

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITY OF JUNCTION
COUNTY OF KIMBLE**

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*** REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 9, 2013**

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The City Council of the City of Junction met in regular session on Monday December 9, 2013 at 6 o'clock in the City Hall Meeting Room with the following members present to-wit:

MAYOR: RAYMOND MCDONALD
ALDERMEN: LAWRENCE F. HARRISON, Place 1
WM. KEATON BLACKBURN, Place 2
BEN WALKER, Place 3
JAMES GAMBLE, Place 4
OLAN RALEY, Place 5
CITY SECRETARY: K. VIVIAN SAIZ

Visitors present were Renee Schulze and Clara St. Clair.

Mayor Raymond McDonald called the meeting to order and Ted Morgan gave the invocation.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Alderman Harrison and seconded by Alderman Gamble to approve the minutes of the October 28 and November 11, 2013 called meetings. After a vote, the motion carried.

BILLS

A motion was made by Alderman Gamble and seconded by Alderman Raley to approve payment of the current bills and the supplemental list of bills. After a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

A motion was made Alderman Gamble and seconded by Alderman Raley to accept the financial reports as presented. After a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Alderman Blackburn questioned the subject of contract employees verses city employees. Mr. Blackburn stated City employee Maria Alvarado, (Assistant City Secretary) is paid by the City of Junction and by the Junction Texas Tourism Board. She is paid by the JTTB to attend their monthly meetings, to record minutes and to compile agendas, packets, and grant application packets for applicants. Cheryl Herring is not a City employee but is paid by the Junction Texas Tourism Board and is directed by the JTTB as a Tourism Manager. City Attorney Melanie Spratt-Anderson will check the Fair Labor Standards for verification.

This item will be on the January 2014 agenda.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Departmental reports were reviewed. A motion was made Alderman Gamble and seconded by Alderman Walker to accept the departmental reports as presented. After a vote, Aldermen Gamble, Walker, Harrison and Raley voted "aye" and Alderman Blackburn "abstained". The motion carried.

Alderman Blackburn questioned the contracts requested for gratis utility services to the Junction Rotary Club and the Kimble County Meals on Wheels. City Attorney Melanie Spratt-Anderson had contracts on hand that she presented and asked for comments, edits, recommendations, etc.

This item will be on the January 2014 agenda.

PUBLIC FORUM

Clara St. Clair stated that she wanted to speak about the dog situation around West and Jo Lynn Streets for her sister since she was unable to attend the meeting. Her complaint was that there are two (2) dogs that run loose in that neighborhood all the time. Mayor McDonald informed her that a new animal control officer had recently been hired and this complaint would be reported to him.

ADVERTISING TO HIRE A CITY SECRETARY/ASSISTANT CITY SECRETARY/CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CITY MANAGER/CITY FINANCE OFFICER & TREASURER, ETC., CREATION AND/OR JOB DESCRIPTION OF POSITIONS AND/OR OPTION OF HIRING OF AN INTERIM

After a discussion, Alderman Gamble made a motion to request interim from Texas First Group to interview. Alderman Blackburn seconded. After a vote, Aldermen Blackburn, Walker, Gamble, and Raley voted "aye". Alderman Harrison voted "nay". The motion carried.

A called meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday December 18 at 5:30 PM to interview a an interim from Texas First Group.

THE JUNCTION INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND/OR THE CITY OF JUNCTION MAKING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY OF JUNCTION BALLFIELDS AND REQUEST TO CONSIDER A WRITTEN AGREEMENT GIVING JISD USE OF THE BALL FIELDS FROM NOVEMBER THROUGH MAY FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME

JISD Superintendent Dr. Schulze briefed the Council on the issues at hand with the ball fields. The improvements that need to be done include: new circuit breaker and sprinkler system updates. Dr. Schulze requested a contract for the use of the ball fields.

City Secretary, K. Vivian Saiz explained that the Little League ball field is designated for Little League in the ordinance. There is the question of if the City has the right to make a contract with the School District or if there needed to be a contract with the Little League.

A motion was made by Alderman Gamble to table a contract with the JISD to next regular meeting. Alderman Raley seconded. Aldermen Blackburn, Walker, Gamble and Raley were all in favor. Alderman Harrison opposed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderman Raley and seconded by Alderman Harrison to allow the upgrade of the electrical and sprinkler system at the expense of JISD. Alderman Gamble opposed. The motion carried.

REPUBLIC SERVICES-3.1% ANNUAL CPI RATE ADJUSTMENT REQUEST

Alderman Gable made a motion to accept and Alderman Raley seconded. After a vote, Aldermen Blackburn, Walker, Gamble and Raley voted "aye". Alderman Harrison voted "nay". The motion carried.

LED SIGN INSTALLED BY THE JUNCTION SIGN COMPANY

After a discussion, no action was taken. City attorney will follow up on this issue.

OPEN SESSION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ACQUISITION OF UNIVERSAL CABLE HOLDINGS, INC. d/b/a SUDDENLINK COMMUNICATIONS PROPERTY, LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SUDDENLINK COMMUNICATIONS, ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RETRANSMISSION CONSENT AGREEMENT AND EASEMENT WITH THE MARTINEZ'S TO THE PROPERTY

EXECUTIVE SESSION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ACQUISITION OF UNIVERSAL CABLE HOLDINGS, INC. d/b/a SUDDENLINK COMMUNICATIONS PROPERTY, LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SUDDENLINK COMMUNICATIONS, ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RETRANSMISSION CONSENT AGREEMENT AND EASEMENT WITH THE MARTINEZ'S TO THE PROPERTY

OPEN SESSION: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ACQUISITION OF UNIVERSAL CABLE HOLDINGS, INC. d/b/a SUDDENLINK COMMUNICATIONS PROPERTY, LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SUDDENLINK COMMUNICATIONS, ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RETRANSMISSION CONSENT AGREEMENT AND EASEMENT WITH THE MARTINEZ'S TO THE PROPERTY

A lengthy discussion was held on the Suddenlink Property Land Acquisition. Alderman Blackburn stated that Dr. Martinez wants to keep his Suddenlink agreement. City Attorney will draft paperwork to submit to Suddenlink and will be brought back to City Council at the January meeting.

No action taken.

ASSIGNMENT OF ONE (1) FULL TIME EMPLOYEE TO FILL THE TWO (2) PART-TIME ANIMAL SHELTER WORKER AND PARKS AND RECREATION WORKER POSITIONS

A motion was made by Alderman Gamble and seconded by Alderman Raley to assign one full time employee for work part-time at the Animal Shelter and part-time for the Park and Recreation department. After a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

HIRING A MUNICIPAL COURT CASE PROSECUTOR AND NEXT STEPS ON HOW TO PROCEED

Alderman Gamble made a motion to hire a Municipal Court Case Prosecutor and Alderman Raley seconded. After a vote, the motion carried unanimously.

The rate for the Municipal Court Prosecutor is set as \$65/hour or \$100/civil.

The meeting adjourned this 9th day of December 2013.

CITY SECRETARY

MAYOR