

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF CENTER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING
April 9, 2012**

The Center City Council met in a regular session on Monday, April 9, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall. The meeting was open to the public. Notices were properly posted of the date, place and hour and the news media was notified. The following members were present:

David Chadwick	-	Mayor
Jim Forbes	-	Council Member
Charlie Byndom	-	Council Member
Charles Rushing	-	Council Member
Joyce Johnson	-	Council Member
Leigh Porterfield	-	Council Member
Chad Nehring	-	City Manager
Barbara Boyd	-	City Secretary
Jim Payne	-	City Attorney

Guests signed the register.

Item I. Mayor, David Chadwick opened the meeting and welcomed the visitors and media.

Item II. Approval of Minutes of the Workshop Session and the Regular Meeting on March 26, 2012. Council Member Charles Rushing made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Workshop Session and the Regular Meeting on March 26, 2012. Council Member Joyce Johnson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Item III. Public Hearing:

Public Hearing to obtain citizen input on draft plans for the reapportionment of the City's four single-member council districts. Rochelle McClelland requested some information regarding the redistricting, which was provided at that time.

Item IV. Consider Discussion and Possible Action on the following:

- A. Approve Ordinance 2012-5 – Initiating Annexation Proceedings. City Manager, Chad Nehring stated the state law on annexation requires that the process be initiated by an ordinance of the City Council establishing the dates and times of public hearings and meetings at which the Council will formally consider action. Mr. Nehring stated the list of properties and areas included for this action was established by the annexation plan adopted by the Council last year and the initial letter have already gone out to many of these. Staff has prepared a notice that will be delivered to each property owner. Council Member Jim Forbes made a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-5 – Initiating Annexation Proceedings. Council Member Leigh Porterfield seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
- B. Approve Purchase Contract with GameTime for Playground Equipment for Center Park Enhancement. City Manager, Chad Nehring stated while this is a budgeted expenditure from the capital improvement project fund and under the amount required for Council approval, it was a high profile item included in the bond package and capital improvements plan. Mr. Nehring stated staff wanted Council input and approval prior to commencing construction. Mr. Nehring stated that total expenses for this project will remain under the \$50,000 budget for this project with this playground being the major part of the costs. Mr. Nehring stated this was proposed and designed to be primarily a playground for children 2-5 years of age to compliment the baseball field area as well as the existing playground geared toward older children. Council Member Charles Rushing made a motion to approve the Purchase Contract with GameTime for Playground Equipment for Center Park Enhancement. Council Member Jim Forbes seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
- C. Authorize Agreement with Solar Energy – Street Light Audit. City Manager, Chad Nehring stated staff had discussed some energy programs with this vendor, which has experience in energy billing reviews. Mr. Nehring stated the primary interest to staff is the long running question of street light expenses, which are budgeted at \$70,000 annually and continuing to increase. Mr. Nehring stated an actual count and verification of fixture type will allow for the mapping of these facilities and thus future monitoring of billing and additions.

Mr. Nehring stated if approved, the only expense would be the sharing of any savings from the billing review. Council Member Jim Forbes made a motion to authorize Agreement with EVSolar Energy for the Street Light Audit. Council Member Joyce Johnson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

- D. Authorize TCEQ Solid Waste Grant Contract through Deep East Texas Council of Governments.** City Manager, Chad Nehring stated this contract is accepting the award of \$13,100 grant for solid waste programs including the purchase of a second recycling trailer and funding for advertising and promotion to expand these current activities as well as at least one electronics recycling/disposal day. Council Member Joyce Johnson made a motion to authorize TCEQ Solid Waste Grant Contract through Deep East Texas Council of Governments. Council Member Charlie Byndom seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
- E. Approve Deep East Texas Council of Government Board Member.** City Manager, Chad Nehring stated according to the DETCOG bylaws, the City is allowed to appoint one member to the Board of the Council of Governments annually and that Council Member Joyce Johnson has served in this capacity the last several months since the resignation of Council Member Chuck Lunsford. Council Member Jim Forbes made a motion to approve Joyce Johnson to the Deep East Texas Council of Government Board. Council Member Leigh Porterfield seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
- F. Approve Center Housing Authority Board Member.** City Manager, Chad Nehring stated the City is the fiduciary and legally responsible party for the actions and activities of the Center Housing Authority even though the only mechanism for oversight is the appointment of the Board of Directors. Mr. Nehring stated with the resignation of Mrs. Chadwick from this Board leaves a vacancy the Council is required to appoint. Council Member Leigh Porterfield made a motion to appoint Barbara Bittick to the Center Housing Authority Board. Council Member Charlie Byndom seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
- G. Approve Request from Center Rotary Club for Street Closure – What A Melon Crawl – 5K Run/Walk.** City Manager, Chad Nehring stated the Center Rotary Club has requested a run/walk activity to be held in conjunction with the annual What-A-Melon Festival and because of the location of the run/walk, temporary street closures will be necessary to accommodate the activity, including some state highway routes. Mr. Nehring stated TXDoT has already reviewed the request and will allow the City to approve and assume responsibility. Council Member Jim Forbes made a motion to approve the Request from Center Rotary Club for Street Closure – What A Melon Crawl – 5K Run/Walk. Council Member Joyce Johnson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Item IV. Items of Interest from Council and City Manager, and Citizens – No Action Items.

Item V. Executive Session.

Consider entering executive session for legal consultation with the City Attorney and discussion of pending litigation, personnel matters and land acquisition with possible action related thereto upon reconvening in open session in accordance with Local Government Code Section 551.071, 551.072 and 551.074

Item VI. Adjournment

Mayor David Chadwick adjourned the meeting.


David Chadwick, Mayor

Attest:


Barbara Boyd, City Secretary

