

**CITY OF VIDOR
VIDOR CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 13, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Songe
Councilmember Lee
Councilmember McGowan
Councilmember Thompson
Councilmember Barker
Councilmember Bourque
Councilmember Weldon

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Administrative Personnel: Robbie Hood, City Manager; Brooke Carroll, HR Director; Chris Leavins, City Attorney; Rod Carroll, Chief; and Aleta Cappen / Rodney Johnson, Emergency Management

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 7:00 p.m., Misty Songe, Mayor, presiding.

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

Rod Carroll, Chief, gave the Invocation and led the Pledge to the United States Flag and the State of Texas Flag.

A -3. Proclamation – American Red Cross Month

Misty Songe, Mayor, read Red Cross Proclamation and it was presented to Kimberly Cline, Executive Director, Red Cross Southeast Deep East Chapter, and Toni Manuel, volunteer. (Brief pause for pictures)

A -4. Proclamation – Jane Hill Memorial Good Neighbor Project

Misty Songe, Mayor, read Jane Hill Memorial Good Neighbor Project Proclamation, and it was presented to Larry Williams, Jacob Peevey, Kathyrn Weldon, Council Member. (Brief Pause for Pictures)

A -5. Citizen Comments

None

B. COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA

B-1. Approval of Accounts Paid:

Paid Invoices:

General Fund -	\$336,897.27
Police Seizure Fund -	\$70.30
MCBSF -	\$189.95
Hotel Occupancy Fund -	\$1,977.89
Disaster Fund -	\$210,668.80
Proprietary Fund -	\$54,866.46
I & S Debt Serve 2008/2016 -	\$59,600.00
Grand Total -	\$664,270.67

B-2. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting – February 27, 2025

A motion to **approve the Consent Agenda** was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C. COUNCIL REGULAR AGENDA

C-1. Update from Code Enforcement and discussion on a recreational vehicle’s placement on property located at 615 Lyndale

Robbie Hood, City Manager, Mayor, Council, the RV that was in question is no longer on the property and the property is in compliance. Nicole McGowan, Council Member, yes thank you.

C-2. Discussion and possible action to approve an Interlocal Agreement with Vidor Independent School District for three (3) sets of flashing school zone lights

Rod Carroll, Chief of Police, some of you all may be aware that during the school day, Vidor High School, that area in the 500 block of Orange St. is a school zone the entire time during the daytime. With the recent updates to Orange St. and our loss of the Vidor speed limit inversion, aka Operation Pothole, that's going to be a racetrack. So, we wanted to get some flashing lights up there to make sure everybody slowed down because I can see the tragedy happening. The kids are used to the cars coming along there at 30 miles an hour, because of this situation. And so when we got into that discussion, we began talking about some other school zones such as Hwy. 90 with elementary school is we really don't have a lot of pedestrian traffic, but we have a lot of drop off traffic with vehicles to stop and then along came we don't have a flashing light on Tram Rd. in front of the junior high so we. Nicole McGowan, Council Member interjects why can't we do speed bumps? Chief, Ma'am, we do, that's our pothole program. (jokingly) McGowan, no, like true speed bumps that you have to slow down to go over it. Chief, the problem is during the times when it's not a school zone, you're going to have a problem with that. McGowan, they can still slow down. Chief, I think the flashing lights will give everybody a warning. And I feel that with those lights flashing, everybody will slow down, and we will begin to enforcement; not that we don't already, but I think there'll be a greater chance of speeding. I mean, you can't drive down Orange St. at 40 miles an hour in front of the high school right now, keep your front-end alignment, but with the new roadway, which is very smooth, that will be a problem in the future. Misty Songe, Mayor, so can you tell us about the interlocal agreement? Chief, basically, we're doing is sharing of the cost, and we're taking it out of the Child Safety Fund whenever we write a citation in a school zone, I believe, also

included, is a school bus violation, a piece of that goes into the Child Safety Fund. So, we're going to use the funds from there and then of course going forward, we're going to share all maintenance issues on those lights.

A motion to **approve an Interlocal Agreement with Vidor Independent School District for three (3) sets of flashing school zone lights**, was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Barker. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C -3. Consideration and possible action to approve an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 10 – Buildings and Building Regulations, Article I. – In General, to add Section 10-13, establishing setbacks for structures

Robbie Hood, City Manager, Mayor, Council, this is something that is used throughout the entire county and other cities in our area for setback requirements for new construction. So, it prohibits someone from building right up to their property line. An example would be Archer St. at one time we were looking at enclosing the ditches and stuff and widening the road. So just imagine someone building their house up to the property line. You could step out of your house into the street, so it provides for orderly construction of houses. We have looked all over the place. It's what we've been doing when I say we the City has done it for years and years and so much that Lanny Brown said on the Planning Commission years ago and there was variance request to the 25-foot setback. We just cannot find it anywhere on a policy. So, we're just asking that it be brought before y'all it's already being exercised. It's 25-foot in the front, and 5-foot on each side. It prohibits fires from spreading, that's what the five-foot side setbacks are there, so it don't jump from one house to the other. The 25-foot in the front is really 15 feet because 10-foot of it is our right of way. So, you're actually saying don't build 15 feet from your property line, so that's all we're asking for.

A motion to **approve an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances by amending Chapter 10 – Buildings and Building Regulations, Article I. – In General, to add Section 10-13, establishing setbacks for structures**, was made by Councilmember Barker, seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C -4. Discussion and possible action to appoint a new member to the Zoning Board of Adjustments to fill a vacancy

Misty Songe, Mayor, Robyn, would you like to come and speak first? Robyn Aldana, applicant for Zoning Board of Adjustments, Hello my name is Robyn Aldana, 175 E. Elizabeth St. Songe, and if you just want to tell us a little about why you want to have that position. Aldana, I homeschool my 2 girls and that is where I met Wendy, and we've been talking about it and interesting for one, it's something that's I haven't heard of, and we have been looking to buy property. So, it was something I hadn't heard of. And then just doing some research that sounds interesting, and I would like to get involved with the community a little bit more, we do have a small business that we're going to be opening here. So, I think that community involvement by business members is very important. So, I just want to come report. Songe, thank you. Mr. Herrera. Gary Herrera, applicant for the Zoning Board of Adjustments, I come to you today to ask for your nomination for Zoning Commission, I was a Councilman for 12 years and help set some of the zoning ordinances and laws up and I would definitely appreciate it, your vote, thank you. Songe, thank you. So, here's my suggestion, because Gary was on the Planning Commission and has resigned from that, obviously, Gary does have the experience for Gary to go on the Zoning Board and Ms. Robyn be considered for the Planning Commission, which is not on today's agenda, but that would just be my thought, on today's action. Nicole McGowan, Council Member, is Ms. Robyn good with that? Songe, Ms. Robyn, would you be interested in the Planning Commission, which is basically like the beginning step of it, because there will be a seat available for that? If Council would not have any objections to that. Aldana, what is the Planning Commission? Songe, It's basically the same thing, yeah. Aldana, okay yes, I would be interested in that. Robbie Hood, City Manager, so we would need to bring

back the Planning Commission position at a later time. Songe, yes sir I just wanted to make sure we kept her application.

A motion to **appoint Gary Herrera, to the Zoning Board of Adjustments**, was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Barker. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C -5. Discussion and possible action to approve a Resolution authorizing the submittal of one or more applications for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to the Texas Division of Emergency Management under DR-4781 and DR-4798 and committing matching funds in the amount of 25%.

Rodney Johnson, Captain/Emergency Management, all right, good evening. We've got three projects that we're looking at along with our grant managers, Traylor & Associates. So, two of them are drainage projects and one of them is in conjunction with the school district, which we had on a previous project which was reduced to some, I don't want to say legalities, new guidelines we pulled that application where we want to put it on this application with the school district, it's transportation, barn generator. So, during the disasters, we utilize our transportation barn to refuel and things like that. So, we need that in place to have power so they're going to go in on the match with us on that and split the cost on it, so it'll be less cost for us. And then the other two projects are some drainage projects for the Maple Crest area and the other area will be like Zoan, Stanley, Dolores Flora Area. Jessica Barker, what would our cost be on the transportation barn project? Johnson, I don't remember that was several years ago. Aleta Cappen, Emergency Management, so the maximum amount on the two drainage projects is 3 million each, and with that is a 75% match and we've been talking with Finance, with Pebbles, and we have some strategies to approach the funding with. And I also was mulling this over when I'm supposed to be sleeping, so that the City can even do it in kind match, so if the Drainage and Street Department works on part of the project that that can be part of our match. So, right now is the goal because we can always turn the grant down. The goal is to apply for the grant and not miss out on this opportunity to further our projects within the city. Misty Songe, Mayor, so that was very interesting though that you said, so if our crew does most of it. Cappen, they're not going to be able to do \$3,000,000 worth. Songe, right, but if they do X amount of portion, it comes out of that percentage. Cappen, yes, it will come out of that percentage and we'll just, yeah, would have to work with the City Manager and Percy and his crew to figure out how best to approach that and make it work. Jessica Barker, Council Member, just out of curiosity, like what would this do to help Maple Crest. I mean, as far as in the drainage, what does it entail? Cappen, I can give you a list of the streets. Songe, there is a list in our packet, they are N Ashland, Maplewood, N Mayhaw, Strickland, Glenwood, and Mulberry, For Rosewood, Brightwood Sherwood. Barker, okay.

A motion to **approve a Resolution authorizing the submittal of one or more applications for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to the Texas Division of Emergency Management under DR-4781 and DR-4798 and committing matching funds in the amount of 25%**, was made by Councilmember McGowan, seconded by Councilmember Thompson. The Council voted six (6) for, none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.**

C -6. Consideration of Adjournment

A motion for **Consideration of Adjournment** was made by Councilmember Thompson, seconded by Councilmember McGowan. The Council voted six (6) for and none (0) opposed. **The motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

These minutes were approved on March 27, 2025.



ATTEST:

Rachel Duplechain

Rachel Duplechain, City Secretary

Misty Songe
Misty Songe, Mayor