

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Thursday -- FEBRUARY 13, 2014 -- 7:00 PM

COUPLAND FIRE STATION

410 FM 1466

COUPLAND, TEXAS

1. Call regular meeting to order and declare a quorum.

Mayor Jack Piper called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and declared a quorum with the following members:

Jack Piper, Mayor

Susan Schmidt, Alderman

Barbara Piper, Mayor Pro tempore

Susan Garry, Alderman

Eldridge Tidwell, Alderman

2. Review and approve minutes of meetings held on January 9, 2014.

Ms. Piper noted a few corrections to the minutes and made a motion to approve the minutes with those corrections. Mr. Tidwell seconded that motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

3. Financial report as of January 31, 2014.

The Mayor presented the financial report. As of January 31, the City had \$31,103.24 in the bank. He directed the Aldermen to the itemized income and expenses report. He noted that the City has collected about \$24,000 in property tax revenue so far. The budget calls for \$32,000 but he said he expects more to trickle in over the coming months. He also noted that about half of the annual budget for street repairs was used to make repairs to CR 458.

4. Discussion and action regarding amendments to Subdivision Ordinance No. 2013-9-22-01.

Ms. Garry had proposed an amendment to the Subdivision Ordinance to incorporate family grant provisions that were inadvertently left out of the final version of the ordinance. Ms. Piper made a motion to adopt such an amendment. Ms. Garry seconded the motion. Mayor Piper pointed out that when the exact wording is developed, the revised ordinance would need to be on a future agenda and would require a vote. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

5. Discussion and possible action on the Prinz Estates Subdivision application.

An application to replat the Prinz property was received by the City. Mayor Piper reported that it was submitted to the City's engineering firm and that they found 20 issues that required correction. He said that they were all minor and easily corrected and that they had been submitted to Bruce Bryan, surveyor for the Prinz family, for correction. Ms. Piper made a motion to accept the preliminary plat with the caveat that the exceptions be resolved to the satisfaction of the City Engineer. Ms. Schmidt seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

6. Report on road maintenance within the City limits of Coupland.

In a discussion about road maintenance, the Mayor said that now that the repairs to CR 458 were complete, we could look at other needs in the city. More than one Alderman expressed a concern that illegally overloaded grain trucks cause excessive wear and

tear on the roads, thereby increasing road maintenance expenses but that enforcement of the limitation by the County was problematic.

7. Discussion and approval of Ordinance No. 2014-2-13-01 to change the date of all elected City officials from May to November of each year (for the purpose of saving money).

The Mayor presented an ordinance changing the City election from May to November and altering the terms of office of all Council members accordingly. This was made possible by a state law allowing newly incorporated cities to make such a change within 2 years of their incorporation date. The Mayor said that this move would save money for the City since we would not have to pay for the elections in May. Mr. Tidwell made a motion to adopt the ordinance. Ms. Garry seconded the motion. The vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

8. Discussion and approval of Resolution No. 2014-2-13-01 to form a Planning and Zoning Committee and appoint citizens who have been contacted and have agreed to serve.

A resolution to form a Planning and Zoning Committee was tabled by the Mayor. He said he was still waiting to hear back from some potential members of the committee.

9. Coupland citizens/events recognition.

During the recognition portion of the meeting, Ms. Piper mentioned the Annual Coupland Volunteer Fire Department Chili Supper on Saturday, February 22 and asked everyone to come out and support the event. She also mentioned that Dr. Dana Boehm will make a presentation at the Coupland Civic Organization General Meeting on Monday, February 24. She will be talking about her mission trip to Kenya, which involved teaching sustainability to villagers. Eldridge Tidwell mentioned that some members of his church were going on a mission to the University of Ghana. Finally, Mayor Piper announced the early voting dates for the County elections in May. Early voting will take place April 28 - May 3 and May 5 - May 6. The election is on May 10.

10. Citizen(s) Communications.

During the Citizen's Communications portion of the meeting, the City Secretary read a letter from local resident Jim Huntington, which he had asked to be read into the record of the meeting. Mr. Huntington expressed his opposition to the establishment of zoning in Coupland. Various Council members expressed their concerns about the potential effects of unregulated development.

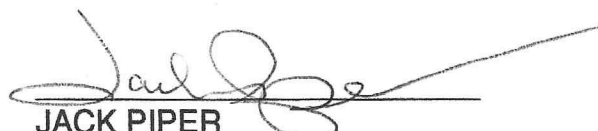
11. The next Coupland Council meeting will be March 13, 2014.

12. Adjournment

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:33 PM.

ATTEST:


STEWART DALE SPENCER
City Secretary


JACK PIPER
Mayor