

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 21, 2020

The Governing Body of the City of New Boston, Texas met in a Regular Council Meeting, Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center of City Hall.

1. **Mayor Branson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**
2. **Roll call:**
 - a. **Present:** Councilman Carr, Councilwoman Anderson, Councilman Hensley, and Councilman Laney
 - b. **Absent:** Councilman Turner
3. **Invocation** led by Ron Humphrey.
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Chief Garry McCrary.
5. **Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items:** none.
6. **Public Comment - Agenda Items:** none.
7. **Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Approval of minutes for June 16, 2020 Public Hearing and Council Meeting.
 - b. Approval of minutes for June 30, 2020 Public Hearing and Called Council Meeting.
 - c. Approval of payment of bills and inter-fund transfers.

Motion was made by Councilman Carr and seconded by Councilman Hensley to approve the consent agenda as presented. Council approved unanimously.

8. **Consider and take official action to approve Pay Request #2 from Four Thirteen, Inc. in the amount of \$112,323.25 in connection with the Rice Creek WWTP.**

Motion was made by Councilman Hensley and seconded by Councilman Carr to approve the payment request for Four Thirteen, Inc. Council approved unanimously.

9. **Presentation regarding the HOME Program – Kathy Boyles.**

Ms. Boyles is a grant consultant for the HOME Program. The HOME Program is a program through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and it is for low income homeowners who are living in substandard houses. If they qualify for the program, then the existing house is torn down and a new one is built in its place. The homeowner doesn't pay anything, however, they do have to sign a five year grant agreement or a fifteen year deferred forgivable loan with TDHCA, which means if they sell their house in those time periods then they would have to pay a prorated portion back. For the homeowner to be eligible they do have to be within certain income limits, must own their house, clear title, current on property taxes or have an agreement with the tax office to pay those taxes, and make their own arrangements to move out of the home while it is being torn down and rebuilt.

There is a 5% match required which can be a combination of in kind and cash match. A Request for Proposal (RFP) will be required for a consultant, which will be paid through the grant funds.

- 10. Discussion and possible action for authorization to issue Requests for Proposals (RFP) for administrative services and Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) for engineering services related to the 2021-2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).**

Motion was made by Councilman Hensley and seconded by Councilman Carr to issue requests. Council approved unanimously.

- 11. Discussion and possible action for authorization to issue Requests for Proposals (RFP) and Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) for engineering services related to the Texas Department of Transportation for a Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Project.**

Motion was made by Councilman Hensley and seconded by Councilman Carr to issue requests. Council approved unanimously.

- 12. Consider and take action to authorize the Mayor and City Secretary to execute a Revocation of that certain Substandard Structure Order dated August 23, 2013 regarding property located at 506A, 506B and 508, North Center Street, New Boston, Texas.**

Motion was made by Councilman Hensley and seconded by Councilman Carr to execute a Revocation. Council approved unanimously.

- 13. Discussion and possible action regarding poly carts and change in pickup service. - Doug Simms with Waste Management.**

Mr. Simms wanted to thank Councilwoman Anderson for inviting him to discuss the 96-gallon poly carts that are used in Texarkana. Mr. Simms stated that a benefit for the City is there is less litter. The carts can hold 6 kitchen trash bags or 3-4 large 30-gallon bags. New Boston is one of the few cities left that has twice a week trash service. The cost should be about the same. Carts are owned and maintained by Waste Management. In the event the cart is damaged by normal wear and tear, they will either repair or replace the cart. In the event the cart is lost or stolen, the resident will need to purchase the replacement cart at a cost of \$50-\$60 per cart. The City could be facing a 40% increase next year if the City did not go to poly carts and once a week pick up.

- 14. Discussion and possible action regarding "Adopt a Street" Program through the Chamber of Commerce. – Caleb Stephens.**

This program focuses on positivity and businesses trying to come together and make New Boston a prettier place. It would increase the esthetic beauty of the streets. There are 84 businesses currently members of the Chamber. Mr. Stephens proposes that each business adopt a street and will be responsible for picking up trash. They would also donate funds

to the Chamber, which will cover the cost of a sign that will be located at the beginning of a street.

- 15. Mayor and Council to retired to closed session pursuant to Government Code:**
a. **§551.071 - Consultation with Attorney**

Motion was made by Councilman Carr and seconded by Councilman Hensley to retire to closed session. Motion carried unanimously. Council retired to closed session at 6:39 p.m.


- 16. Mayor and Council returned from closed session at 7:17 p.m. to consider and take official action, if any, as a result of the closed session regarding Government Code:**
a. **§551.071 - Consultation with Attorney - No action was taken**

- 17. Discussion and possible action regarding Lease Agreement with William Froelich d/b/a Cowboy Guns.**

Motion was made by Councilman Hensley and seconded by Councilman Carr to postpone until the next meeting. Council approved unanimously.

- 18. Adjourn.**

Motion was made by Councilman Carr and seconded by Councilman Hensley to adjourn meeting at 7:17 p.m.


David Turner, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest:


Sharmin R. Hutto, City Secretary