

**CITY OF AMES
304 MARTIN DR. – AMES, TEXAS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 12, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

The City Council for the City of Ames, Texas held a meeting at the Ames City Hall at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Barbara Domain called the meeting to order at that time. Councilman Eddie White led the prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Domain conducted the roll call, at this time the members of the City Council who were present were: Mayor Barbara Domain, Michael Trahan II, Eddie White, and Audrey Harrison. Absent at roll call were Councilwoman Elizabeth (Liz) Hardy, and Councilman Alfred Freeman Jr., arrived late.

CITIZEN APPEARANCE

Citizen to speak to Council was Ms. Demetria, aka Coach D, founder of Strategy Recovery Solutions, there organization has been dedicated and chosen to promote saving lives and reduce the epidemic of opioids in this region and wanted to leave the City of Ames with cans of Norcan and learn about the community. Their purpose is to go into communities and recognized where the high risk for opioids and substance abuse and do training and to keep training to anyone who wants to have training and willing to put vending machines in places where people can have access to Norcan. Mayor Domain wanted to know what is Norcan? If an individual overdose, EMT's can use Norcan to reverse the effects of any type of opioid to keeping someone from overdosing. It can't be sold, and they brought cans of Norcan to share in the community. Mentioned signs of overdose and offers quarterly funding by the State of Texas.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 11, 2024, REGULAR, SPECIAL MEETING AND WORKSHOP MEETINGS.

The council took a few minutes to look over the minutes. There was no discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

**Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White
Seconded by: Councilman Michael Trahan
All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0**

1. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE VARIANCE FOR QUADAWN DENSON ALLOWING HER TO MOVE HER MOBILE HOME ONTO THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 305 MARTIN LUTHER KING ST. NORTH.

Clayton Homes turned in the variance that had been issued to them from Marivious Allen, attorney for the City. Mike is speaking on behalf of Ms. Denson, just trying to get her into a 2,000 square

foot home for her and her family. Closing date was in June or July. All the paperwork has been signed by the family. There was some discussion regarding the closing of her documents. Councilman Trahan posed a question to the Council that we either must make an adjustment or variance by variance when they come in. Councilwoman suggested going into an executive session council for a minute. At which time Mayor Domain then made concession to move into executive meeting at 6:27 p.m.to speak to the lawyer and council regarding the variance.

Mayor Domain asked for a motion to come out of the executive session.

A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

After the executive session Mayor Domain asked for a motion to approve the variance for Quadawn Denson allowing her to move her mobile home on the property located at 305 Martin Luther King St. North in Ames, Texas.

Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White

Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman

All in favor: 3 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 1

A vote was then made at which there were three (3) in favor and one (1) abstained. None opposed, a motion was then passed. One of the citizens expressed her appreciation for the Council approving this item.

2. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION AND FEE TO TEXAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT TO START THE CITY OF AMES POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000.00.

Mayor Domain reported that she talked with TCLOE to see if there were any restrictions from the previous police department and found out there were none, that all the City needs to do is fill an application and pay the fee of \$1,000.00 to bring the police department back to the City of Ames. She stated that she rides around the city, and we are definitely in need of a police department. She mentioned the incidents at the red lights with big trucks not showing any respect for this city and how the big trucks run the red light. We took an oath to protect the citizens here and it would be in the best interest of the city. This avenue will also generate revenue for the city. The discussion was there an expiration for this application. Mayor Domain said no, that as long as you keep your certification up, you will not have any problems. The same with the fire department. She will check with TCLOE to see if there are any annual fees. She reported that she will reach out to find grants to pay for salaries for employees that will work for the city in both of those departments. She reported that Daisetta has offered to donate a police car and will check with Judge Knight to see if the county would be interested in donating a police car as well. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison
Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman, Jr.
All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

3. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (8.13) BETWEEN LIBERTY COUNTY AND CITY OF AMES FOR MOWING DITCHED AND MOSQUITOS SPRAYING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400.00 PER MONTH.

Mayor Domain reported that she has been speaking with Katherine, a representative of Bruce Karbowski, he stated that it takes at least \$680.00 for the fuel, equipment and manpower to cut the grass twice a month. She has only seen him once a month and wants to know what his schedule is for cutting and spraying the city and will only cut the grass if we do an interlocal agreement with the County. Mayor mentioned that the interlocal agreement can be canceled at any time when you give a 30-day notice. There was no further discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan
Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White
All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

4. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (8.14) BETWEEN LIBERTY COUNTY AND CITY OF AMES.

Mayor Domain reported that this agreement is for roads, and the county would come in and do them for the city if we agree to pay the cost of the material and the county will use their equipment in good faith and the city would give them \$100.00 if we use them. There was no further discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison
Seconded by: Councilman Michael Trahan
All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

5. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-004.

Mayor Domain reported that this resolution is for the judge, Emmett Albro, authorizing him to be the municipal judge until May 2025 and asked the question is this for one year or for multiple years? City Attorney Marivious Allen stated that according to the resolution, the judge's term would run concurrent with the mayor's term. The term as written states it is up in 2025 but can be changed to have a two-year resolution. A question was raised, does it have to have a specific date tied to term? Judge Albro stated that the term is pre-empted by the state. Judge Albro also stated that he would like to see worded in the resolution that there would be an increase in revenue especially if you start to see an increase in revenue for the city and would like to see an increase in his pay. Mayor Domain wanted to know if we can go back and adjust his pay at some point and

that the salary is not set in stone. There was no further discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White
Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman, Jr.
All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

6. MAYOR'S REPORT.

The mayor reported that we are still working with FEMA on the work going on at the city hall to speak about getting a refund on the generators that we purchased. She also reported that in the last three months the city has issued 11 addresses indicating that we are growing. We may want to think about future growth and that we will need to set some things in place to bring in revenue for the city. We installed speed bumps on Donatto Street and need to install two more. Renovations are currently under way in the front of the City Hall entrance and hopefully will be finished this week. We ordered the mobile home signs to let residents know that the city ordinances are being enforced. The employees are putting them out around town. The information will be scrolled across the website to let the citizens know. Hopefully, by Friday the City will have a brand new 2024 Dodge Ram. Councilman Trahan mentioned the property owners with manicured laws that owe back taxes in the City. Mayor Doman reported that Ms. Jennifer has been adamant about sending notices to homeowners, some have received their second and third notices and we are getting to the point where we can hand them over to the judge to file. Secretary Wellona Godfrey asked council member if anyone is interested in attending the TML conference this year. Mayor Domain polled the Council, and no one is interested in attending this year.

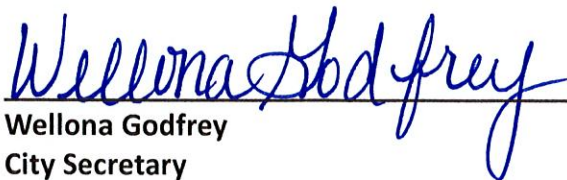
7. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Domain announced that the time is now 7:27 pm and a motion was called to adjourn this meeting. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan
Seconded by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison
All in favor: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0



Barbara Domain
Mayor



Wellona Godfrey
City Secretary