

ITEM 1 Call to Order: 5:05 pm

ITEM 2 Roll Call: Mayor Gibson, Trustee Billings, Trustee Brady, Trustee Cooper, Trustee McVey, Trustee West, Trustee Wittler.

Present: Mayor Gibson, Trustee Brady, Trustee Billings, Trustee Cooper, Trustee McVey, Trustee Wittler.

Phone/Computer: None

Absent: Trustee West (Joined meeting at 5:07 pm)

Guest Present: Lexie Brooks

**Staff Present: Merna McGinnis, Town Manager
Tammy Newman, Town Clerk
Clay Klipfel, Police Chief**

ITEM 3 Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mayor Gibson

ITEM 4 Prayer, led by Josh Wittler

ITEM 5 Building Inspector Discussion

Agreement with City of Lamar expires October 14, 2022, what direction does the board want to go in? Trustee Cooper suggested to remove the building inspection part of the IBC 2006. Put in the building permit applications that they had to follow IBC 2006 and drop the building fees down and getting out of the liability of building inspections. Mayor Gibson concern is with the liability and making sure Town is covered if something happens. Lots of discussion for not continuing the contract with Lamar or to go back with a contract with Lamar for short term, until find someone else local.

Trustee Brady made motion to renew the Intergovernmental Agreement with City Lamar for one year for inspection services with the clause that either party may give a written 30-day notice to cancel agreement. Second by Trustee McVey. Motion carried.

ITEM 6 Salary Discussion

Mayor Gibson explained compensating employees that have been with the Town for several years and getting the salary rates more comparable with other municipalities for the same position, as salary rates have been stagnate since 1992 within the towns budget. All employees will get a 5% increase based on current 2022 wages for the 2023 budget. Individual employees may get a wage increase that will be take affect for the 2023 budget year.

Police Department: Salary ranges look comparable for Chief, Sargent and officers. Chief Klipfel discussed his budget, and added \$50,000.00, \$40,000.00 and \$40,000.00 for sergeant and two officers. Discussion on liability insurance, professional insurance or group assistance for legal counsel for the police officers. Chief Klipfel will do some research and get back to the board.

Street Department: Street Superintendent Mr. McGinnis to \$62,500.00, Street worker Mr. Wade to \$36,000.00, Pool manager/Airport manager Mr. Figgins to \$41,000.00.

Electric Department: Mr. Piper and Mr. Hinds will get the 5% increase. Mr. Ingle and Mr. Bush will be moved back to water and sewer departments only.

Water/Sewer Departments: Superintendent Mr. Ingle to \$70,000.00, Operator Mr. Bush 5% increase.

General: Town Manager Ms. McGinnis \$73,000.00, Town Clerk Ms. Newman \$52,000.00, Police Admin. Assistant Ms. Day \$36,000.00, Judge Gibson \$10,000.00, city hall Ms. Gerber \$6,200.00. Will re-visit later Ms. Dunham, the landfill and swimming pool employees. Discussion on moving code enforcement back to the police department with animal control duties attached. Ms. Day could do the dog catcher duties for now and give Ms. Day a bonus for doing dog catcher duties until the end of the 2022 year. Advertise for a full-time animal control/code enforcement officer.

Trustee Billings made motion to give Joan Day a bonus of \$1,200.00 for the rest of year for doing dog catching duties at a rate of \$200.00 each pay period. Second by Trustee West. Motion carried.

ITEM 7 Budget Hearing

Trustees received a copy of the proposed 2023 budget.

Merna explained an error on water billing, when new rates went into effect the rate chart only was billing up to 100,000 gallons of water. Big water users were only billed for the 100,000 gallons a month. Trustee Cooper said to follow the PCU guidelines and go back 6 months and recharge for water usage over the 100,000 gallons of water usage, customers can make payment arrangements if needed.

ITEM 8 Adjournment

Trustee McVey made motion to adjourn at 7:23 pm. Second by Trustee Billings.

Next Regular BOT Meeting October 18, 2022, 6:00 PM