



City of Murchison
City Council Minutes
Tuesday July 9, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
City Hall
(903) 469-3710

Present: Bradley Gray, Torance McClean, Danny Garza, Jeremy Smith, Gayle Furlong, Boyd Sauter, Q Wilcox, Steven Hartley
Gallery: Keeley Graves, Sandy Hoffmeyer, Stanley Ferguson, Connie Haynes
Call to order: 6pm Bradley Gray, Prayer: Danny Garza, Pledge: Torance McClean

Ms. Hoffmeyer asks if there is an ordinance about blowing grass off the street? Its not a local ordinance but is a law

Consent Items:

1. Approval of June 2024 Financials
 - a. Bradley Gray asks about quarterly government fees, line items and the risk pool why we are over for. Q Wilcox will look into it.
2. Approval of June 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of bills paid June 2024
 - a. Motion to approve consent items Jeremy Smith, second by Boyd Sauter; passes

Mayor's Report:

1. Update on ballfield and rededication
 - a. Coming along well, foul poles up, cement is poured, concession up, privacy fence is up, padding is up. Little over half way through. Contractor says he should be finished by the first of August. The field will be rededicated to Mr. Peevy; will be mounting a new plaque on concession stand August 17th at 11 am. Some of Mr. Peevy's family will be present and two travel teams will come to play a game
2. Jacob will continue to get caught up on mowing and some road repairs
 - a. Q Wilcox was out for a week getting hitched. Jacob was in City Hall covering and is currently getting caught up on maintenance
3. Banners purchased and installed
 - a. 8 banners were installed, on either side of town there are fourth of July banners that are needing to come down. We can always make them bigger in the future cause once they get up they don't seem that big anymore. Bradley Gray and Jacob Paul tried using a ladder to put the banners up but it was sketchy getting up 16' on a ladder. What was thought to be an easy job was not. We rented a mobile boom lift from red hat rental which was safer. In future we might try getting in the bucket of backhoe.
4. Update on check from TML in regards to burglary
 - a. Check received from TML insurance for \$3,581.00. We replaced the weed eater for \$179.99; we got the chainsaw back. Still need to replace some equipment and give Q Wilcox the go ahead to replace the equipment.
 - i. Motion to go ahead and get what is needed by maintenance; hold off on blower and power washer Jeremy Smith, seconded by Boyd Sauter; passes

Water Report: to be given by Steven Hartley

Water system is running normal. Lift station on 773 has call box setup, will call Steven Hartley first, Q Wilcox second and Bradley Gray third. Murphy and third st lift station might need new floats, on the panel when its triggered you have to reset it but the light signaling isn't going off. We could get power company to put meter in to check it. Two leaks and the sinkhole is still active. Apologize for taking so long to get the backhoe fixed, leak at Cardinal St and Cardinal Dr; Donna St and sink hole on Third. Sinkhole might be due to the sewer; I first noticed it

when the Chevron's sewer was backing up. The rest of the sink hole will be dug up to be fixed. Not on the agenda but Steven Hartley got it today, the water plant is required every three years; the wastewater plant is due every year. We have the automate gauge but TCEQ required a manual gauge.

Old Business:

1. Discuss and possibly take action on Extreme Auction Services storefront
 - a. Q Wilcox hand delivered a letter a few months ago; now that the smoke shop is gone he is using the whole parking lot to collect things. Q Wilcox will research ordinance 39 to define rubbish. Possible argument that it isn't rubbish but rather merchandise. We will look into it cause it is turning into more and more of an eye sore. Danny Garza asks if we could create an ordinance to resolve the issue if we don't have one that can fix the situation
 - i. Torance McClean motions to resubmit a letter to have him clean up while we research the ordinance send it certified, Jeremy Smith seconds; passes
2. Discuss update for water well #1 if there is one and consider taking action if necessary
 - a. It's a sand filter that we will put in. We have to check with TCEQ to meet their requirements on pump volume so we stay within regulations. By next council meeting will have a quote of either buying from them \$65k with install \$20k; Steven Hartley says he can do it for much less. This is the only filtering for iron? Steven Hartley says it is. The company Steven Hartley is going with says he went with them because they have an engineer designing it; but says they will give us the drawings and design so that he can take the design to cheaper companies. Most cities that have iron problems use this type of filter as well. We aren't sure why there is iron in this well and not on well number 2. It is safe to use; TCEQ sets a limit on what the limit is. You won't see it until you add chlorine to the water. Sand filtering is the only way to filter iron out.
 - i. Danny Garza motions to table until we get further information, Jeremy Smith seconds; tabled

New Business:

1. Discuss work performance by Pure Management Services
2. Discuss and possibly take action on invoice from 7-H Construction dated 5/28/2024
3. Discuss and possibly take action on invoice from Pure Management dated 6/25/2024
 - a. combining new business 1, 2 and 3 in one. We are glad to have you working here and appreciate the work they do. The past eight months it seems that every time we ask to be done we are told "next week". City doesn't feel we are getting the work done for the money we are paying for. When we need something done before the weather comes in, the sense of urgency isn't there. In 2023 we spent \$35k for 7H to come in. us trying to save money to also pay a third party contractor. We cannot continue to pay third parties and Steven Hartley. Torance McClean continues to ask for updates and it's not getting done. We have someone who works for the city that could have gone to get a part picked up. To figure out the root cause of the sewer line took longer than was expected as it goes down to Penrod and under 31 then doubles back. Hydraulic cylinder was dropped off on the 19th of June; it was asked by Torance McClean when it was going to be fixed and its still not picked up and the hole still not fixed. The leaks could have been repaired if it was fixed.
 - b. Emails back and forth with 7H regarding the rates of them coming out; its for them coming out and being on site and doing the work then coming back the next day for the same job. The weekend rate and emergency rates are flipped. They came out at an emergency rate and we were charged the amount for them to have to stop that day and then charged another rate for coming out the next day to finish the same job. The invoice was received June 18th with a due date of June 24th. It wasn't overdue but yet she said it was. Friday they worked for 5 hours; came back on Saturday for 10 hours. Danny Garza feels we should reach out to them that if the weather wasn't a factor they would have finished on Friday and that's not their fault or our fault and we shouldn't be charged. \$3k for emergency and \$3500 for the weekend which is flipped. Bradley Gray will reach out to negotiate the charges. Jeremy Smith goes back on emails about fiber optic lines reimbursement of damages. Bradley Gray talked with the fiber optic field supervisor. A week went by without response; email was sent to higher up. He cc'd Bradley Gray with one company that wrote a check for about \$1700 but it was written to Pure Management who deposited the check to

his bank and deducted it from the city's monthly charge to Pure Management. We haven't gotten the full amount of damages. Bradley Gray will reach out to find out what the hold up is.

- c. Pure Management invoice in question: billed how he would normally bill a tap; \$75 hours of working on plumbing; 2 man service crew Keely and daughter working. Trencher charged the operator with charging the city for using someone else's equipment free of charge but Steven Hartley said he was going to pay him a couple hundred dollars for letting him borrow it. The two man crew was sitting in the truck when Bradley Gray drove by. This was done in city business hours. This was new construction not city repair. The labor in question was completed so they were sitting in a truck. According to the contract to be considered, this is new construction and charged as such per contract; but the contract states they will be in the city everyday and yet camera's show that they are not in the city everyday. There are a lot of things in contract that aren't being followed. This is a new construction and not repair, but Steven Hartley is willing to redo the invoice. At the time of contract a price/rate sheet was provided. This job was viewed as a new tap and not part of the contract with the city. Water tap \$400 was for the labor, it was reduced from \$700. This is what he would have sent a customer if the tap was for them. Should something like this be estimated if it is to come up again in the future? The fee for use of borrowed equipment should be taken off, says Torance McClean. Total without the trencher is \$905.
 - i. Jeremy Smith motions to pay Pure Management \$240 for trencher, \$945 total for the work done, seconded by Gayle Furlong; passed unanimously

4. Discuss November election and take next action as required

- a. a. Gayle Furlong motions to approve interlocal agreement and resolution to use county for elections, Danny Garza seconds; passed unanimously

5. Discuss Fall clean-up

- a. We opted two free of charge, in the spring we got three but filled two and a half. The weather was iffy and the location might have played a part in it but the ball field is off limits.
 - i. Torance McClean motions to use 3 dumpsters and Q Wilcox to reach out and get dates, Danny Garza seconds; passed unanimously

Connie Haynes brings up that she has heard that there is rumor that has started saying has been escorted out of the school meeting and it started at city hall and will be escorted out of city hall. She says she knows where it started.

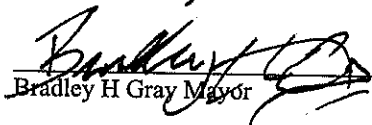
Stanley Ferguson says he believes the council is doing a great job and the ball field was a great idea

August 13, 2024 6pm next council meeting

Motion to adjourn meeting by Gayle Furlong, Danny Garza seconded; passed unanimously 8pm

Approved on: Aug 13, 2024

Posted on: 9-11-24


Bradley H Gray Mayor


Q Wilcox City Secretary

