

**MINUTES
CITY OF AMES
304 MARTIN DR. – AMES, TEXAS
SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 22, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

The City Council for the City of Ames, Texas held a meeting at the Ames City Hall at 6:05 p.m. Mayor Barbara Domain called the meeting to order at that time. Councilman Michael Trahan 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, Elizabeth (Liz) Hardy, and Councilwoman Audrey Harrison. Councilman Eddie White arrived late at 6:07 p.m. and Alfred Freeman Jr. arrived late at 6:15 p.m.

CITIZEN APPEARANCE

Mayor Domain asked if there were any citizens present who would like to speak to the council.

- The citizens that wanted to speak were Ms. Villarreal from Clayton Homes, another Representative from Clayton Homes and the Property Owner Ms. Denson.

Mayor Domain recognized Clayton Homes who wanted to speak on behalf of Mr. Danson and his wife. Clayton Homes represented stated that they wanted to put a house down North MLK and that the home was a modular home at which time he handed the Council copies of a package of what the property looks like now and that the home would improve the land itself. The current state of the property is in shambles and has an RV on it. This modular home is about 1900 feet and would add substantial value to the property. They tried to find out about permitting and called Liberty which is why they thought they could put it there. They had already closed on the home and thought they could put it there.

Councilman Trahan stated that this is not an agenda item so we can't vote on this tonight. There is an ordinance in place and has been here since before we became council members. You know what the scenario was last time, we are not the City of Liberty, we are the City of Ames and we have our own set of rules and guidelines and that we cannot make a decision tonight and that this would need to be an agenda topic that can be discussed and if made it for one then we would open up the floodgates for all.

Mayor Domain told the Clayton Home reps and the property owner that they would have to file a variance with the Secretary, Wellona and this item would have to be put on the agenda to be voted on and will be sent to the attorney to look over. The next meeting is August 12th, but if there is a special meeting, then Mayor will put it on that agenda and let them know. Mayor Domain then considered the agenda items.

1. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$7,145.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE 2024 DODGE RAN 3500 CREW CAB TRUCK PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ON JULY 11, 2024.

Mayor Domain explained that the lady sent her a price but stated that it is not the right price because the internet had not been updated and that an additional 7,145.00 is needed. Additionally, information is attached from Financial Capital. Councilman Trahan noted that the price had changed from \$61,000 to \$65,000 and asked if it was diesel. It was noted that the truck changed from a gasoline to a diesel engine truck. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion to made by: Councilman Michael Trahan II

Seconded by: Councilman Al Freeman

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

2. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A UTILITY TRAILER TO TRANSPORT THE LAWNMOWER AND OTHER MATERIALS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,664.25.

Mayor Domain explained that this trailer is from National Trailer Source and compared it to the one from Tractor Supply, which was a 14 feet trailer. This one from National Trailer is 16 feet and was able to save about \$200.00. Mayor Domain asked for a motion to purchase the trailer in the amount of \$3,664.25. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion to made by: Councilman Al Freeman

Seconded by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

3. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL AUDITS FOR 2020, 2021 AND 2022 PROVIDED BY BRUNO AND TERVALON CPA.

Mayor Domain explained after speaking with Councilman Trahan, do you think it is necessary to approve all of these audits or just table them. Attorney Allen said that there is precedence as to what has been done in the past and what should be done. A question was asked how you would handle an investigation, so it should be done by councilman or by individuals. Mayor Domain said that the CPA sent two finals for 2020 and 2021 for the council to look at before they send the finals for approval. Discussion was made about missing information and for approval from the Mayor or the City Council to approve the financials. Mayor Domain asked for a motion to approve the audits. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion to made by: Councilwoman Liz Hardy

Seconded by: Councilman Michael Trahan

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

4. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RENOVATIONS TO THE FRONT LOBBY OF THE CITY HALL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,850.00.

Mayor Domain explained that the front of the city hall should have windows and doors on each side of the building. It's hard to manage both sides if you must walk around the building or go outside to handle and manage the office. It would be easier if the area in the front was open. It will also be helpful when people come in to pay their bills. It would be easier for customers to pay their bills on either side of the hall. Discussion was made about being bonded to come into Wellona's office. Mayor stated no, because most people want to see the mayor. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion to made by: Councilman Michael Trahan
Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

5. MAYOR'S REPORT.

Mayor Domain explained that she is set to meet with FEMA and they are going to go over the city to look at damages. They were going to look over the lift station, the roads, the culverts, and the building to see how it is shifted. Also, we got an inspection by TML, and they rewarded us \$5,300.00 for repairs to the building. The city will use the same inspection to submit to FEMA to see if they would give us funds for that.

We are still waiting for information from TX Dot regarding our SP2125 grant for approval. The contact person has resigned, and we are still in contact with them, but currently we are waiting to hear from them.

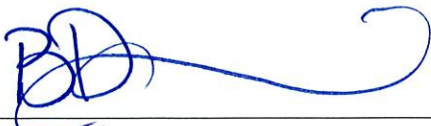
TML is hosting their annual convention and exhibition October 9-11, 2024, at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston. If you plan to attend, please let Ms. Wellona know; the cost is \$400.00 per person and does not include lunch. Please let Wellona know as soon as possible.

The city will be applying for disaster assistance from FEMA. We had a utility pole go down; the cost was almost \$700.00. The city will be trying to recoup that money from either FEMA or TML.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Domain asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 PM.

Motion to made by: Councilman Michael Trahan
Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0



Barbara Domain
Mayor



Wellona Godfrey
City Secretary