

CITY OF PINE FOREST
305 NAGEL STREET
VIDOR, TX 77662
MAYOR: Cathy Nagel



PHONE: 409-786-4100
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EMAIL: Cityofpineforest@gt.rr.com

City of Pine Forest

REGULAR MEETING: Monday March 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM, held at Pine Forest City Hall.

Council Present: Mayor Cathy Nagel, Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member Place 2 James McCullar, Council Member Place 4 Cynthia Worsham, and Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown

Council Absent: Council Member Place 1 Jesse Santana

Others Present: Chief Bill Meza, City Attorney Paul Fakuda, Wendy Bailey, and Greg Bailey

Item 1: Meeting Called to order at 6:02PM.

Item 2: Invocation.

Item 3: Pledges to the United States Flag and Texas State Flag.

Item 4: Citizen/Visitor's Forum: No one to speak.

Item 5: Mayors Comments:

Item 6: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to approve the February Consent Agenda. Place 2 Council Member/Mayor Pro Tem James McCullar 2nd the motion.
MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT

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Item 7:

A. Report from Chief Bill Meza:

No report.

B. Report from Grant Coordinator (Lacey Turner):

Current Grants Council Meeting 3/13

Infrastructure:

Fittz & Shipman finished the 100% design plans which were approved months ago. I met with Langford, GLO & Fittz and Shipman last week via Conference. Our Archaeological dig should be happening in April which is our next step. There will be 2 site locations that the dig will take place.

Hurricane Harvey:

I spoke with Brian Contreras our TDEM/State Rep. on July 26th to discuss road project. We completed the RTM closing meeting with FEMA on 9/16/22, so we will now only work with TDEM (state) from here on out until the road project and DAC is completely closed out.

I have also forwarded Orange County all of the Scope and costing and coordinates for the approved, assigned Lakeview Cutoff pieces. Of course, the county is currently backed up and will most likely not be able to complete work until after the beginning of next year. The County stated that we could piggyback off of their current road projects and they could do the work for us without having to hire an engineer directly. We were awarded \$65,290.56 from FEMA and will have a 10% match. We were told by Traylor & Associates that the City can use funds from the ARPA grant to cover the full cost plus the 10% match since TDEM is now saying we must pay for repairs upfront and be reimbursed by State. Once this is complete, we will finally be complete with all Hurricane Harvey projects.

We just received \$1800.00 in December 2022 from FEMA on the DAC "Direct Administration Cost" project which will conclude this project for close-out. Leaving only the road project to complete this grant.

ARPA: American Rescue Plan Act:

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We currently have \$88,289.67 in our account which includes both part of the 1st tranche and we also received the 2nd tranche in October 2022. Out of this total, council decided we would use the funds to cover the upfront cost for Hurricane Harvey Road repairs, plus the 10% match since it is a FEMA reimbursement program, and the remaining can go to road repair within the City. Once all funds have been reimbursed by FEMA, all remaining can be applied towards road repairs within the city.

CDBG 23-24

Arceneaux Wilson & Cole was awarded the engineering contract at our last council meeting. The City had our 1st kick off meeting with GLO, Langford & AWC to discuss moving forward. The City decided these funds be used to fix roads within the city and drainage as the backup project if any remaining funds need to be utilized. AWC will be conducting surveys to see which road/s within the City would benefit most with also taking into consideration of previous LMI surveys. LMI must be met in order for the street to qualify using grant funds. The Grant amount is for \$500,000.

CDBG 2019 Floods & Hurricane Imelda:

Applications were due by August 1st. This is what we needed the original community surveys for. Since we did not have much feedback on the surveys, Traylor submitted these projects as urgent needs. We actually submitted 2 applications. One application was for Streets and drainage in the amount of 1 million, 10 thousand. The projects we selected were street improvements to improve drainage along Hulett Street & Kilmer Drive. The 2nd application was for development and construction for a water plant to provide water to the City in the amount of 1 million 10 thousand. We procured Traylor & Associates and Fittz & Shipman to work with on this Grant. We received response from GLO on 12/2/22 that applications are being reviewed and they have requested additional information in which must be provided by January 2023 to be considered. I will keep everyone updated.

The projects for these applications were brainstormed with Traylor and associates' staff during our monthly meeting as city needs/projects that would benefit the city and its citizens. We submitted 2 separate applications in case 1 project application is not selected. We can of course opt not to go forward with one or more of the applications if council chooses.

H20 Hazard Mitigation Plan- (Orange County Community wide grant):

This is a grant that the county is submitting as a whole. We have attended several in-person and online meetings with the County and surrounding cities to brainstorm eligible projects for each City and we also have several community wide projects that the county

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has chosen that will benefit the entire county. We have submitted our Action Plan to the County for review and have selected these eligible projects based upon our City needs such as assistance with Flood insurance premiums due to Hurricane Harvey, street & drainage improvements including water retention, detention ponds, upgrading culverts and clearing debris due to severe storms and weather, reconstruct city-wide flood prone properties, canopy cover in public park area for extreme heat & weather, area wide emergency alert system "Reverse 911" and digital weather signs, NOAA weather radios for police station and emergency response personnel, construct a community wide evacuation center, build safe room shelters in high risk areas for residents during severe weather alerts, and install outdoor city-wide warning siren. These projects are not guaranteed to be funded, but we at least have a good action plan to move forward with. The County will be submitting this application by, and then it will be a waiting stage. Will update when I have more information.

Update from Stevie with Orange County on H2O

Below is the remaining timeline of the SETRPC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update /Orange County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:

- Orange County draft Plan will be submitted to Orange County and the participating jurisdiction, ISDs, and special districts for review by the end of this week, early next. We will request a 2-week review period in which any revisions or feedback will be due back to us.
- My mid-August review feedback will be provided back to H2O and we will incorporate revisions into the Plan to submit to TDEM by August 31st, 2022.
- TDEM is usually a 6-week review period, however we are experiencing a longer review process on their end, so as of right now we are informing our clients to expect anywhere from 12-18 week review with TDEM.
- Once they complete their review, we will make any necessary revisions to submit to FEMA; if not revisions come from their review, it will be sent to FEMA for review and approval

I know Orange County plan expires on September 10th, 2022, in which we discussed with SETRPC and they further discussed on their 7/12/22 meeting the following:

- A letter can be sent requesting additional time to get approval to TDEM/FEMA for applications.
- This letter is called "Extraordinary Circumstance Letter (ECL)" – FEMA allows 12 months for ECL's. If the counties or any of the participating jurisdictions have applied under 4485 or previous disasters, they can submit an extraordinary circumstance letter

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stating they will have an approved and adopted plan within 12 months of accepting the award and that will cover them, IF the plan isn't approved at the time of the award from the grant.

- The extraordinary circumstance letter covers them for 12 months, however there shouldn't be any reason for this review to take anywhere near that amount of time.
- Even with the plans being expired, the Counties and jurisdictions will remain eligible for Public Assistance funds due to a tropical storm. And then once the HMGP funds become available for the disaster and jurisdictions want to apply for mitigation funding, they can still submit a letter of extraordinary circumstances

FMA Grant (piggyback with county)-

submitted 1 household. 140 Nagel Street due to excessive flooding. I believe a walk-through was completed at this address, and is currently being discussed within the county. Waiting for an update

C. Report from the CFO (Connie Stanton):

Connie Stanton lets council know that \$80,000 has been moved from the General Fund to the TexPool account. A check in the amount of \$20,000 has been applied to the loan at the bank.

D. Report from Road Committee:

Nothing to report.

Item 8: Discussion and possible action regarding possible annexation of property east of FM 105 at the request of the owners, Greg and Wendy Bailey. **NO ACTION NECESSARY**

Item 9: Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown made a motion to approve the Aerial Waiver from Orange County Mosquito Control District authorizing them to fly at low altitudes as required to apply insecticides for the abatement of mosquitos within the limits of the City of Pine Forest. Council Member Place 4 Cynthia Worsham 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

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Item 10: Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 03132023-1 authorizing the submission of an Texas Community Development Block Grant Program Application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund. Council Member Place 2/Mayor Pro Tem James McCullar 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 11: Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown made a motion to adopt Resolution # 03132023-2 authorizing City Representatives in matters pertaining to the City's participation in the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program. Council Member Place 2/Mayor Pro Tem James McCullar 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 12: Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown made a motion authorizing up to \$2,739 to purchase a double-sided Outdoor Message Center Cork Board 60x40 with Posts/Bottom Hinged with ARPA funds. Council Member Place 4 Cynthia Worsham 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 13: Discussion and possible action regarding the estimate given by Asphalt Maintenance Inc. for the road repairs on Medford. **TABLED**

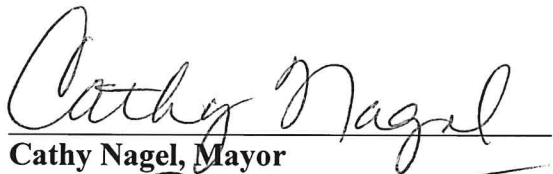
Item 14: Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Place 2/Mayor Pro Tem James McCullar James McCullar 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

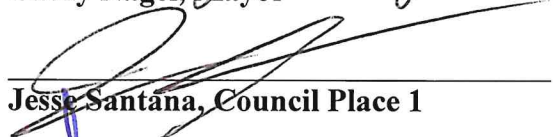
Adjournment @ 6:41 PM

City of Pine Forest



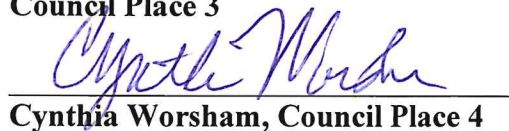
Signed and agreed this 10th day of April, 2023.



Cathy Nagel, Mayor


Jesse Santana, Council Place 1


James McCullar, Council Place 2

Council Place 3


Cynthia Worsham, Council Place 4


Wesley Brown, Council Place 5

Attest: 
City Attorney, Paul Fukuda

