

February 12, 2024

The City Council met in Public Hearing followed by Regular Session on February 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were City Administrator Jessie Montez, Mayor Sally Poteet, Council Members Adrian Hernandez, Gib Wheeler, Steven Villa, Leah Flanagan and James Jenkins. Also present were Chief of Police Joe Bob Morales, Finance Director Laura Walker and Economic Development Director Jaque Alcala. Visitors: Bill Reed, Douglas McCalister, Neal Sisson and Dennis Polson.

The Public Hearing for Condemning Structures was called to order by Mayor Sally Poteet at 7:00 p.m.

Eufemia Aguirre, in care of Lillie Arguello: 411 W. Broadway St. (LT 9-10, BLK, 30 OT, ADDN.)

Dennis & Raquel Polson: 707 W. Broadway St. (LT 5-6 BLK 33 OT ADDN.)

Vernon Cox: 801 E. Broadway St. (W/100 S/2 BLK 5 SECOND ADDN.)

Neal Sisson: 800 E. School St. (N/2 BLK 5 SECOND ADDN.)

Audry Brown: 501 S. College (LT 7-12 BLK 97 OT ADDN.)

Florida McCalister, in care of Gloria Smith: 601 E. St. Elizabeth (LT 7-8 BLK A 15 EAST ADDN.)

Dennis Polson requested 90-days (Ninety) to repair the structure at 707 W. Broadway St. Neal Sisson requested 90-days (Ninety) to clear away the structure at 800 E. School St. Doug McCalister requested 90-days (Ninety) to clear away the structure at 601 E. St. Elizabeth. Jessie Montez reported being contacted by Audry Brown for 501 S. College and requested to have 90 (Ninety) days to remove the structures themselves.

Mayor Sally Poteet closed the Public Hearing and opened Regular Session at 7:09 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

A motion was made by Council Member Flanagan and seconded by Council Member Wheeler that the previous minutes from January 8, 2024 be approved, all voted for.

Economic Development Director, Jaque Alcala, gave a brief introduction to Aaron Farmer with Retail Coach. Aaron Farmer explained how his firm collects data to recruit potential merchants. A motion was made by Council Member Villa to approve Economic Development's decision to hire Retail Coach for \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand Dollars) and not to exceed \$31,500 (Thirty-One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars). Council Member Wheeler seconded the motion, and all voted for.

Council Member Wheeler made the motion to approve the grant from Economic Development to Le Bow Boutique in the amount of \$10,000 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to replace windows on store front after getting second bid. Council Member Villas seconded the motion, all voted for.

Council Member Villa made the motion to grant 90 (Ninety) days to the following: Dennis & Raquel Polson: 707 W. Broadway St. (LT 5-6 BLK 33 OT ADDN.), Neal Sisson: 800 E. School St. (N/2 BLK 5 SECOND ADDN.), Audry Brown: 501 S. College (LT 7-12 BLK 97 OT ADDN.) and Florida McCalister, in care of Gloria Smith: 601 E. St. Elizabeth (LT 7-8 BLK A 15 EAST ADDN.) to either repair or demolish the structures themselves. Council Member Jenkins seconded the motion and all voted for.

Council Member Villa made the motion to continue with condemning the following structures: Eufemia Aguirre, in care of Lillie Arguello: 411 W. Broadway St. (LT 9-10, BLK, 30 OT, ADDN.) and Vernon Cox: 801 E. Broadway St. (W/100 S/2 BLK 5 SECOND ADDN.). Council Member Jenkins seconded the motion, and all voted for.

Council Member Villa made the motion to take no action on proposal made by Arthur Hernandez with Primary Electric to purchase city owned lot. The motion was seconded by Council Member Wheeler, and all voted for.

Council Member Villa motioned to grant Martin County Hospital's request to reduce the utilities easement from 70' (Seventy Feet) to 20' (Twenty Feet) as stated on Meets and Bounds. The motion was seconded by Council Member Flanagan, and all voted for.

Council Member Flanagan made the motion to table accepting Memorandum of Understanding between The City of Stanton and City of Big Spring Fire Marshal. Council Member Jenkins seconded the motion, and all voted for.

Council Member Villa motioned to approve the Order of Election to be held on May 4, 2024, for Council Members for District 1 (One), District 2 (Two), District 3 (Three) and Mayor for a 2-year (Two) term. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins, and all voted for.

Council Member Villa made the motion to enter into The Joint Election Agreement Contract for election services made by and between Helen Floyd, the Martin County Administrator and Stanton Independent School District and the City of Stanton. Council Member Wheeler seconded the motion, and all voted for.

Reports from Chief of Police: 91 (Ninety-One) calls of service for the past month. Chief also reported an officer left the department on January 23 and a new officer being sworn into the department last Wednesday. New officer is still in FTO (Field Training Officer) Program but is an experienced officer and will probably be released from the FTO Program next Friday. The department has also been contacted by a student attending the academy in Odessa and looking to possibly hire on with Stanton after graduation in August.

City Administrator reported: Construction on S. ST. Florence is complete. Stanton ISD to begin housing project off of Beaugard soon. New backhoe should be arriving this week and getting \$24,000 (Twenty-Four Thousand Dollars) for the backhoe trade-in. Reauthorization of street maintenance tax at ¼% (One Quarter Percent). Bid for Front Street Waterline Project scheduled at the end of February.

Council Member Flanagan made the motion to pay the January 2024 bills. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jenkins, and all voted for.

Council Member Wheeler made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Flanagan seconded the motion, and all voted for. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Sally Poteet, Mayor

ATTEST: Jessie Montez, City Administrator