

MINUTES
THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROSE HILL CITY COUNCIL
MONDAY JANUARY 07, 2013 – 7:00 P.M.
ROSE HILL CITY HALL/COUNCIL CHAMBERS

ACTION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The regular meeting of the Rose Hill City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Mark Conway and held in Council Chambers. Councilmembers present: Rob Curtis, Jason Jones, David Vernia, Keith Carselowey and Tamara Potter. Administration and staff present: Kathy A. Raney, City Administrator/City Clerk; Kirk Hayden, Public Works Director; Bob Sage, Police Chief; Kelly Mendoza, Asst. City Clerk; Andrew Marino, Asst. City Attorney and Richard Brown, Building Official. Others present: Christine Wendt, Ron Long, Ed Templin, Gerald McKinney, Cynthia & Jeff Hudspeth and BJ Sheu.

ACTION ITEM #2: INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE

Pastor Ron Long, Rose Hill First Baptist Church, gave the invocation followed by the flag salute.

ACTION ITEM #3: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

With copies of the 1/7/13 agenda previously distributed and before each Councilmember, the following:

MOTION (by J. Jones): To approve the 1/7/13 agenda as presented. **SECOND BY R. Curtis** with **MOTION PASSING 5-0.**

ACTION ITEM #4: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

With copies of the December 17, 2012 Regular Council Meeting minutes previously distributed and before each Councilmember, the following:

Councilmember Potter requested that the minutes be amended under her report as follows: To accurately reflect the conversation(s) about the inappropriate behavior of developer Paul Kelsey of the Sunrise Add. at the Dec. 3rd City Council meeting and to reflect that it was discussed that he had unacceptable behavior, was laughing and making gestures when Councilmember Jones was speaking, and that Councilmembers Jones, Potter and Vernia acknowledged being aware of the behavior, as well as citizen Ed Templin. And, that Mayor Conway reported not being aware of the behavior but would speak with Mr. Kelsey and an apology would be forthcoming, if appropriate.

MOTION (by D. Vernia): To approve the amended December 17, 2012 Regular Council Meeting minutes. **SECOND BY T. Potter with MOTION PASSING 5-0.**

ACTION ITEM #5: CLAIMS

With copies of Appropriation Ordinance No. 1 previously distributed and before each Councilmember, the following:

MOTION (by D. Vernia): To approve the payment of claims for Appropriation Ordinance No.1. **SECOND BY J. Jones with MOTION PASSING 5-0.**

ACTION ITEM #6: CITIZEN REQUESTS

Cynthia Hudspeth, 221 Pine Creek St., came before council to discuss existing home sales. She and her husband have lived in Sienna Ranch for 10 years and their home has been on the market since June of 2012. She feels that the tax incentives on new home construction is putting existing home sales at a disadvantage. They are requesting that a similar incentive be offered on existing homes or cancel the new home incentives. Mayor Conway noted that tonight's agenda included the discussion of existing home sales incentives and thanked Mrs. Hudspeth for coming to share her concerns.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

DISCUSSION ITEM #1 MONTHLY ENGINEER'S UPDATE: BEN MABRY, P.E.C.

Ben Mabry with P.E.C. reported on the following projects:

- **Safe Routes to Schools:** PEC has provided preliminary plans to KDOT and City Staff. Currently awaiting KDOT comments.
- **School St. Park:** Working with City staff on the pedestrian bridge, aeration/fountain and Water Appropriations Application.

Mayor Conway inquired about a preliminary schedule for the Safe Routes to Schools. Ben stated that it is under KDOT's control, but felt that it could happen by late summer.

DISCUSSION ITEM #2: EXISTING HOME SALES INCENTIVES

Mayor Conway opened discussion on the existing home sales incentives, and referred to a memo in Council packets from City Administrator, Kathy Raney. Councilmember Jones asked what incentives were in place with the original NRP program. Kathy stated that the Neighborhood Revitalization Program for designated areas in place provides 95% tax abatement for 10-years on improvements raising valuation by a minimum of \$5,000, with Butler County managing and rebating the taxes on that portion of taxes. Councilmember Potter stated that she does not want to see vacant homes due to foreclosures, felt existing homes were just as important as new homes and asked why the city couldn't offer the same incentives on both. Mayor Conway stated that we could do that if we were to raise the mill levy or cut services. Kathy stated that the budget is based on tax revenues determined by property valuations and that the 2013 budget has already been set.

Councilmember Carselowey reminded everyone that this is a rebate program, that the homeowners pay their taxes and then receive the rebated money back. He stated that if we were to do this on existing homes for sale, then we would have to raise the mill levy to offer such an incentive.

Councilmember Vernia, suggested that the city could offer a membership to the Rose Hill Recreation Center, waive water account fees or permit fees, or provide a set amount of money for closing costs. He felt that, if approved, criteria needed to be in place so that those homes could not be turned into rentals. Councilmember Potter agreed that limitations would need to be set.

City Administrator Raney stated that an incentive amount for existing homes sales could be financed through the Economic Development line item in the budget, but that there would have to be a designated dollar limitation due to the 2013 budget already being set. She also informed Council that the only other way to offer existing home *tax* incentives would be to raise the mill levy in the 2014 budget.

After further discussion, Mayor Conway asked if some numbers could be put together, with Kathy stating she would put a proposal together for the next Council meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEM #3: NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Butler Co. Commission: Agendas/Minutes: Mayor Conway noted that copies were in Council packets.
- b) Rose Hill Rec. Commission: Agenda/Minutes: Mayor Conway noted that copies were in Council packets.
- c) Ron Roberts, Butler Co. Clerk – Retirement: Mayor Conway noted that a flyer for Ron’s retirement reception was included in Council packets.
- d) 2013 Election Filing Fees and Deadlines: Mayor Conway noted that a copy of the 2013 Election Filing Fees and Deadlines had been included in Council packets.
- e) 2013 Budget: Mayor Conway noted that a copy of the final bound document had been included in Council packets.

DISCUSSION ITEM #4: CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Kathy Raney, City Administrator, reported on the following items:

Kathy stated that the City has lost a true volunteer with Ole Pederson. She thanked Ole’s wife Mary Ann and his family for sharing him for so many years. Kathy stated that she would like the City to offer him a tribute with a bench at the Veterans Memorial at City Hall and will be coming before Council with a formal request at a later date.

DISCUSSION ITEM #5: DEPARTMENT HEADS’ REPORT

Bob Sage, Police Chief: Communication upgrades at the schools have concluded which should alleviate safety concerns.

Kirk Hayden, Public Works Director: Nothing beyond his report.

DISCUSSION ITEM #6: MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Conway:

- Thanked Ole’s family for sharing him for so many years as he was very involved with the community. He will be missed greatly.
- Congratulations to Jeremy Ebert, Eagle Scout from Rose Hill, who has earned all 134 merit badges, and we need to honor him at a Council meeting.
- Mayor reported speaking with Paul Kelsey about the Dec. 3rd meeting, with Mr. Kelsey offering his sincerest apologies. Paul said his actions or comments were not intended to offend anyone. The Mayor stated he was at fault for letting the side conversations go on in the audience that evening.
- Mayor also reminded Council that the next meeting would be on *Tuesday*, January 22nd due to the Martin Luther King Day holiday.

DISCUSSION ITEM #7: COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORT

T. Potter: Ole Pederson was a wonderful person and will be missed. Condolences to his family. Congratulations to Jeremy Ebert on the Scouting honor.

K. Carselovey: Ole was always volunteering for the community, loved him and sorry to see him go.

D. Vernia: Knew Ole very well and sent condolences to his family.

J. Jones: God bless Ole's family.

R. Curtis: Ole will be missed.

DISCUSSION ITEM #8: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, the following:

MOTION (by R. Curtis): To adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. **SECOND BY T. Potter,** with **MOTION PASSING 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted:

Kelly L. Mendoza, Recorder
Assistant City Clerk