

MINUTES OF THE SPLENDORA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MEETING HELD ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2021, AT CITY HALL, LOCATED AT 26090 FM 2090 E, SPLENDORA, TEXAS 77372 IN THE CITY OF SPLENDORA, COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, TEXAS AT 6:30 P.M.

The Council met in a regular session with the following members present:

**COUNCILMEMBERS:**

Dorothy Welch, Mayor  
 William Ramey, Position I  
 Evelyn Myers, Position II  
 Mike Clark, Position III  
 Sharon Ipes, Position IV - **ABSENT**  
 William Usher, Position V

**OFFICERS:**

Danna Welter, City Secretary  
 Leonard Schneider, City Attorney

**REGULAR SESSION**

1. Mayor Welch called the meeting to order. [6:30 p.m.]

**ROLL CALL**

2. All present, except Councilmember Ipes, thus constituting a quorum.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION**

- 3/4. Pledge/Invocation.

**AGENDA**

5. Approve the minutes of September 14 and 15, and October 19, 2020.  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve the minutes of September 14 and 15, and October 19, 2020, and Councilmember Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. NOTE: Councilmember Ipes absent.
6. Approve bills for payment.  
Councilmember Myers made a motion to approve the bills for payment, and Councilmember Usher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Public Comments.  
 None.
8. Department Reports:
  - a) Police Department for January 2021;
  - b) Municipal Court for January 2021;
  - c) Utility (Billing/Field/Capital Projects) Department for January 2021.
9. Consider and/or take action on Ordinance 2021-03-01 extending Emergency Order through April 19, 2021.  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-03-01 extending Emergency Order through April 19, 2021, and Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
10. Consider and/or take action on request by Bill Blicht, Financial Advisor, to proceed with sending proposal for a refinancing issue.  
Councilmember Myers made a motion to approve request by Bill Blicht, Financial Advisor, to proceed with sending proposal for a refinancing issue, and Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
11. Consider and/or take action on request for gas tap and purchase of natural gas from LDC, LLC, for proposed subdivision near the intersection of Tram Road and Hill and Dale subdivision.  
 This item discussed in Executive Session.
12. Consider and/or take action on Resolution 2021-03-01 authorizing signatures of officials on all vouchers issued.  
Councilmember Clark made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-03-01 authorizing signatures of officials on all vouchers issued, and Councilmember Usher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
13. Consider and/or take action on Resolution 2021-03-01B declaring that the City Council has reviewed the Investment Policy and Investment Strategies.

- Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-03-01B declaring that the City Council has reviewed the Investment Policy and Investment Strategies, and Councilmember Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
14. Consider and/or take action on Quarterly Investment Reports for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Quarters 2020.  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve the Quarterly Investment Report for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters 2020, and Councilmember Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  15. Consider and/or take action on Ordinance 2021-03-01B authorizing participation with other Entergy Service area cities in matters concerning Entergy Texas, Inc. at the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2021.  
Councilmember Myers made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-03-01B authorizing participation with other Entergy Service area cities in matters concerning Entergy Texas, Inc. at the Public Utility Commission of Texas in 2021, and Councilmember Usher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  16. Consider and/or take action on Ordinance 2021-03-01C adopting the City's amended Personnel Policies Manual.  
Councilmembers discussed the change in the City's Longevity program.  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-03-01C adopting the City's amended Personnel Policies Manual, and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. Councilmembers Usher and Ramey voted for, and Councilmembers Myers and Clark voted against. Mayor Welch broke the tie and voted for. The motion passed 3-2.
  17. Consider and/or take action on Ordinance 2021-03-01D amending the City's Code of Ordinances, Chapter 36 "Traffic and Vehicles" by adding a new Article X – Towing.  
Councilmember Myers made a motion to recess into Executive Session, and Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. [7:08 p.m. – 7:22 p.m.]  
Councilmember Clark made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-03-01D amending the City's Code of Ordinances, Chapter 36 "Traffic and Vehicles" by adding a new Article X – Towing with one amendment (remove NOT in Section 36.467(h), and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  18. Consider and/or take action on replacement of server due to electricity surges/outages in an amount of \$13,965.00 to be purchased and installed by Wright Technologies.  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve the replacement of server due to electricity surges/outages in an amount of \$13,965.00 to be purchased and installed by Wright Technologies, and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  19. Consider and/or take action on purchase of Less-Lethal Equipment from Byrna Technologies, Inc., in an amount of \$10,500, to be funded from Seizure Funds (\$7,000) and General Funds (\$3,500).  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve the purchase of Less-Lethal Equipment from Byrna Technologies, Inc., in an amount of \$10,500, to be funded from Seizure Funds (\$7,000) and General Funds (\$3,500), and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  20. Consider and/or take action on purchase of Drone (EVO 2 Dual Standard Rugged Bundle) in an amount of \$9,467 to be funded from Grand funds received from Entergy.  
Councilmember Clark made a motion to approve the purchase of Drone (EVO 2 Dual Standard Rugged Bundle) in an amount of \$9,467 to be funded from Grand funds received from Entergy, and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  21. Consider and/or take action on bid from DeMontrond Ford for a 2020 Ford F-150 Police vehicle in an amount of \$31,887 to replace 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe.  
Councilmember Myers made a motion to approve purchase from DeMontrond Ford for a 2020 Ford F-150 Police vehicle in an amount of \$31,887 to replace 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe, and Councilmember Usher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  22. Consider and/or take action on Resolution 2021-03-01C authorizing the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement with TXDOT regarding the City's construction and maintenance of two Gateway Monument Signs (Welcome to Splendora).  
Councilmember Clark made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-03-01C authorizing the Mayor to execute an Interlocal Agreement with TXDOT regarding the City's construction and maintenance of two Gateway Monument Signs (Welcome to Splendora), and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  23. Consider and/or take action on Ordinance 2021-03-01E amending Chapter 38 Utilities of the City's Code of Ordinances by amending Sections 38-59 Water Service Rates, and Section 38-64 Water Service Connection Charges.

Bill Daugette discussed the City of Splendora's rates and the need to raise the water rate and water service connection charges. The cost of materials and other increase in utility costs are the driving reason for the proposed rate increase.

Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-03-01E amending Chapter 38 Utilities of the City's Code of Ordinances by amending Sections 38-59 Water Service Rates, and Section 38-64 Water Service Connection Charges, and Councilmember Myers seconded the motion. Councilmembers Usher and Myers voted for, and Councilmembers Ramey and Clark voted against. After some discussion, Councilmember Ramey changed his vote to for. The motion passed 3-1.

24. Consider and/or take action on environmental assessment of the proposed road right-of-way from FM 2090 to Splendora Fields.  
No. action.
25. Consider and/or take action on Amendment #1 to the Agreement for Technical Services with Strand Associates, Inc. dated April 5, 2019, to increase the schedule and compensation.  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve the Amendment #1 to the Agreement for Technical Services with Strand Associates, Inc. dated April 5, 2019, to increase the schedule and compensation, and Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
26. Consider and/or take action on Task Order 21-01 – 2021 Gas Main Extension (CLW) to the Agreement for Technical Services Agreement (4/05/19) from Strand Associates, Inc. in an amount of \$34,000 (to be paid by CLW Lumber).  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to approve Task Order 21-01 – 2021 Gas Main Extension (CLW) to the Agreement for Technical Services Agreement (4/05/19) from Strand Associates, Inc. in an amount of \$34,000 (to be paid by CLW Lumber), and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
27. Consider and/or take action on authorizing staff to select SAMCO as the vendor to perform leak detection and mapping services for the City of Splendora.  
Councilmember Clark made a motion to select SAMCO as the vendor to perform leak detection and mapping services for the City of Splendora, and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
28. Consider and/or take action on proposal by 5-T Utilities for a) upgrade 2" to 4" water service on Etta Road at a cost of \$20,236.15( including materials), to be funded ½ by City and ½ by William Usher; b) install manhole on Etta to accept sewer from force main into the City's gravity line on Etta Road at a cost of \$11,941.20 Road (including materials with the exception of the manhole to be determined) to be paid by William Usher (updated costs).  
Councilmember Clark made a motion to approve the proposal by 5-T Utilities for a) upgrade 2" to 4" water service on Etta Road at a cost of \$20,236.15( including materials), to be funded ½ by City and ½ by William Usher; b) install manhole on Etta to accept sewer from force main into the City's gravity line on Etta Road at a cost of \$11,941.20 Road (including materials with the exception of the manhole to be determined) to be paid by William Usher (updated costs) subject to a written agreement, and Councilmember Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
29. Consider and/or take action on purchase of a utility vehicle from Silsbee Ford (Cowboy Fleet) for a 2020 F-150 pickup at a cost of \$23,148.75 (Buyboard Contract). to be paid in three annual payments, to be paid from the Construction Improvements Fund.
30. Consider and/or take action on bid from Batterson Truck Equipment for purchase of new Liftmoore Electric Crane and modifications to the City's F350 pickup to accommodate the crane in an amount of \$13,347.00, to be paid from the Construction Improvements Fund.  
Councilmember Ramey made a motion to approve bid from Batterson Truck Equipment for purchase of new Liftmoore Electric Crane and modifications to the City's F350 pickup to accommodate the crane in an amount of \$13,347.00, to be paid from the Construction Improvements Fund, and Councilmember Usher seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. [Note: Councilmember Myers not in Chamber for the vote].
31. Consider and/or take action on bid by Pumps of Houston to re-pipe the Enloe Lift Station, in an amount of \$6,548.18, to be paid from the Construction Improvements Fund.  
Councilmember Clark made a motion to approve the bid by Pumps of Houston to re-pipe the Enloe Lift Station, in an amount of \$6,548.18, to be paid from the Construction Improvements Fund, and Councilmember Ramey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
32. Consider and/or take action on proposed tap and gas purchase from LDC, Ilc.  
This item discussed in Executive Session.

33. Consider and/or take action on bids for new telephone system for City Hall and the Police Station. This item discussed in Executive Session.
34. Executive Session- Council will meet in Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney): a) receive legal advice on a) request to purchase natural gas from LDC, llc and b) telephone contract; [8:27 p.m. – 8:55 p.m.],  
and  
551.074 (Personnel Matters): Updates to the Personnel Manual. (Did not discuss in Executive Session).
35. Consider and/or take action on item(s) discussed in Executive Session.  
Councilmember Usher made a motion to authorize staff to negotiate with LDC, llc, for sale of natural gas, and Councilmember Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
36. Hear announcements concerning items of community interest from the Mayor, Councilmembers, and City staff for which no action will be taken or discussed.
37. Adjourn. (9:02 p.m.)  
Councilmember Ramey made a motion to adjourn, and Councilmember Usher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Danna Welter, City Secretary