

STATE OF TEXAS)(
COUNTY OF RUNNELS)(
CITY OF BALLINGER)(

On this the day 18th of October 2021 the Ballinger City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall located at 700 Railroad Avenue with the following members present:

Dawni Seymore	Mayor
Ken Manley	Council Member # 1
Richard "Rick" Morrish	Mayor Pro-tem
Absent	Council Member #3
Steven Gray, Jr.	Council Member # 4

City Staff: -

Bonita Shields	City Secretary
Brian Frieda	City Manager
Sharon Hicks	City Attorney
Ray Cornutt	Chief of Police
Chad Mercer	Code Enforcement
John Pierik III	Finance Director
Rebecca Springer	Public Works

Others present: Chad Hardy-Citizen, Sarah Long-Chamber of Commerce.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Dawni Seymore called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Council Member was asked to lead the group in a word of prayer and the pledge of allegiance and pledge to the Texas flag.

PUBLIC HEARINGS & PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes: Approval of minutes of October 4,2021 meeting

Christmas parade: Request from Ballinger Chamber of Commerce to hold a parade. The Chamber release a survey, and the results showed a significant desire to have a night parade where entries will be illuminated with Christmas lighting and decorations.

Council Member Rick Morrish made the motion to approve all items listed in the consent agenda. **Second by Council Member Ken Manley** and was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR CONSIDERATION: Unless specifically noted, Council may take action on any item.

Confirmation of Bonita F. Shields as Municipal Court Clerk and designation of Esmeralda Hernandez and Lola Murchison as Deputy Court Clerks.

Council Member Steven Gray, Jr. made the motion to approve the appointments as presented effective October 1, 2021. **Second by Council Member Ken Manley** and was unanimously approved.

Revision to policy for brush and furniture removal:

Presentation by staff of revision to better serve our community more efficiently and effectively and with goal of decreasing unlawful dumping that has and is still occurring.

Rebecca Springer presented the Council a revised plan for brush, limbs, and furniture disposal from resident's property. The staff has noticed large piles of brush that take four-five trips to pick up. She is in the process of trying to determine if the brush piles are from increased expectations from residents or contractors leaving their work behind. The work order system is not working effectively, and she would like to put a quadrant system into place. This system would divide the town into four sections. The brush and limbs will be picked up depending on the section of town that you live in. Ms. Springer would also like to set parameters on the size of the brush piles. She will possibly be placing dumpsters in town for resident to use for free and possibly start charging a fee for furniture pick-ups. There was a \$2.50 service fee add to customer's account, with the understanding that the revenues received would help pay for the new brush truck. She would also like to suggest that the limbs and brush be placed in front of the resident's property, except for the Broadway. Brian Frieda told the Council that this is a working policy and the staff wanted to keep the Council informed of the proposed changes and not action needs to be taken at this time.

Presentation from Ken Martin of Jacob and Martin Engineering:

Addressing the water project from inception to status, and the next steps.

Ken Martin presented the Council with the following history of the Abilene project and the status of the project. A copy of the proposed route for the new water line is attached and made a part of the minutes.

City of Ballinger, Texas
Abilene Water Supply Project Timeline
October 18, 2021

1. In 2012 the Ivie Reservoir dropped to 12% and one of Ballinger's lakes was empty and the other lake was extremely low. Ballinger started looking for other sources of water and the city's engineer proposed a poor-quality groundwater supply near the City of Bronte. Later it was decided that this proposed groundwater supply was unacceptable.

2. In 2014 the City of Ballinger decided to get additional engineering opinions and the city interviewed three (3) engineering firms with water supply experience. In January 2015 Ballinger selected Jacob & Martin (JM) to research other potential water supplies and funding for potential water supplies.
3. JM researched the feasibility of obtaining groundwater from various aquifers in the region as well as various surface water supplies including surface water supplies from the cities of Clyde, Coleman, and Abilene.
4. Coleman declined Ballinger's request for water, but Clyde agreed to sell some of its Fort Phantom Reservoir allotment to Ballinger. Ballinger and Clyde agreed to an option period so that Ballinger could conduct a more detailed feasibility study of securing Clyde water.
5. In 2016, during the Clyde option period, Abilene offered to sell Ballinger water from all its water supplies including Ivie, Phantom, Hubbard, and PK reservoirs. The resultant agreement between Abilene and Ballinger called for Ballinger to provide engineering design, etc. for all facilities required to get Abilene water to Ballinger.
6. In September 2016, JM helped prepare a grant application to the TWDB for the City of Ballinger and in January 2017, TWDB offered Ballinger a 70% grant (about \$2.4 million) and a 30% loan (about \$1.0 million) at 1.6% average interest rate. One condition to being able to get the grant, included CRMWD approval of Ballinger's agreement with Abilene. It took almost two years to get CRMWD to sign off on Abilene's agreement to sell water to Ballinger.
7. In January 2019, Ballinger approved and signed an agreement with JM to provide all the Planning, Acquisition, and Design (PAD) for the Abilene water supply project. Also in January 2019, Ballinger completed the funding requirements and closed on the 70% grant and 30% loan for the project.
8. In 2019, water line route evaluation and preliminary surveying resulted in the final route being selected for the Ballinger water line route. In 2020, Abilene evaluated pipeline routes and pump station locations. A preferred route and pump station location was established, and the preliminary surveying and environmental clearance process continued.
9. It was determined that archeological and biological surveys were required for the entire project and these surveys commenced in 2021 and they were submitted for approval in July 2021. In October 2021, the Corp of Engineers (COE) requested that historic structures within 150 feet of the structure be evaluated. The archeologist is in the process of responding to the COE request.
10. We are hopeful the TWDB will approve the environmental clearance by the end of January and the easement and land acquisition work can resume. Once the environmental clearance is given by TWDB we will resume the design process as well. We estimate the PAD being completed by the first quarter of 2023.

The Council thanked Mr. Martin for the updated report, and no action was needed by the Council at this time.

Financial report:

Presentation of the latest financial status.

John Pierik III presented the Council with the financial report for the fiscal year 2021 ending September 30, 2021. The following is copy of the soft summary as of 10/18/2021 that was presented to the Council.

Expenses by Fund	YTD	Budgeted	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted
General Fund	\$4,111,416.59	\$3,336,758.32		
Water/Sewer Fund	\$2,357,961.61	\$2,267,897.50		
Airport Fund	\$ 50,439.87	\$ 64,350.00	\$6,519,818.07	\$5,994,005.82

Revenues by Fund	YTD	Budgeted		
General Fund	\$4,966,885.13	\$3,661,758.32		
Water/Sewer Fund	\$2,241,542.80	\$2,267,897.50		
Airport Fund	\$ 56,068.12	\$ 64,350.00	\$7,294,476.05	\$5,994,005.82

YTD Surplus Revenue over Expenses **\$ 774,657.98**

Keystone Bank Holding as of October 15, 2021**Operating Funds:**

Operational Accounting	\$285,957.00	
Interest & Sinking Fund	\$174,059.00	
Bond Reserves	\$ 30,188.00	
Surplus Reserves	\$ 17,872.00	
Utility Reserves	\$138,558.00	\$646,634.00

Project Funds:

Water/Sewer Fund		
Abilene Pipeline	\$ 13,113.00	
Water Meters	\$ 80,185.00	\$ 93,298.00

Grant Funds:

ARP	\$451,218.22	
Emergency Vehicles	\$ 13,294.64	
CDBG Street 2019	\$ 97.42	\$464,610.28

Police Dept:

Forfeiture	\$ 2,594.00	\$ 2,594.00
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Municipal Court:

Security Fund	\$ 412.00	<u>\$ 412.00</u>
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Total Operational/Project Funds \$1,207,548.28

Bank Certificates:

Certificate 1	\$119,733.00	
Certificate 2	\$126,628.00	\$246,361.00

Combined Bank Assets

\$1,334,176.28

The Council accepted the financial report as presented.

City Manager's reports:

Public Works reported on the ongoing projects. She reported that after visiting with a pool consultant in September 2021 it was determined that the pool leaks were not as bad as the staff originally thought. There maybe a few minor leaks that will need to be re-caulked. There is a leak between the valve and piping infrastructure inside the pool building. The second pump is in good condition. The water in the pool has nothing dangerous in it and the discoloration is from algae growth. The plan is to repair the leaks, drain the pool down enough to scrub the inside of the pool to have it ready for next spring.

Reminder Trunk or Treat will be on 8th Street from 5-7 p.m. on October 31, 2021.

Reminder of the Ballinger Police Officer's Association's Hallow fest will be on October 30-31,2021 at the community center.

Reminder of the Ballinger Chamber's Hunter appreciation dinner and raffle will be on Saturday, November 6,2021 at the community center.

Moonlight Madness will be on Saturday, November 23, 2021.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Hear request for future agenda items.

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Council convened into executive session at 6:24 p.m.

The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the meeting to discuss any matters listed, as authorized by Texas Government Code.

- a. **Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney** (To seek the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflict with the Texas Open Meetings Act).
- b. **Section 551.072 Deliberations about real property** (The Council may consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property).
- c. **Section 551.074 Personnel Matters.** The City Council may consider appointment, employment, compensation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of public officers or employees, and commission members (may also be reappointment). Carolyn Little, Municipal Court Judge.

RECONVENE AND TAKE ACTION IF NEEDED FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Council reconvened into regular session at 6:51 p.m.

There was no action taken or needed from the executive session.

ADJOURN:

Council Member Ken Manley made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. **Second by Council Member Steven Gray, Jr.** and was unanimously approved.

Dawni Seymore
Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonita F. Shields
City Secretary