

**CITY OF LABELLE
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING**

Mayor Lyons opened the regular June Commission Meeting at 7:10 p.m. Ron Zimmerly, Finance Director, led the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call was taken, and all Commissioners were present except for Commissioner Smith.

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Lyons invited the LaBelle Longhorns to address the Commission. Jeff Gonzalez introduced children with the LaBelle Longhorns and explained the value of the team to building children's skills. He asked for funding for equipment. Commissioner Wilkins asked about how much funding was requested. Jeff asked for \$1,000. Commissioner Spratt asked how much funding he had secured locally. Jeff explained donations from US Sugar at \$5,000. There was discussion.

Commissioner Wilkins made a motion to donate \$1,000 to the LaBelle Longhorns for equipment. Commissioner Akin seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Lyons introduced the next item, a presentation by Karl Lorenz, Parrothead Contracting on the Selma Daniels School. It was noted Mr. Lorenz would appear at the August meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Lyons asked for a motion on the consent agenda.

Commissioner Wilkins made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Spratt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Lyons opened the public hearing on proposed Ordinance 2021-04 relating to a Voluntary Annexation of a 0.9+/-acre property located at 1240 W. Cowboy Way. Alexis Crespo briefly explained the ordinance. Derek Rooney read the ordinance title into the record. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Spratt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-04. Commissioner Wilkins seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Lyons opened the public hearing and first reading on proposed Ordinance 2021-05, relating to a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for a 0.9+/-acre property located at 1240 W. Cowboy Way. Derek Rooney read the ordinance title into the record. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Spratt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-05. Commissioner Wilkins seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Lyons opened the public hearing and first reading of Proposed Ordinance 2021-06, relating to a Rezone for a 0.9+/-acre property located at 1240 W. Cowboy Way. The ordinance title was read into the record. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Spratt made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-06. Commissioner Wilkins seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Lyons asked Derek Rooney to introduce the second reading on Ordinance 2021-08 relating to open containers of alcohol. Derek explained this ordinance expands the scope of exemptions and also addresses the consumption of alcoholic beverage on public rights-of-way and public places. There was no public comment.

Commissioner Wilkins made a motion to approve Ordinance 2021-08. Commissioner Spratt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

Ron Zimmerly introduced Resolution 2021-39, ratifying Resolutions 2021-35, 2021-36, 2021-37, 2021-38 regarding the Local State of Emergency for COVID-19.

Commissioner Wilkins made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-39. Commissioner Spratt seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Lyons asked Derek to introduce the Woodard & Curran contract. Derek thanked Kaylee Tuck for reviewing the contract. Commissioner Wilkins noted the limited time to review the contract.

Derek Rooney provided an overview of the contract and introduced Mr. Burden from Woodard Curran. Mr. Burden made a brief presentation and responded to questions. There was discussion on employee benefits and training.

Ron Zimmerly asked about health insurance. Mr. Burden noted Cigna was the provider and coverage was started the first day of employment. There was discussion on protocol for communication. There was discussion on the budget for their services and grants utilized to increase their service. It was noted the contract was time and materials so that the City would only be billed the time spent. There was discussion on how to transition unused vacation time with employees moving to Woodard Curran. Mr. Burden noted that would be the responsibility of the City. There was discussion on amortizing that cost to the City over time interest free. There was extensive discussion on costs and the implications to the City budget.

Commissioner Wilkins made a motion to approve the contract with Woodard & Curran. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Spratt. The motion carried 4-0.

Mayor Lyons called upon the representative from Waste Connections. Kenny Reese addressed the Commission and explained the 4% rate increase proposed at Commissioner Spratt asked if the City had budgeted this increase and Ron confirmed it was budgeted. It was clarified that the rate was not increased last year. Commissioner Wilkins asked for additional garbage cans. There was discussion on recycling.

Commissioner Spratt made a motion to approve the rate increase proposed by Waste Connections. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Akin. Ron asked for a clarification on when to implement this increase. It was clarified the rate will be effective October 1st, 2021. The motion carried 4-0.

STAFF REPORTS

Chief Mungillo gave an update on the Fire Department, noting they ran 83 calls this month and provided some highlights on key calls. He noted the Wilder family sent the Fire Department a thank you for their service.

Captain Mike Stevens presented his monthly report and noted the Hendry County Sheriff had no issues on July 4th. The Sheriff thanked City Staff for the barricades. He noted a drop in crimes when assessed month to month.

Laura Constantino gave an update on various project updates. She noted work commencing in Zone A. She provided an update on the status of construction in Zones J and B, which is generally on schedule. She noted the progress with groundwater monitoring with results coming out July 31st. She noted the self-certification report required by the American Water Infrastructure Act to assess risk and resiliency was submitted by the deadline. She also noted coordination with the developer of the Old Florida RV project to discuss the waterline extension. She also noted progress with the Helms Road waterline extension project.

Derek Rooney gave an update on the Old Florida RV waterline extension, noting he had prepared a draft developers agreement. He summarized that the project will include water and sewer extension to the site. He noted based on the budget for the improvements the cost should be covered almost entirely by the connection fees, and the remaining costs could be offset by the County. He noted the agreement would have a not to exceed cost to protect the City's interests. The County will seek grant monies for the gap in funding. There was discussion on the positive progress with the project.

Superintendent of Public Works, Gary Hull had nothing to report.

City Planner, Alexis Crespo, had nothing to report.

Ron Zimmerly gave an update on the DEP projects that are due on July 15th including the improvements to the collection systems. He asked if he would like a workshop set up with the Fire Department and the County. Ron suggested to hold the meeting in August. He was directed to set the meeting with the County and Fire Department. He provided an update on the Captain Hendry House and the extended deadlines for completion. Commissioner Akin asked if the connection fees for the sewer connections would be waived for residents. Ron said Staff will know when the bids come back in, but it was included. Laura explained it would be confirmed in 30 days.

Allen Pickles, Code Enforcement Officer, noted he has an assistant starting shortly. He noted his goal to get started with the demolition properties and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. area. Mayor Lyons noted Allen Pickles heroic act in saving a woman that had been unconscious in her home for several days.

The Building Department Report was provided to the Commission and no presentation was given.

BUSINESS BY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Spratt – Nothing to report.

Daniel Akin – Nothing to report.

Mayor Lyons – Nothing to report.

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Commissioner Wilkins – Nothing to report.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

APPROVED:



David A. Lyons, Mayor-Commissioner

Attest:



Thomas A. Smith, Clerk-Commissioner

Alexis Crespo - Deputy City Clerk