

City of Pine Forest



Signed and agreed this 13th day of November, 2023.

Cathy Nagel, Mayor

Pauline Brown, Council Place 3

Cynthia Worsham, Council Place 4

Jesse Santana, Council Place 1

Wesley Brown, Council Place 5

Attest:

City Attorney, Paul Fukuda



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



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City of Pine Forest

SPECIAL MEETING: Monday October 16, 2023 at 6:00 PM, held at Pine Forest City Hall.

Council Present: Mayor Cathy Nagel, Council Member Place 1 Jesse Santana, Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member Place 2 James McCullar, Council Member Place 3 Pauline Brown, and Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown

Council Absent: Council Member Place 4 Cynthia Worsham

Others Present: Connie Stanton-CFO, Lacey Turner-City Secretary, Paul Fukuda- City Attorney, Janet Smith, Shahmawaz Momin, Sohail Momin

Item 1: Meeting Called to order at 6:00 PM.

Item 2: Invocation.

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

Item 4: Citizen/Visitor's Forum: Janet Smith stated "I have a few things to say." Mrs. Smith stated she has been away from her home off and on the last few months and went through last years and this year's budget and she was alarmed that only \$3390 is total income to the City for that budget year out of that only 8.46% of that income benefits the citizens of the city. That is going to be \$25,100. She claims that most of the income that comes into the city is budgeted towards administrative cost, of course the Council & the Mayor and the training. Out of that \$25,100 only \$8000 is budgeted for streets for maintenance and repair. The income the city receives comes from the 8 liners. The city shows \$90,000 income for this coming budget year from the 8 liner stores. She stated she can not imagine why the game rooms would pay out \$90,000 to run 8 liners machines in the stores and the establishments if they were not paying out money and making money. She stated while on council she physically saw with her own eyes a store pay out \$1500, \$600, \$500 and that's why she doesn't visit the stand alone game machines. She is concerned that the city is considering making a variance to an ordinance to allow another game room in our city limits. She is concerned that we allow the game rooms to

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stay open 24 hours which brings in some not so desirable people and elderly people playing for pastime. But they do not plan to win a novelty gift. She states that it should be enforced, not sure how it can be enforced, but it needs to be enforced and she doesn't see how that can be possible with a 20 hour a month volunteer Police Officer. She made a suggestion to council that if the City truly wants to have a police department maybe that money that we're allowing to come from these people should be placed in the police department and not the general fund to be spent on whatever.

Mayor stated that some of the money which comes from the gaming facilities is used towards the pay off of the extension of City Hall. Mrs. Smith stated "I am aware of that" and stated "the city pays \$13,500 a year." "Like the Office expenses are \$19,000, you have budgeted municipal court \$3900, I guess also tonight you are going to approve software or not. What is the price of that software? That's not in the agenda where yet the price for the fixing Sugarmill is. The Other thing I have a question about is the money that is being voted on tonight for the Sugarmill repair. When I was on council and I still have all of my notes, I know that company said they would pay for the repairs of that road, so if they're if not where is that money coming from?"

Mayor stated "They are paying for the repairs." Lacey Turner stated "The permit fees from the company pay for the repairs." Mrs. Smith "But yet the permit fees are in the total income, there's not a budget item for streets, is that because you're voting on it tonight?" City attorney Paul Fukuda stated that we could not answer questions because it was not an agenda item. Mrs. Smith stated "I'll come back if you want to address it another time. I know that that's the progress. I don't expect for you to do that. But I guess to when the agenda is put out and things that are going to be discussed in the meeting can those documents also be put on-line so that we can have those or can we request those prior to the meeting?" Lacey Turner stated "You would have to request prior to the meeting." Mrs. Smith stated "So make a public Information request?" "The other thing is I'd like to know is, I know Lacey has moved to City Secretary and we no longer have a Grant Administrator"

Mayor stated "Lacey is still the Grant Administrator as well" Mrs. Smith "Oh you're still doing that? Ok, so I guess the other thing I'd like to know is what grants are we applying for? What are we getting? Where is it being spent? The only thing I've seen spent from Grant money and that's just because I'm not here is a carport and a generac generator for here, but what's been done for the citizens?"

Cathy Nagel asked if she could address. Mrs. Smith stated "You don't have to." City attorney, Paul Fukuda stated "Y'all can talk outside of the meeting, there's nothing that says you can't, but if it's going to be here, it has to be on the agenda." Mrs. Smith stated "No offense to you gentlemen regarding your 8 liner machines" and stated "I'm just concerned because we are not a legalized gambling state, there is no regulations except for a sticker on that machine and that's it." "They know there's no officer that's going to come in there and surely when an officer is in there, they're not going to pay anybody, and it's everywhere, it's in the city limits of Vidor,

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it's in the county, and I think that's something that as a city you guys need to reconsider letting that in our city. I know it's a lot of money but is it worth what it brings in?" Mayor stated "Thank you for your comments."

Item 5: Mayors Comments:

No Comments.

Item 6: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Place 1 Council Member Jesse Santana 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 7:

A. Report from Interim Chief Ken Hobbs: NOT PRESENT

See attached Police logs for October 2023.

B. Report from Grant Coordinator (Lacey Turner):

See attached Report. Spoke about Current Grant Updates.

C. Report from the CFO (Connie Stanton):

Connie Stanton spoke about budget amendments and bank loan for city hall building.

Item 8: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to deny selling or leasing that tract of real property. Place 3 Council Member Pauline Brown 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 9: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to deny the permit for Lakeview Exxon. Mayor Pro Tem/Place 2 Council Member James McCullar 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Place 5 Council Member stated "With it being denied They could come back in 6 months to present to council again"

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Item 10: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to not purchase the software for the court system. Place 1 Council Member Jesse Santana 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 11: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to accept revisions to the description of the Police Chief Duties. Place 1 Council Member Jesse Santana 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 12: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to begin the process to fill the vacant Police position. Place 3 Council Member Pauline Brown 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 13: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to approve the bid from Asphalt Maintenance to do the repairs on Sugarmill Road in the amount of \$59,648.75. Place 1 Council Member Jesse Santana 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 14: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to grant GLO CDBG-DR Grant #20-065-154-B933- City of Pine Forest, Sugarmill, Lakeview and Clarence Streets Infrastructure Improvements project go to BDS Construction LLC also doing business as MK Construction of Vidor in the amount of \$1,284,657.35. Mayor Pro Tem/Place 2 Council Member James McCullar 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 15: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem/Place 2 Council Member James McCullar 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Adjournment @ 6:36 PM