

# MINUTES

## City Council Regular Meeting

April 11, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Vicki Ferguson called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. Brandon Russell gave the invocation and Mayor Ferguson led the pledge of allegiance.

Rollcall - Vicki Ferguson, Brandon Russell, Daniel Miller, Jami Tillery, Amy Balaz, and Susan Murre were all present.

No registered speakers.

### OLD BUSINESS

Brandon Russell made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Daniel Miller seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Ferguson explained that she made an error when submitting a check to Grantworks for the COVID grant and the check was written out of the City account which will be transferred back to the City account out of the grant account. Also, when the City opened the Grant account, it was opened with \$100 funds from the City account that will also be transferred over to the City account. Daniel Miller made a motion to approve the financials as presented. Brandon Russell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

Brandon Russell stated that his wife will have a design for signs for the City and they should be completed by the next City council meeting and the design will be emailed to all.

Elinka Harper addressed the council and made them aware that she will be in the office on Saturday May 6th to be able to post results of the election when reported back from the County. This is a requirement and verified by the Secretary of State office.

There was discussion regarding the various name suggestions for the new park. Daniel made a motion for the park name to be Fruitvale Veterans Park. Amy Balez seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

There was discussion on increasing rates of rental for the Community Center. Susan Murre made a motion to increase the rental fee for the front room from \$50 to \$75 and leave the back room rental at \$50. The deposit will remain \$50 for both areas to be in effect on June 1, 2023 with reservations already made to remain at the contracted rental rate. Brandon Russell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

There was discussion on joining the ETCOG 911 system so that the addresses within the city would be able to be found by emergency services if needed. Susan Murre stated her concern where she was under the impression that the 911 addressing system could decide to change addresses that are already assigned and it causes confusion with postal delivery and citizens having to change their addresses for all services. Amy Balaz made a motion for Mayor Ferguson to contact ETCOG and find out how often, if ever they change addresses before making a decision to join or not to join. Brandon Russell seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Ferguson discussed the two bids she has received for mowing of the City park and Community Center areas. The other vendors that were contacted did not submit bids. Jerry Williams submitted a bid for his pricing to stay the same for the Community Center at \$75 as well as the Annex/City Park area at \$150 per occurrence. Almanza's Concrete and Landscaping submitted a bid to complete both properties for \$185 per occurrence. His bid was based on pictures of the property and no visit to property. Brandon Russell made a motion to for Jerry Williams to continue to handle the mowing for both properties for the next two months while the other bid was investigated. Daniel Miller seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Ferguson met with Chad LaPrade the county commissioner in regards to the flooding of the road along CR 1129 to CR 1133. The first two houses on CR 1129 have blocked culverts restricting the flow of water down CR 1133. Commissioner LaPrade recommended replacing the first 3 culverts being replaced and set with rock to prevent the ditches from overflowing onto CR 1129. Mayor Ferguson provided 3 bids for culverts if the council is interested in replacing culverts to solve this problem. Daniel Miller made a motion to use Texas Erosion to purchase three culverts and purchase a load of rock for \$1000



to complete the work the county would provide. Susan Murre seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Ferguson stated that the RV Ordinance discussed previously was not written in legal format for an Ordinance. She provided the Van Zandt County ordinance that was prepared by an attorney and adopted by the County for the Minimum Standards Applicable to Recreational Vehicle Parks. Daniel Miller made a motion to adopt the ordinance with changes to section (e) to state Certification of County approved septic system and to add section (p) to state Recreational vehicles may remain for a period not to exceed 3 months without approval from the City Council. Amy Balaz seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.


Mayor Ferguson contacted the City Attorney in regards to ownership of the Caboose that was donated to the City in approximately 1999 to Miss Hallie Randall to the city from Union Pacific. Property was sold in 2013 to Mr. Smith. Attorney stated the city would need to approach Mr. Smith who now owns this property, if interested to purchase the caboose. After discussion on what it would possibly cost to move the caboose to City property, Brandon Russell made a motion for the City to cut its losses and look for others in the future. Daniel Miller seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Ferguson stated there has been interest by the council for purchasing or finding a grant for an Emergency Siren for the City. Brandon Russell made a motion to contact ETCOG and GrantWorks to see if there were any resources available for purchase of sirens for the City. Jami Tillery seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Ferguson stated that she is still seeking and receiving information regarding a Code Enforcement Officer. No action was taken.

Brandon Russell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. Daniel Miller seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

CERTIFICATE: I do hereby certify that the above Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board at 1063 VZCR 1129, Fruitvale, TX and accessible to the general public at all times and remained posted for at least 72 hours preceding the scheduled time of said meeting

  
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Vicki Ferguson, Mayor

5.9.2023  
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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elinka Harper, City Secretary

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Date