option #1:* drill one well with 300 gpm at the well #6 site with no filter. *Option #2:* drill one well with 300 gpm at the well #6 site with a filter. *Option #3:* drill two wells #6 and #7 with filters for a total of 600 gpm. *Option #4:* drill one well with 750 gpm further into the Carrizo. *Option #5:* keep agreement with Canyon Regional Water Authority and the City builds a water storage tank. Councilman Cormier asked which option is best. Councilman B. Richter stated that he thinks option #1 is the best. Mayor Gregory stated that if we go with option #1 then we pull off of Canyon Regional Water Authority (CRWA) and don't blend then we will have a lot of calls from customers due to the quality of the water. Councilman B. Richter stated that he does not think we are talking about getting rid of CRWA and only using well #1. He stated that he does not see the City ever coming off of CRWA unless we are able to produce between 600 and 800 gpm. Councilman Leonard stated that he does not feel that any of the options are to get off of CRWA. He stated that if we produce a well with 300 gpm then we can move CRWA down to 20% which would give us an approximate profit of \$12,000. He also stated that if the grant money doesn't come in then we have to start all over and we can't do it all at once. Councilman B. Richter stated that we have to take a step so if we can proceed with option #2 then we can expand and go further. He also stated that he does not think option #4 is a good idea because he does not think water is any better. Mayor Gregory stated if we drill well #6 and it takes care of citizens then we can use impact fees to pay for the future growth of system. Councilman Leonard stated that he does not want to let a tower get too far away from us. Mayor Gregory asked if we go with option #2 then what about the grant. Councilman Leonard stated that we will have to resubmit an application with correct numbers for grant because the original application covered well #6 & #7. Councilman Leonard stated that before we have anything else engineered we need to be 98% sure of direction we will be going. Mayor Gregory stated that we need to look at in engineering cost, to see if it includes bid documents as well. Councilman B. Richter stated that he can't see paying \$350,000 for well when people around here have built wells for \$30,000 to \$40,000. Councilman Leonard stated that the problem with bid is there are no booster pumps and we have an oversized well pump which will pull harder on the formation. So the idea was to put in a smaller pump to give you exactly what you need then install booster pumps to get the water where it needs to go. Mayor Gregory stated that it is still incumbent upon us to think about these types of possible issues. Councilman Leonard stated that he feels that oversizing the pumps is a huge mistake. It will end up costing the City a lot of money to maintain the pumps and feels it will be cheaper than replacing a well pump. Mayor Gregory stated that he feels we need to get further clarification from Mr. Littlefield. Councilman Leonard said we need to make sure we get the grant money otherwise we will have to make large rate increases to cover the cost of the project.

**Item No. 3. Adjournment** With no further discussion the meeting adjourned at p.m.

  
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Robert Gregory, Mayor

  
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Angela Cantu, City Secretary



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