

**CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 23, 2020**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Kimberly Stiebig
Councilmember Angela Jordan
Councilmember Kelly Carder
Councilmember Keith Buesing (*via video conference*)
Councilmember Gary Herrera
Councilmember Jane Hill (*via video conference*)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember Misty Songe

Administrative Personnel: Rollie Burr, Interim City Manager; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Vicki Watson, City Secretary; Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting; and Rod Carroll, Chief of Police

A. OPENING, PRESENTATIONS, AND CITIZENS COMMENTS

A -1. Call to order and the establishment of a Quorum

A quorum was present, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council began at 7:05 p.m., Mayor Stiebig presiding.

A -2. Invocation and Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag

Rollie Burr, Interim City Manager, gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag.

A -3. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B -1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

Paid Invoices:	General Fund – \$125,769.37
	Sanitation Fund – \$18,498.61
	Juvenile Case Management – \$73.70
	Municipal Court Building Security Fund – \$18.90
	Emergency Management – \$163.17
	Hotel Occupancy – \$2,320.00
	Disaster Fund – \$10,836.04
	Employee Benefits Trust – \$60,016.86

B -2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – April 9, 2020

B -3. Ratification of the transfer of funds from Interest & Sinking 2013 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-Capital One Bank account to Interest & Sinking 2008/2016 General Obligation Refunding Bonds-TexPool account in the following amounts:

April 13, 2020: \$ 4,073.86

April 20, 2020: \$ 911.99

- B -4. Ratification of the payment of the monthly sales tax in the amount of \$5,880.38 out of General Account/Pooled Cash**
- B -5. Ratification of the transfer of funds from pooled cash to Disaster Fund in the amounts of \$404.22 and \$1,580.20 for amounts deposited by FEMA into the wrong bank account**

A motion was made by Councilmember Herrera, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, to **APPROVE THE COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.** The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C -1. Consideration and/or possible approval of Residential Homestead Exemptions regarding Property Tax for the Tax Year 2020:

- 1. Local Option Percentage Homestead**
- 2. 65 Years of Age**
- 3. Disability**

Cheryl Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting, explained these are the standard exemptions we approve every year and recommended Council stay where we are.

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Carder, to **approve the Residential Homestead exemptions** (*Local Option Percentage Homestead-20%, 65 Years of Age-\$15,000, and Disability-\$15,000*). The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -2. Report from City Engineer Michelle Falgout concerning Street and Drainage projects

Michelle Falgout, City Engineer, gave a report on the City's two big road and drainage projects. Ms. Falgout explained the road project is ready to go to bid, but there is a tiny issue regarding the bidding process due to COVID-19 in accordance with the State rules. Ms. Falgout stated the City Manager, City Attorney, and she will meet tomorrow to discuss.

Ms. Falgout shared her computer screen via Zoom and reviewed the streets included in the project (Alma Circle, Jackson Street, First Street south of Grand, North Tram, and Lexington). Ms. Falgout explained First Street north of Grand will be an alternate. Ms. Falgout stated the total for this project is \$502,927 which is a little bit over but has a contingency fund built in. Ms. Falgout stated tonight, we are asking for authorization to go out for bids. Ms. Falgout stated the plan is to advertise on May 6, 2020 and May 13, 2020; accept bids on May 21, 2020; and bring to Council on May 28, 2020 to select the bidder. Ms. Falgout explained it takes three to four weeks to complete the paperwork and execute the contract which should make the project start around June 22nd and finish mid-August. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Falgout then reviewed the amount spent to date for the drainage project, including Lamar at the Interstate 10 intersection (*adding pipe to an existing TxDOT box*), added drainage crew, Green Forest Drainage review and survey costs, Heritage drainage pipes, preliminary work on a 2020 drainage survey, scoping, and preliminary work on Lyndale with the Orange County Drainage District, budget, etc. Ms. Falgout explained this brings the amount remaining for the 2020 Drainage Project down to \$413,811. Ms. Falgout went on to explain there is still \$6,900 remaining for a survey, an estimated \$41,500 for SPI for

design and bidding, and \$27,200 for SPI construction assistance which leaves \$338,211 left for ditch reconstruction. Ms. Falgout stated the two ditches included in the project are the main ditch on Lyndale (5 blocks) and Lamar from Interstate 10 to Lowe. A brief discussion ensued regarding water draining off of Highway 105 to Green Forest addition.

Rollie Burr, Interim City Manager, gave a brief update on the Street & Drainage Department. Mr. Burr stated Romeo (Lingad, Street/Drainage Supervisor) and crew are almost ready to start on Heritage and explained a top-notch operator who retired from the County was hired which enables two crews to be working. Mr. Burr discussed issues with the Gradall and one of the trucks but explained Cheryl (Ray, Supervisor of Finance & Accounting) was able to get the insurance to pay for the truck's replacement.

C -3. Consideration and possible approval of proposed Street and Drainage projects

Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained this project has already been set in motion, this is just giving Michelle the authorization to move forward.

A motion was made by Councilmember Carder, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, **to approve moving forward with the bid process for the streets listed.** ROLL CALL VOTE: Councilmember Carder, aye; Councilmember Jordan, aye; Councilmember Buesing, aye; Councilmember Herrera, aye; and Councilmember Hill, nay. The Council voted four (4) for and one (1) opposed. The motion carried.

C -4. Consideration and possible approval of AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF VIDOR, TEXAS DENYING THE DISTRIBUTION COST RECOVERY FACTOR RATE INCREASE REQUEST OF ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. FILED ON MARCH 31, 2020; SETTING JUST AND REASONABLE RATES FOR ENTERGY TEXAS, INC. FOR SERVICE WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL LIMITS; FINDING THAT THE MEETING COMPLIES WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING OTHER FINDINGS

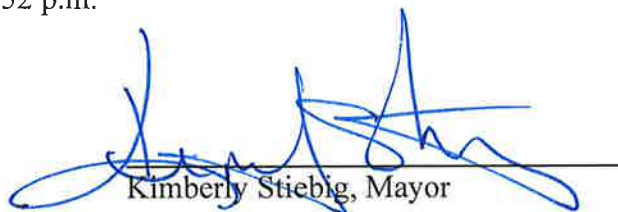
Chris Leavins, City Attorney, explained Entergy added another 20 million to their recent rate increase request, which would average an increase of \$2.09 per month. Mr. Leavins stated the Lawton Law Firm asked us to deny the requested increase while they investigate.

Councilmember Carder moved **to deny the distribution cost recovery increase.** Councilmember Jordan seconded. The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried.

C -5. Consideration of Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilmember Jordan, seconded by Councilmember Carder, for **Consideration of Adjournment.** The Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed. The motion carried, and the Regular Meeting of the Vidor City Council adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

These minutes approved May 14, 2020.



Kimberly Stiebig, Mayor

ATTEST:



Vicki Watson, City Secretary