

STATE OF TEXAS *
COUNTY OF HENDERSON *
CITY OF GUN BARREL CITY *

The City Council of the City of Gun Barrel City met in a regular meeting in City Hall, located at 1716 West Main Street, Gun Barrel City, Texas, on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Pro-tem Baade called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Roll was called and a quorum established.

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Present

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Present

Council Member - Dennis Baade: Present

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Present

Council Member - Marty Goss: Present

Mayor - Jim Braswell: Absent

Citizen Presentations: (Limited to 3 Minutes)

00:03:15

Carroll Strickland read the following prepared statement: First, let me say yes Linda Rankin is my friend and I will defend her, but tonight isn't about Linda it is about the dysfunction in our city. I have been considering the problems between the EDC and the City Council. It seems to me there is one common thread and that is Marty Goss.

With the passing of Steve Webster, Marty and his cronies have done everything they can to disrupt and/or take over the EDC. First they tried to have their yes man elected president, but that failed. They have taken away projects from the EDC along with numerous other dirty tricks all in an effort to take over or control the EDC.

Shortly after Linda was elected president of the EDC, Marty went to her stating he had a piece of property he wanted the EDC to purchase. Linda stated they weren't ready to discuss land purchases at that time. That's when his meanness really ramped up.

After Marty tried, unsuccessfully, to have Linda removed from the EDC she went to him asking if there was a way to bury the hatchet and work together. Marty's answer was to say, "You should have thought about that when you didn't buy the land I told you to buy." Here we are again with Marty trying to have Linda removed from the EDC. All your actions have been a vendetta or witch hunt.

The antics of you and your cronies have cost the EDC and City untold thousands of dollars and are doing harm to our city's reputation. I've been on boards and in meetings with Marty and heard you brag about always being able to find a way to get around the city charter to get what you want. That's not the type leadership this city wants or deserves.

I'm asking you, Marty Goss, to step down from the city council. Save the city the expense of a recall election and do no more harm to our city. The city needs to have leadership that's willing to work together and knows the meaning of the word compromise in order to get things done. Your antics and reputation are harming our city. Before you start spreading lies and disinformation about me, remember I'm a private citizen.

Knowing that Marty won't step down because his ego or ambition won't allow him to I'm calling on the City Council, the City Manager and the Mayor to step up and do something about this situation. Marty, you and Curtis and all the other Council members were elected to serve the people of the City not to further your private agenda and you serve at our pleasure. You were elected not anointed as Gods, those are chairs you sit in not thrones. Step down Marty.

ITEM # 1: Consent Agenda: All matters listed under 'Consent Agenda' are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be considered separately. Consider approving the **minutes** of the **June 24, 2014 Council meetings** and the following **June reports:**

- Financial – Budget vs. Actual Expenses–Year to Date (None)
- Municipal Court – traffic and non-traffic court activity
- Police Department – number of cases filed and cleared
- Dispatch Report – calls for service
- Animal Control – number of complaints, impoundments and citations
- Fire Department/Fire Marshal – number of incidents, investigations & mutual aid
- Street & Park Department – cost break down of monthly street repairs & park expenses
- Building Official – number of inspections and associated fees
- Code Enforcement – break down of violations
- EDC minutes and financial reports

[Council Member - Curtis Webster: Motion to approve Consent Agenda.](#)

[Council Member – Ronald Wyrick: 2nd](#)

[Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve](#)

[Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve](#)

[Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve](#)

[Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve](#)

[Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve](#)

[Mayor - Jim Braswell: N/A](#)

ITEM # 2: Discuss and/or take action to approve the Annual Financial Report for the Year Ending September 30, 2013 (2012-2013 Audit). **(Yeldell & Wilson)**

[00:07:07](#)

Danny Strunts, a representative from Yeldell & Wilson, gave a brief overview of the 2012-2013 audit.

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Motion to approve the Annual Financial Report for the Year Ending September 30, 2013 (2012-2013 Audit).

Council Member - Marty Goss: 2nd

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve

Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve

Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve

Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM # 3: Discuss and/or take action to approve the Collections Contract between the City and Henderson County Tax Office for the purpose of collecting property taxes for the period of October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. **(City Secretary)**

The City Secretary explained that this was a contract that was renewed annually to authorize the Henderson County Tax Office to collect delinquent taxes.

Council Member - Marty Goss: Motion to approve the Collections Contract between the City and Henderson County Tax Office for the purpose of collecting property taxes for the period of October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

Council Member - Curtis Webster: 2nd

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve

Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve

Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve

Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM # 4: Discuss and/or take action to approve an over-sized sign variance, raising the Shell pole sign by 12 feet from 30 feet to 42 feet, for LBM & M, LLC - DBA: CJ's Convenience Store located at 2813 East Main Street and Hwy. 175. **(City Manager)**

00:16:57

The City Manager explained that in the packet was an application from CJ's requesting the height of the sign be increased and this was due to the overpass that was constructed when the State widened Hwy 175. Included in the packet were receipts from sales activity from the prior year versus the current year. The belief is that since the sign is lower than the height of the traffic this business has suffered in sales. The fees have been paid for the over-sized sign variance. An engineering statement would be required stating that the sign had been engineered to handle the increased wind velocity.

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Motion to approve an over-sized sign variance, raising the Shell pole sign by 12 feet from 30 feet to 42 feet, for LBM & M, LLC – DBA: CJ's Convenience Store located at 2813

East Main Street and Hwy. 175.
Council Member - Rodney Bevill: 2nd
Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve
Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve
Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve
Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve
Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve
Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM # 5: Discuss and/or take action to require all Board and Committee meetings to be held in the City Council chambers for transparency. **(Wyrick)**

00:19:27

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Motion to require all Board and Committee meetings to be held in the City Council chambers for transparency.
Council Member - Rodney Bevill: 2nd
Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve
Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve
Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve
Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve
Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve
Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM # 6: Discuss and/or take action to appoint a new person to the task force. **(Goss)**

00:20:35

Goss explained he was going to step down and had asked Ron Wyrick to fill that vacancy. Curtis Webster would take on the role as Chairman. It was Goss' understanding that Councilman Baade would like to be the Council alternate. Sandy Janow with the EDC would move up to a regular member instead of an alternate. Along with EDC members Jim Cavanaugh and Jim Osborne all the vacancies on the task force would be filled.

Council Member - Marty Goss: Motion to make the changes and appointments as described above.
Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: 2nd
Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve
Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve
Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve
Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve
Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve
Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM # 7: Discuss and/or take action to remove Linda Rankin from the EDC Board of Directors. (Goss)

00:21:50

Baade asked Linda Rankin if she would like to discuss this in Open Session or if she would like to go into Executive Session. Because of some of the information that might be discussed she opted to go into Executive Session.

Baade said he didn't receive the information distributed by Councilman Goss. There was conversation as to whether to proceed with the item. Goss explained this item was not to remove Linda Rankin but to decide whether to move forward to start the process for removal.

Mayor Pro-tem Baade recessed the Open Meeting to go into Executive Session at 6:55 p.m.

The Open Meeting reconvened at 8:07 p.m.

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Motion to take no action.

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: 2nd

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Disapprove

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve

Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve

Council Member - Marty Goss: Disapprove

Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM # 8: Discuss and/or take action to direct the GBCEDC Board to hire an EDC Executive Director who will report to the City Manager. (Webster)

00:24:56

Webster said it was time for an EDC Director, someone who would deal directly with both the City Manager and the EDC Board of Directors. The EDC Board of Directors would hire that person but he would report to the City Manager that way we would have a clear line of communication and maybe we could resolve this ongoing dispute. Part of this would be a job description that Gerry would write. Gerry said he would work with Linda or the Board on the job description.

Wyrick had talked to both Linda Rankin and Gerry Boren about this. He had also contacted the City of Palestine. They had an EDC Director and a City Manager who both reported to the Council. He agreed with this action but thought there needed to be a lot more investigation, i.e. who's paying the salary, what duties are there. There was a lot more information that needed to be gathered before we hired someone.

Boren said he would like to contact Wendy in Palestine who is now the City Manager but was the EDC Director and Mercy Rushing who was the EDC Director in Canton but is now in Mineola. They could contact TEDC and report back to the Council next month with their findings.

Baade said another factor was whether to hire someone full-time or part-time. The salary and benefit cost could be upwards of \$75,000. Other considerations were who hires, who fires, who gives the raise. We need to work through those issues.

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Motion to direct the GBCEDC , actually for Gerry and Linda to get together and move forward toward hiring an Executive Director for the EDC, that is they write the job description, do a salary survey and so forth.

Council Member - Marty Goss: 2nd

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve

Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve

Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve

Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM # 9: Discuss and/or take action to set a date for interviews with the applicants in Open Session for open Board and Commission positions. **(City Manager)**

00:33:51

There were open positions on some of our Boards and Commissions. A notice had been published in the paper. There were three vacant positions on the Planning and Zoning. There were three two-year positions and one unexpired term to be filled on the EDC. Boren wanted to set a date for interviews.

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Motion to set the date of August 26 at 4:30 p.m. prior to the regular Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. that night to interview applicants in Open Session for the Council to ask question and interview the applicants for the seven positions available for the two Boards.

Council Member - Marty Goss: 2nd

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve

Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve

Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve

Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM #10: Discuss and/or take action to set a date for a strategic planning meeting. **(City Manager)**

00:38:41

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Motion to set a date of August 4 at 4:30 p.m. for a strategic planning meeting.

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: 2nd

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve

Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve

Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve

Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

ITEM #11: Discuss and/or take action to authorize payment from EDC Project 2014-001 Heritage Cove Town Center Project for Invoice #13646 to Shackelford, Hawkins & Searcy, PC for a title search on easement adjacent to the Town Center Development. **(City Manager)**

00:41:54

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Motion to authorize payment from EDC Project 2014-001 Heritage Cove Town Center Project for Invoice #13646 to Shackelford, Hawkins & Searcy, PC for a title search on easement adjacent to the Town Center Development.

Council Member - Marty Goss: 2nd

Council Member - Rodney Bevill: Approve

Council Member - Ronald Wyrick: Approve

Council Member - Dennis Baade: Approve

Council Member - Curtis Webster: Approve

Council Member - Marty Goss: Approve

Mayor - Jim Braswell: N\A

On another note, Boren thought they had brought in 4,000 people to the July Fest. If you anticipate that each individual spends about \$25, it would impact your economy by \$100,000.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Attest:



Christy Eckerman, City Secretary

Approved:



Jim Braswell, Mayor