

**CITY OF ROCKSPRINGS
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER - With a quorum of the City Council present, Council member LaWanda Goller called the meeting to order at 6:02pm, Monday August 12, 2019 at City Hall, 100 W. Austin St. Rocksprings, TX 78880.

2. ROLL CALL -

Present:

Mayor Vacant – Not in attendance
Council Member Emma Barnebey
Council Member Brenna Bissett
Council Member Reynaldo Chapa, Jr
Council Member Sharron Croft
Council Member LaWanda Goller

Staff Present:

Katherine Harris, Ed. D – City Secretary
Rudy Ramirez, Public Works Director

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance and was led by Council member Reynaldo Chapa.

4. PUBLIC FORUM – Eight folks were in attendance with 2 residents Debra Wolcott and Andrew Barnebey signed up to speak during open forum. Representative from All American Pump and Republic Services were also in attendance. Ms. Wolcott discussed the Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) funds noting funds are to promote events that directly promote tourism. She also noted the historic restoration and preservation projects relating to the funds, citing the renovation of the Fire House, which is currently City Hall took away from the historic value of the building. Wolcott recommended a “post event form” so that applicants after the event can indicate precisely where the HOT funds money was spent.

Andrew Barnebey spoke to the council regarding the appearance of downtown square. He indicated that the northwest side of the square is mostly empty. He suggested that building owners could make the vacant windows more attractive with showcasing art or historic items. Barnebey

also commented that he would like for slanted stripes to be painted on that side of the square, so folks know how to park.

5. **REPORT FROM PUBLIC WORKS –** PWD Ramirez provided monthly report. This was his first official council meeting as PWD introducing himself to council and the audience. He noted that he has a military background and a standard he will maintain. PWS explained that there is a “lot of catch up” with years past but that his view is to move forward. He understood the years of neglect with the sewer plant and neglect and mistreatment of city infrastructure, equipment and the like. He told council that the pumps at the sewer plant were put in backwards thus causing continuous malfunctions, breakdowns, and clogs. He introduced EJ Bible from All American Pumps who is working with the City to correct the dire situation at the water plant. Ramirez urged all residents to “all pitch in” to follow rules and regulations according to city ordinances.
6. **MONTHLY REPORT(S) FROM CITY SECRETARY –** Monthly report included reconciliations of all bank accounts. The resignation of Mayor Brian Wood was read into the record. Mayor Wood resigned his position August 8, 2019 with his acceptance of finality as August 16, 2019. City Secretary noted that all bills were paid.
7. **DELIBERATE, CONSIDER AND/OR TAKE ACTION ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**
 - A. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action regarding appointment of Mayor Pro Tem. Motion to appoint Mayor Pro Tem LaWanda Goller made by Reynaldo Chapa. Second by Brenna Bissett. Sharron Croft in Favor. Emma Barnebey opposed. Mayor Pro Tem will hold the position until May 2020 when an election for Mayor will be on the ballot to serve out the balance of the term (May 2021), in addition to the three ‘at-large’ council positions also on the ballot for May 2020 which are normal terms.
 - B. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action regarding RESOLUTION 2019: 0819. Resolution to remove Brian Wood from all accounts upon resignation as Mayor. Motion to approve by Sharron Croft, second by Reynaldo Chapa. All in favor, none opposed.

- C. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action for Resolution 2019:08 Bank Signatory. Motion to add Mayor Pro Tem LaWanda Goller to signatory authority to sign checks, vouchers, notes and other documents authorized by City Council made by Reynaldo Chapa. Second by Sharron Croft. All in favor, none opposed.
- D. Review/Discuss/Approve Minutes from the June 10, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting. Motion to approve by Brenna Bissett, Second by Emma Barnebey. All in favor None opposed. Review Edwards Central Appraisal District 2020 Proposed Budget. No action taken. Council y reviewed the proposed budget.
- E. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action on 2019-2020 City of Rocksprings Tax Rate. Current rate over 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 is 0.516100/\$100. Motion to increase the tax rate to 0.5511 for fiscal year 2019-2020 was made by Emma Barnebey. Second by Reynaldo Chapa. All in favor, none opposed.
- F. Discuss/Approve Budget Workshop Date for Fiscal Year 2020 and FY 2019 Amended Budget for General Budget and Utility Budget proposed dates, working Saturday or weekday evenings prior to August 30, 2019. Determine day for public hearing on Budget and property tax rate hearing. Overall review and adoption in Regular Meeting of City Council on Monday, September 9, 2019, taking effect October 1, 2019. Motion to approve budget workshop for Tuesday August 20th at 5:30pm made by Brenna Bissett, second by Emma Barnebey. All in favor, none opposed.
- G. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action regarding \$2.50 Service Fee on Credit Card Charges effective October 1, 2019. Motion to increase the credit card service fee effective October 1, 2019 was made by Sharron Croft, second by Brenna Bissett. All in favor, none opposed.
- H. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action regarding raising the Fire fee from \$2.00 to \$2.50 effective October 1, 2019. Motion to increase the Fire collection

fee on October 1, 2019 was made by Sharron Croft, second by Lawanda Goller. Brenna Bissett abstained. The rest in favor, none opposed.

- I. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action regarding increase Solid Waste Transfer Station fee from \$27.00 to \$35.00 (\$2.50 fire fee is included) and \$3.00 per bag disposal to \$4.00 per bag disposal, effective October 1, 2019. Motion to increase both the transfer station fee from \$27.00 to \$35.00 and the per bag disposal fee from \$3.00 to \$4.00 effective October 1, 2019 was made by Emma Barnebey, second by Sharron Croft. All in favor, none opposed.
- J. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action regarding base water rate from \$9.79 to \$15.00, effective October 1, 2019. Motion to table base water rate increase pending more information was made by Emma Barnebey, second by Sharron Croft. All in favor, none opposed.
- K. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action regarding Drought Contingency Plan item to approve. Plan was tabled by the City Council as the plan wasn't available at time of the meeting. Motion to table by Emma Barnebey, second by Sharron Croft. All in favor, none opposed.
- L. Approve Resolution 8/12/2019 Public Investment Policy. Motion to approve 2019-2020 Investment Policy by Sharron Croft, second by Emma Barnebey. All in favor, none opposed.
- M. Review/Discuss and take appropriate action regarding solid waste disposal services with Republic Services. (Rate Sheets provided to Council Members). Mr. Joe Spano from Republic Services made a presentation and answered question by both Council Members and those residents in attendance. Motion to approve entering into contract with Republic Services was made by Sharron Croft, second by Emma Barnebey. All in favor, none opposed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discuss/Approve/Deliberate Personnel Matters to include evaluations of Administrative and Public Work Personnel under Texas Government Code, Section 551.074.

RECONVENE: 8:58pm Reconvene from Executive Session. Personnel Matters discussed in Executive Session now act in open session. Council member Emma Barnebey made the motion to approve the \$2.00 per hour raise to an employee. Second by Brenna Bissett. All in Favor, none opposed. Second employee motion to approve \$2.00 raise made by Emma Barnebey, second by Sharron Croft. All in favor, none opposed. Third employee motion to approve \$1.00 raise made by Emma Barnebey, second by Sharron Croft. All in favor, none opposed.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Motion to adjourn made by Emma Barnebey. Second by Sharron Croft. All in favor, none opposed. Meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM.

ATTEST:



Katherine A. Harris, Ed. D City Secretary



LaWanda Goller, Mayor Pro Tem