

**Minutes of the Blythe City Council Meeting
April 28, 2020**

The April 28, 2020 meeting of the Blythe City Council was called to order at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers by Mayor Reynolds. Also in attendance were Vice Mayor Egan and Council Members DeConinck, Rodriguez and Halby. Staff in attendance included: Interim City Manager and City Clerk Crecelius and Police Chief Coe. Finance Director and City Treasurer Elms, Interim Public Works Director Ojeda and Deputy City Attorney Roberto participated via teleconference.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Reynolds. The Invocation was led by Vice Mayor Egan.

CONSENT CALENDAR: *Items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted with one motion of the Council. If any item requires individual consideration, it will be removed from the consent calendar and acted upon separately.*

1. Posting of the Agenda.

The summary of agenda items were posted on the bulletin boards on the outside of the public entrance to the Council Chamber and near the inside entrance of the Council Chamber on Friday, April 24, 2020.

2. Approval of the Warrant Register.

Recommendation: Approve **04/28/2020**, warrants numbered 71513 through 71613 in the amount of \$337,666.31 and **04/28/2020**, warrants numbered 71614 through 71657 in the amount of \$162,081.92.

3. Approval of the Payroll Register.

Recommendation: Approve **04/28/2020**, warrants numbered 51630 through 51644 and Direct Deposits numbered 47171 through 47230 in the amount of \$221,779.95; **04/28/2020**, warrants numbered 51645 through 51649 and Direct Deposits numbered 47231 through 47335 in the amount of \$65,855.67; **04/28/2020**, warrants numbered 51650 through 51665 and Direct Deposits numbered 47336 through 47391 in the amount of \$220,821.35.

4. Minutes of the March 24, 2020 City Council Meeting.

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes of the March 24, 2020 meeting.

5. City of Blythe Permits issued for the Month of March 2020.

Recommendation: Receive and file this monthly report.

6. City of Blythe Fire Department Monthly Activity Report for March 2020.

Recommendation: Receive and file this monthly report.

7. City of Blythe Police Department Monthly Activity Report for March 2020.

Recommendation: Receive and file this monthly report.

8. Agreement for CFD No. 2004-1 Special Tax Administration Services.

Recommendation: Authorize the City Manager to sign an agreement for CFD No. 2004-1 with David Taussig and Associates.

No public comment. Councilman Rodriguez moved approval of the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Egan with a unanimous aye vote.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Application for Taxicab Services. Interim City Manager Crecelius stated staff received a Business License Application from Emerald Inn and Lounge to operate a taxicab service in the City of Blythe. Pursuant to Blythe Municipal Code Chapter 5.72 no permit to operate a taxicab service shall be granted until a Public Hearing has been conducted by the City Council and it has been determined that the operation of such taxicab service is a public convenience and necessity. There are no Taxi businesses currently permitted to operate in the City as no City of Blythe Business Licenses have been issued for taxi

businesses since 2018. If Council authorizes staff to move forward with issuance of a Business License/Permit for Emerald Inn and Lounge, the applicant's history and business legitimacy will be investigated by the Blythe Police department prior to the issuance of the Business License and Driver Permit(s). Therefore, subsequent to the Public Hearing it is recommended Council authorize the City Clerk to issue a Business License to Emerald Inn and Lounge DBA Emerald Taxi Blythe.

Mayor Reynolds would like to see more information as listed in the Municipal Code such as fee rate, color scheme, etc. Interim City Manager stated all of this will be vetted by staff once approved to move forward.

Mayor Reynolds opened the Public Hearing. George Colangeli, General Manager of PVVTA submitted written comments asking for Council to review the fare schedule before start of service, review and condition the business plan detailing a service model before start of service and consider providing PVVTA with monthly ridership reports.

Councilman Rodriguez would like to make sure we approve any advertising they do on their vehicle.

The Public Hearing was closed. Councilman DeConinck moved approval of staff's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Egan with a unanimous aye vote.

ORAL REPORTS:

Interim City Manager Crecelius stated the deadline to Vote for Measure K is Tuesday, May 5, 2020.

Councilman Rodriguez would like to put on record Item #11 on the Consent Calendar which is the MCC Mortgage Program. This is a program for first time homebuyers.

Mayor Reynolds commended staff on keeping the City operational during this time. We appreciate each and every one of you who are out there doing what you need to do to keep us running on a daily basis.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ed and Cynthia Best of 2798 Clearwater Dr. submitted written comments related to the amount of party goers at Jungle Beach since March 14th who are not social distancing.

Juan Ramirez with the U.S. Census Bureau announced the Census deadline had been extended to October 31, 2020. As of yesterday, 37.6% of Blythe's residents have responded to the 2020 questionnaire. Our goal is to have 100% participation so that Blythe receives their fair share of the \$675 billion federal funds and grants.

Angie Patel would like to have the TOT Tax payments deferred for three months. Starting July 1st the hotel owners would start paying the amount due on a payment plan.

ADJOURN: The City Council meeting was adjourned at 6:32pm.

Dale Reynolds, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mallory Crecelius, City Clerk