

CITY OF GLADEWATER  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2016  
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Harold Wells, Mayor Pro-tem J.D. Shipp, Lana Niemann, Chris Bland, Leon Watson, Dennis Robertson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Elijah Anderson

STAFF PRESENT: Theo Melancon, Melba Haralson, Judy Hagle

GUESTS PRESENT: Jim Bardwell, Mackenzie Reed Kilmer, Dane Lewis, Jr., Diane Turner, Phillip Creel, Don Greenwood, Jan Greenwood, Elaine Roddy, Bob Farrell, Robert Johnson, Mary Anne Cumbie, Colt Edwards

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Wells called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- a) Invocation – Councilmember Robertson
- b) Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Pro-tem Shipp

II. CITIZENS COMMENTS

- 1. Diane Turner, President of GADA expressed great disappointment in the poor turnout and lack of support to raise funds for the billboard on I-20.
- 2. Colt Edwards, secretary of the Ballpark Board stated it had come to his attention that individuals involved in the project have publicly spoken negatively towards it. He said we need a buy-in from everyone in order to make it successful. Secondly, he then asked the Council to consider starting a conversation to address payday lending and title loan companies in order to protect citizens.

III. CONSIDERATION of Consent Agenda

- a) Minutes – August 15, 2016, August 18, 2016, September 1, 2016 and September 6, 2016
- b) Ordinance to adopt 2016 S-20 supplement to Code of Ordinances
- c) Agreement with Gladewater Chamber of Commerce for Hotel Occupancy Tax
- d) Ratification of §131.05 Curfew Ordinance

Councilmember Watson moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Bland. Carried 6-0.

IV. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Administrative and capital project updates

Lake Project - Completed state site visit.

Seal Coat project will begin this week and go into next week.

Lake sign – The Beautification and Lake Boards have both recommended the sign be refurbished and remain as is for a cost of nearly \$1,200.

Retaining Wall on E. Lake will be completed tomorrow.

Future Planning – We will be looking at CIPP (Cured in Place Piping) and pipe bursting as cheaper alternatives.

We will be taking bids on looping George Richey water line (1,200 LF).

We have approximately \$156,000 remaining in USDA-RUS grant funds from the construction of the water treatment plant, which will cover the full cost of SCADA upgrade.

Water projects – Application for loan funds will be coming our way in the next couple months.

TxDOT Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP) – We are still working with Gregg County to get RAP for the Sports Complex.

V. CONSIDERATION of adoption of GEDCO budget for fiscal year 2017

Robert Johnson, GEDCO Director presented an overview of the budget. He also stated that GEDCO will utilize the Lee Public Library for storage and create a development/training center for the public. That enables GEDCO to fund the roof repairs and purchase new equipment. Mr. Johnson said that GEDCO is proud to support Main Street again this year and proposed to payout for ballpark at a faster rate from reserves.

Councilmember Watson moved to approve adoption of the budget, seconded by Councilmember Bland. Carried 6-0.

VI. CONSIDERATION of ordinance to adopt and approve City of Gladewater budget for fiscal year 2017

City Manager Melancon presented a final draft of the budget.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to adopt the budget, seconded by Councilmember Bland. A record vote was taken. In favor; Niemann, Shipp, Robertson, Watson, Wells, and Bland. None opposed. Carried 6-0.

VII. RATIFICATION VOTE to approve adoption of City of Gladewater budget for fiscal year 2017 that will raise more revenue from property taxes than was raised in fiscal year 2016

Councilmember Bland moved to ratify adoption, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Record vote was taken. In favor; Niemann, Shipp, Robertson, Watson, Wells, and Bland. None opposed. Carried 6-0.

VIII. CONSIDERATION of ordinance to levy taxes for the use and support of the general government and for retirement of general obligation bonded indebtedness for fiscal year 2017

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to approve the ordinance to adopt the tax rate of \$0.74999/100 valuation. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Robertson.

Councilmember Niemann gave the following remarks; This is not the first time we have had an infrastructure and capital improvement plan in place. However, it is the first time in four years that I feel like we have the right leadership and staff in place to follow through with that plan and achieve our goals for the betterment of the City of Gladewater and its citizens. I am comfortable that the tax increase is fair for us to continue in providing services such as ambulance/EMS services, animal control services, quality of life issues and parks, public library, Lake Gladewater improvements and continued infrastructure, to name a few. I appreciate and would like to recognize all the work staff has done along with the work Council members have put into getting to this solution.

A record vote was taken. In favor; Niemann, Shipp, Robertson, Watson, Wells, and Bland. None opposed. Carried 6-0.

IX. CONSIDERATION of Second Amendment to Easement Agreement between City and Alfred L. Shepperd and Suzanne M. McIntosh, Co-Trustees of the Testamentary Trusts created under the Will of John Ben Shepperd, deceased

Realtor Bob Farrell explained the request. He said the Shepard family wants to abandon the existing easement across the front of the airport property that connects their property on the each side of the airport. In exchange they would like an easement from the existing airport entrance road to access their property on the north.

City Manager Melancon said that clears up all frontage for future development and he recommended approval.

Councilmember Robertson asked if the fence would be taken down. Mr. Melancon affirmed and said city crews would do that and be happy not to have to maintain the "cattle run" any longer.

Councilmember Niemann asked about FAA regulations with regard to future development and also asked Mr. Farrell if he could foresee any large trucks using the airport road as she

was concerned about weight restrictions. Mr. Farrell did not believe there were plans to harvest timber nor did he believe there would be an issue with large trucks using the road.

After a brief discussion, Councilmember Watson moved to approve the agreement and asked staff to research weight limits on the road. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Shipp.

Councilmember Niemann said she would like the Airport Board's opinion before adopting the agreement.

Motion carried 5-1, with Niemann opposed.

- X. CONSIDERATION of Supplement 6 to the Agreement for Engineering Services dated May 20, 2004 with KSA Engineers for water treatment plant SCADA system improvements

City Manager Melancon stated this will be funded by using the last \$156,000 of RUS grant funds.

Councilmember Niemann moved to approve. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 6-0.

- XI. CONSIDERATION of agreement with Gladewater Independent School District for the School Resource Officer Program

City Manager Melancon explained that this contract is more detailed with responsibilities of the city and school. The school is to pay for 9 months of salary and the city will pay for 3 months.

Councilmember Robertson moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 6-0.

- XII. CONSIDERATION of Texas Department of Transportation Grant for Routine Airport Maintenance Program

City Secretary Haralson stated this is the same 50/50 grant we receive every year for routine maintenance of the airport. Last year the funds were used for crack seal.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Bland. Carried 6-0.

- XIII. CONSIDERATION of ordinance to amend §150.11 Section A(7) to adopt the International Energy Conservation Code 2015 Edition

City Manager Melancon stated there is no penalty for not adopting this code and he recommended that we not pass it until we are required to do so.

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to table, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 6-0.

- XIV. CONSIDERATION of ordinance amending Chapter 73 – Parking Schedules; Schedule 1 – No Parking Zones, to repeal Ordinance 90-06 that prohibited parking on portions of Saunders Street and Roden Lane; to repeal Ordinance 01-05 that prohibited parking on Perryman Fields; and add a No Parking Zone for trucks at the Gladewater Ball Park Complex on Pacific Street

Mayor Pro-tem Shipp moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 6-0.

- XV. CONSIDERATION of ordinance to approve the Texas Department of Transportation Municipal Maintenance Agreement

Councilmember Bland moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Niemann. Carried 6-0.

- XVI. CONSIDERATION of East Texas Council of Governments for 9-1-1 Database Maintenance agreement for fiscal year 2017

Councilmember Bland moved to approve, seconded by Councilmember Watson. Carried 6-0.

XVII. ADJOURN

Councilmember Robertson moved to adjourn at 7:07, seconded by Councilmember Shipp.  
Adjourned by consensus.

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HAROLD R. WELLS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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MELBA HARALSON, CITY SECRETARY