

MINUTES
VILLAGE COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020
4:00 P.M.
CITY HALL - VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

PRESENT: Mayor Louie Gallegos, Councilor Elizabeth Steele and Clerk Jamie Wall.
Councilor Gerald Cline appeared via teleconference from home.

ABSENT: Councilor Albert Sena and Councilor Esther Segura

MAYOR LOUIE GALLEGOS CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 4:00 P.M.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gallegos requested Council review agenda for approval. Mayor Gallegos recommended the Council approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION: Gerald Cline

SECOND: Elizabeth Steele

That the Council approves the agenda as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Elizabeth Steele: Yes

Albert Sena: Absent

Esther Segura: Absent

Gerald Cline: Yes

Two voted yes, motion carried.

COUNCILOR ALBERT SENA ARRIVED AT 4:16 P.M.

2. CONSIDERATION OF FY 2020-2021 BUDGET WORKSHOP #3

Mayor and Council discussed proposed ideas for cutting expenses for the upcoming fiscal year as projected GRT was down for the Village in the upcoming year. Included in discussion were switching from phone carrier AT&T to T-Mobile who offered a government plan that would net approximately \$700.00 in savings monthly for 9 lines. Also discussed was the Tyler Notify program which alerts water customers via text message – Clerk Wall explained the Notify system was a pay-as-used feature that only cost when messages were sent, but the program was never used due to only a few customers signing up. Councilor Elizabeth Steele inquired if the Mayor’s vehicle could be an area to cut as no previous Mayor had taken a vehicle home for daily use. Councilor Albert Sena suggested that a vehicle was needed by the Mayor to supervise employees and check on things for the Village and if that expense was too great, the Elected Officials should consider giving up their salary to help the budget. Councilor Albert Sena motioned to switch the Village cell phone carrier from AT&T to T-Mobile.

MOTION: Albert Sena

SECOND: Elizabeth Steele

That the Council approves switching the Village cell phone carrier from AT&T to T-Mobile.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Elizabeth Steele: Yes

Albert Sena: Yes

Esther Segura: Absent

Gerald Cline: Yes

Three voted yes, motion carried.

3. CONSIDERATION OF FY 2020-2021 INTERIM BUDGET

Clerk Jamie Wall presented Mayor and Council with FY 2020-2021 Interim Budget. Clerk Wall explained the interim budget included a decline in GRTs due to COVID-19 closures, a \$.25 increase for all full-time employees that were not included in the minimum wage increase and those affected by the minimum wage increase being elevated to \$10.75. All raises would be implemented six months into the fiscal year. Budget also included increased health insurance rates, liability insurance, and audit costs. Clerk Wall stated the Budget did not include filling the Parks Department or Code/Zone Enforcement vacancy. Clerk Wall stated the budget was viable only after foregoing the required reserve recommended by DFA. After discussing the issue with Department of Finance Bureau Chief Donnie Quintana, retaining a 1/12 General Fund expenditure as a reserve safety net is considered best practice, but not required. After review and discussion, Councilor Gerald Cline motioned to approve the FY 2020-2021 Interim Budget as presented.

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MOTION: Gerald Cline

SECOND: Elizabeth Steele

That the Council approves the FY 2020-2021 Interim Budget as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Elizabeth Steele: Yes

Albert Sena: Yes

Esther Segura: Absent

Gerald Cline: Yes

All voted yes, motion carried.

4. CONSIDERATION OF COVID-19 PLANNING AND PROCEDURES

Mayor Gallegos and Council discussed updates how each department of the Village would take precautions for the COVID-19 safety measures. Mayor Gallegos stated the Village was keeping up to date with mandates from the Governor's office as well as directives from the Center for Disease Control for the latest precautionary measures. Protocols were made as follows:

Library: Library is currently open to the public with social distancing practices as well as limited amount of patrons allowed inside at one time. Curbside service will still be available.

Utility Accounts: Delinquent utility accounts for the Village Water & Sewer will be notified if disconnection status is reached. Notification will state hand-washing hygiene is effective in the prevention protocol for COVID-19. Notice will be placed on account holder's door stating service will not be interrupted at this time but extra time will be given to make the account current. Account holder is to call for balance due amount from Village Hall to be paid by June 5, 2020 with shut-off to commence Monday June 8, 2020. Council will re-evaluate situation periodically.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED
AT 4:37 P.M.**

MOTION: Gerald Cline

SECOND: Albert Sena

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Elizabeth Steele: Yes

Albert Sena: Yes

Esther Segura: Absent

Gerald Cline: Yes

All voted yes, motion carried.

APPROVED:

MAYOR


LOUIE GALLEGOS

ATTEST:


JAMIE WALL, CLERK