

CITY OF IVANHOE

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

April 30th, 2020

6:30 PM

Special meeting was called to order by Mayor Bennett at 6:30 PM. Quorum established with all Council members present. There were 2 audience members in attendance.

Communications from the audience

Mayor Bennett noted that the meeting was being broadcast on the City Facebook page. She asked if there were any comments/questions from the Facebook audience. There were none.

Agenda Item #1 – Mayor’s comments

- The Mayor explained that there will always be a Public Comments time allowed for individuals who are watching the meetings via Facebook.
- Governor Abbott had issued Executive Order GA-18 regarding the Covid-19 health emergency on April 27th. Part of the statement pertains to re-opening park and swim areas. The Mayor has discussed the matter with the Board of the Ivanhoe Property Owners Association (IPOIA) who control the private parks and lakes in Ivanhoe. In compliance with GA-18, the IPOIA will be opening the parks and lakes from 10 AM to 6 PM within the guidelines of social distancing (prohibiting any contact closer than 6 feet) and limiting the size of groups gathering in the parks. As long as the guidelines are abided by the parks will continue to be open for property owners to enjoy.
- The Census 2020 response is very poor as of the last report; Tyler County has a response rate of 26%. Ivanhoe currently is at 34%. The Mayor reiterated how important it is to get everyone counted in order to maximize the amount of federal grant funding and other financial assistance to the city and county.
- The discolored floor tile has just been replaced in the restrooms, and the civic hall flooring will be stripped and re-waxed next week while the facility has minimal use due to the coronavirus stay at home guidelines.

Agenda Item #2 – Authorization of checking account and signatories

Mayor Bennett explained the account is needed per the Texas Dept. of Agriculture for a separate account for the Community Development Block Grant street work on Durwood Dr. Councilman Vonderlin made the motion to open a checking account for the grant and approve Mayor Bennett to set up the account with all Council members as signatories on the account (Mayor-Cathy Bennett, Mayor Pro-tem Tommy Morris, Council Members-Chuck Vonderlin, Will Warren, David Herrington and Skip Blackstone). Councilman Warren submitted the second and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 – Bond street work contract

Mayor Bennett informed Council that Victoria Dia, the engineer with LJA Engineering has reviewed and qualified the bids received from five contractors (LD Construction, Gulf Coast Construction, Crockett Construction, Drewery Construction, and Mason Construction) following the public bid opening and reading on May 23rd. Ms. Dia subsequently provided her recommendation which was emailed to Council. The lowest bid with alternatives came from Mason Construction for \$419,200.97. Councilman Morris made the motion to accept the engineers recommendation and approve Mason Construction as contractor for the Bond street work on Chanticleer and Charmaine Dr. South. Councilman Vonderlin provided the second. In discussion Councilman Warren asked who would be responsible for making sure the work is done properly. Mayor Bennett explained that the project will be overseen by the engineer, with Public Works Supervisor Mr. David Marshall observing/reporting on a daily basis during the contraction phase. He will also be the one to sign off on the completed project. Councilman Warren asked what the expected life of the street surface will be. Mayor Bennett said the surface should last for 20 years, there will be maintenance required as with any street. Following the discussion Council unanimously approved the motion to award the contract to Mason Construction.

Agenda Item #5 – Comprehensive Planning Grant

Mayor Bennett moved the agenda item forward and turned the floor to Councilman Morris to provide information. Councilman Morris informed Council that future grants from the CDBG program will be contingent on the city having a Comprehensive Plan in place. The list of possible plans the city can apply for include the base study of Population, Housing and Land Use, also Water System, Wastewater System (not applicable), Drainage System, Street System, Gas System (not applicable), Electrical (not applicable), Parks and Recreation, Thoroughfares, Central Business District, Capitol Improvements Program, Subdivision Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance studies. There is a 10% match requirement, and the city cost would be a maximum of \$3,750 based on the studies performed. To get the process started the city will need to publish legal notice requesting proposals from grant writer/administrators. Councilman Morris then made the motion to begin the process. Councilman Vonderlin provided the second. In discussion Councilman Herrington noted the city already has a draft version of a Comprehensive Plan that was developed in conjunction with Texas A & M. He said the draft

Comprehensive Plan should be provided during the research to be done under the Comprehensive Planning Grant. Councilman Vonderlin asked if the current street work plans can be included along with the drainage study. Following the discussion Council unanimously approved the motion to start the process.

Mayor Bennett then called a recess at 6:48 PM to discuss Agenda item#4 with the city attorney in executive session (by phone). Mayor Bennett called the Council back into open session at 7:20 PM

Agenda Item #4 – Electronic sign update

Mayor Bennett noted the Agenda item was for Council to receive information from the city attorney on the electronic sign placement on private property. No action was taken by Council following the executive session.

Agenda Item #6 – Council comments

With no members of the Council having comments, and no comments or questions from the audience (live and Facebook), the Mayor moved to the final agenda item.

Agenda Item #7 – Adjourn

Councilman Herrington made the motion to adjourn with a second by Councilman Warren and the meeting was concluded at 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

C. D. Woodrome, City Secretary