

**A City of Murchison
City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday December 19, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
City Hall 9540 FM 773 Murchison TX
(903) 469-3710**

Called to Order: 6pm Mayor Gray
Prayer: Jeremy Smith
Pledge: Mayor Gray

Micah McClean thanks the city and community for their support in Christmas festivities
Consent Items:

1. Approval of November 2023 Financials
 - a. Motioned: Jeremy Smith 2nd: Danny Garza passed
2. Approval of November 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes
 - a. Motioned: Jeremy Smith 2nd: Danny Garza passed
3. Approval of bills paid November 2023
 - a. Motioned: Jeremy Smith 2nd: Danny Garza passed

Mayor Report:

1. Adding new council members on as signatories for the city
 - a. Remove old council members and will add new council members
2. Budget hearing on November 30th and finalizing December 21st
 - a.
3. Special meeting about generator and where we stand with that.
 - a. Going to run drill bit down and realign the casing. If they can do that it will be about \$130k if they aren't able to do that they will put in a new well. Also talked about a generator and with the recent power outage we discussed a new generator, have an application with county to get new generator but that's a year out still. Was approved to spend \$30k for new generator on auction site.
4. Permit for new home on 773 paid for
 - a. Q reached out to the resident and got the permit application and paid the \$250 fee per ordinance. They submitted the application, out of formality does anyone want to make a motion to accept the permit.
 - i. Torance McClean wants them to be aware of the full ordinance and motions to accept
 - ii. Jeremy smith seconds; passed

Water Report by Steven Hartley

No outstanding leaks, on 31 there is a potential as well as cardinal. On Friday they are getting ready to start working on the well, sending things down the well to see what they find. Road bores are going down a few streets in town going to confirm locates for southern link, pictures of locate flags to guarantee they were marked. The whole by Super Bee had a wire exposed box from cable company, will get it filled in on Wednesday this week.

Lift station on 773 is working well. The quote is about \$8500 for new pump, might pull one from last year to compare. Sampling will happen in the next week or so, will get with Q to communicate with customers.

Old Business:

1. Kestrel was tabled last month pending further information. The terminal is a one-time cost of \$316
 - a. Jeremy Smith motions to move forward with kestrel for effective in February 2nd from Danny Garza passed unanimously
2. Q started training on the textmygov getting it set up
 - a. Explain what the app does and what it can do for the city
3. Designate City Holidays; see sheet
 - a. Total of twelve holidays for city hall to be closed in 2024
 - i. Danny Garza motions to approve holiday schedule, Jeremy Smith 2nd passes unanimously
4. Prices and update internet
 - a. Biggest reason to get new service is to get a call box for the lift station on 773, if the lift station gets too high it will automatically call Steven. Q checked with optimum to see about getting a phone out there. Would be a \$90 difference to go with Optimum but will gain more reliability and a phone line
 - i. Jeremy Smith makes motion to change providers to optimum, Torance McClean 2nd passes unanimously

New Business:

1. Discuss the blocking of 2nd St by the loading and unloading of vehicles from the car lot on the corner of 2nd and Hwy 31. They are blocking 2nd St for lengthy periods of time. At no time should a business block any residential road.
 - a. Jeremy Smith speaks during the week for hours the car lot parks their truck and trailer on 2nd St blocking traffic, several near miss accidents from blocked street. Wants to create ordinance that no business cannot block residential streets. They could utilize their own lot. they have been told by the sheriff to move it. They still don't listen. Truck sat doing nothing for six and half hours. Josh Castleberry is the owner of car lot. There is already a fine situation in place per the transportation code. Will send letter to lot they are in violation
 - i. Jeremy Smith motions to make ordinance for safety issues, including putting up signs, and send a letter, 2nd from Danny Garza passes unanimously
2. Hole next to Super Bee left open, needs to be filled in or taken care of
 - a. Steven Hartley addressed in water report
3. Request by Fire Chief Brandon Irby for removal of fire donations from water bills
 - a. There is currently a spot-on water bill to donate to the MVFD, Irby is requesting it be removed because of ESD change
 - i. Torance McClean to remove on bill 2nd Jeremy Smith passed unanimously
4. Discuss and appoint Mayor Pro – Tem to serve through December 31, 2024
 - a. Term would go until December 2024 if something were to happen to Bradley Gray, someone would have to step in. Jeremy agrees that Torance would be a great candidate.
 - i. Jeremy Smith motions to make Torance Pro – Tem 2nd Danny Garza passed unanimously
5. 7H price increase
 - a. Current daily rate is \$2k per day will go up to \$2500. Everything went up between \$500 to \$1k. there is a guy in Athens Chance Yates used to work for Bethal Ash, is a local with his own equipment. Will reach out for a rate chart to see if he has something for the city to look at. In the event a bore crew takes out a street water line. Steven Hartley will let us know when he has something better
6. Discuss filling vacant city council seat

Executive Session: The City Council will convene into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters) to discuss vacant council seat

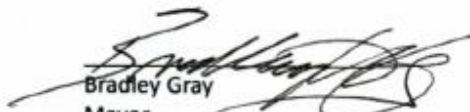
Connie Haynes asked if we have a complaint form, yes we do

Jeremy Smith brings up the new auction site that numerous people think it is an eye sore. Mayor Gra will look into it to see what can be done about it.

Next meeting will be January 9th 2024 6pm

Adjournment Danny motions 7:22 Jeremy Smith 2nd



Q Wilcox
City Secretary
Bradley Gray
Mayor

Approved on: January 9 2024
Posted on: January 10 2024