

**City of Timpson
Regular Meeting
Minutes November 20, 2012**

The Timpson City Council met for a regular City Council meeting on November 20, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall located at 456 Jacob Street, Timpson, Texas with Mayor Debra Smith presiding. Councilwoman Ramsey, Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe, Councilman Walters, Councilman Baker, and Councilman Grace were present.

1. **Call to Order**-Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30
2. **Invocation**- Councilman Grace Gave the invocation
3. **Pledge-United States**
4. **Citizens Advisory Committee**-
5. **Chamber of Commerce**-Dustin Norris stated that, on behalf of the Chamber, he would like to thank the City Council for all of the work they have done improving the community including the new playgrounds and streets.
6. **Citizens Input**- none
7. **Council items**- Mayor Smith stated sales tax is up for the City and was one of the only towns in the area with an increase. Mayor Smith also announced the Christmas Parade will be at 2:00 on December the 8th. She explained there are only a few applications for the Pageant, and if more aren't received, the pageant will be cancelled, the council was also informed there will not be a bazaar this year. Mayor Smith stated the Christmas dinner for the City employees and council will be December 14, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at Waylon's in Center Texas. Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe stated he had inspected the amphitheater and gave his input on what will be needed to repair the amphitheater. Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe also stated he would like to look into getting reflective tape/plates for the motorized vehicles the citizens in the city use to improve the safety. Mayor Smith agreed and asked Chief Graham if he would look into this further to see how the City can be of assistance.
8. **Presentations & Recognitions**- Mayor Smith announced that Tanya Windham will be leaving as of November 23, 2012 due to a career change.
9. **FYI- (For Your Information)**
 - A. **Public Works Report for October 2012**- Tommy Sparks reported 39 work orders, 34 resolved, and five resolved from the past. He stated there is a bill for Loy Sonmor for \$4800.00 that was preapproved but had to have some help on another project while he was here so the bill is actually \$6,050.00. Mayor Smith stated there was a main water leak he assisted with but the \$4,800.00 was already approved. Councilwoman Ramsey inquired about the work order pertaining to the water leak at the school and Larry Burns stated there have been sewer issues the last few mornings, but they will try to fix the leak tomorrow
 - B. **Police Department Report for October 2012** - Chief Graham reported 140 calls for service and 9 arrests in the month of October 2012
 - C. **Municipal Court Report October 2012**- Tanya Windham reported 265 citations, 292 violations issued in October, gross revenue \$20,141.50 in October
 - D. **City Secretary**- Tanya Windham informed the council that all bank reconciliations are complete, grants are complete with the exception of the 2010 Water Improvement Project (two draws pending) and the USDA grant (draw pending). She explained that she and the Mayor have reviewed pertinent reports that need to be completed until the position is filled.

Consent Agenda

Items included under the Consent agenda require little or no deliberation by the council. Approval of the consent agenda authorizes the City Secretary to proceed with the conclusion of each item as reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

- A. **Consider approval of the minutes from the EDC meeting held on October 15, 2012**
- B. **Consider approval of minutes from the regular meeting on October 16, 2012 and Special meeting November 12, 2012**
- C. **Consider approval of Financial Statements for the month of October 2012**
- D. **Consider approval of Accounts Payable for the month of November 2012 in the amount of \$137,989.10 (\$45,695.79 regular a/p, \$92,296.31 Deep East Texas)**

After a brief discussion of the items, Councilman Grace moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Ramsey, all in favor.

Regular Agenda

10. Consider authorizing changes to the animal control procedures (animal control officer Jack Burros will be present) Jack Burros was not present. Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe stated that he would like to see owners become responsible for their animals by making sure they are vaccinated and have a collar with the owners contact information. He said any animal that doesn't have this information should be picked up and processed as the City is currently doing, however, if the animal is causing a problem and the owner can be identified, they should be held accountable. No action

11. Consider approval of bid received on property 11480 in the amount of \$5,102.00- Mayor Smith stated this bid has been approved by the commissioners court and the Timpson ISD board. Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe asked if this would cover the back taxes and Mayor Smith explained the taxes owed are approximately \$5,300.00. After more discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe moved to approve the bid, motion seconded by Councilwoman Ramsey, all in favor.

12. Review quotes received and consider approval, authorizing the annual fire hydrant audit- The Council reviewed a bid from Hydratec in the amount of \$5100.00 and Capitol Hydrant in the amount of \$5100.00. Mayor Smith asked if Larry Burns who he would recommend and stated he would recommend Hydratec only because they can make repairs and Capitol Hydrant can't. Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe moved to approve the bid from Hydratec, seconded by Councilwoman Baker, all in favor.

13. Consider eliminating local 911 dispatching (county to take over 911 dispatch) Mayor Smith stated that this is being considered for numerous reasons. The City is expending \$12,000-\$15,000.00 annually for this service. She explained that the citizens are already paying for the 911 service on all of their phone bills and she doesn't feel it should be paid to 911 and paid by the citizens for the local service. Mayor Smith explained there is a liability to the City because the dispatchers are trained, and also there is a hardship on the office staff because they are working to complete their daily duties and required to dispatch calls that come in during business hours. She explained that she appreciates the job the dispatchers have done, however, she and the council are responsible for the City and have to look at this item as impersonally as possible. Mayor Smith explained the Police Department is already being dispatched by the Sheriff's office because the dispatchers aren't qualified to handle those calls. She explained that if the local service is eliminated, the ambulance and fire department will be dispatched, but it will be through 911. Mayor Smith heard from members in the audience including Billy Hailey, Tracy Lee, Mr. & Mrs. Stuts, Sam Grabouski, Olga Hughes, Roger Harding, and members of the Tenaha VFD. All members in the audience with the exception of the members of the Tenaha VFD stated they disagreed with eliminating the local service, mainly because 911 can't find some of the locations. Tracy Lee had a contract from 1978 she read stating the City agreed to provide local dispatchers for the ambulance service. Mayor Smith reviewed the two page document and noticed there was no signature page. Mayor Smith asked Mrs. Lee to provide the City Secretary with the entire document tomorrow and she recommended the council postpone action on this item until the attorney can review the contract. After more discussion, Councilman Grace moved to postpone the item until January, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe. Mayor Smith asked Mrs. Hughes if she would like to be on the January agenda and she stated she would. Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe stated he was told to "vote right" before the meeting and he did not appreciate that comment. He stated this would not be a political decision for him and he would do what he felt was best for the City

14. Consider approval of a resolution of authority at Austin Bank and Texas State Bank changing the signature cards (removing Tanya Windham) - After a brief discussion, Councilman Grace moved to approve the resolutions, seconded by Councilwoman Baker, all in favor

15. Consider approval of a resolution designating authorized person(s) to sign the documents pertaining to TXCDBG Contract DRS220187/GLO (Hurricane Ike Grant Round 2 Funding) After a brief discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Grace, all in favor

16. Consider authorizing a resolution authorizing the participation in the Local Government Purchasing Cooperative Program- Mayor Smith explained the City purchased a tractor from John Deere and to receive it at the price the City got it for, the City must be a part of this program. After a brief discussion, Councilman Walters moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Ramsey, all in favor.

17. Consider approval of a Resolution requesting state legislators requesting the City of Timpson sponsor and support enabling legislation to allow the citizens of the City to choose whether or not to establish a ground water conservation district- After a brief discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Ramsey, all in favor.

18. Consider approval of ordinance 2012/11/20/1 establishing maximum speeds of motor vehicles in certain areas as designated by the Texas Department of Transportation- Mayor Smith explained TxDot has completed a speed study and has recommend speed limits in designated areas of the City. Mayor Smith explained that after the ordinance is passed, TxDot will install the signs. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Ramsey moved to approve the ordinance, seconded by Councilman Grace, all in favor.

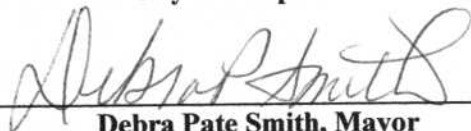
19. Consider designating Paula Mullins as interim/acting City Secretary until the position of City Secretary is filled- Mayor Smith explained someone has to be responsible for signing documents until the position is filled. After a brief discussion, Mayor Pro-Tem Wolfe moved to appoint Paula Mullins as interim City Secretary, seconded by Councilwoman Ramsey, all in favor

20. Consider amending the City of Timpson employee handbook implementing a policy pertaining to City email accounts- Mayor Smith explained the email accounts should be sub accounts of the City of Timpson and effective January 1, 2013, she would like the employees to use @cityoftimpson.com email addresses. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Baker moved to approve the amendment, seconded by Councilman Walters, all in favor.

21. Consider authorizing the City of Timpson employee Christmas compensation- After a brief discussion, Councilman Grace moved to authorize \$400.00 for each full time employee, and \$200.00 for all part time employees (dispatchers and judge) payable on the next pay period, November 21, 2012 and to include Tanya Windham, motion seconded by Councilwoman Baker, all in favor..

22. Adjourn- Councilman Walters moved to adjourn at 7:15p.m., all were in favor.

City of Timpson



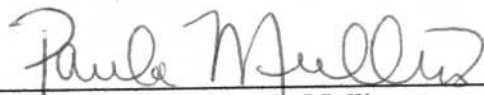
Debra Pate Smith, Mayor

(THE STATE OF TEXAS)
COUNTY OF TEXAS)

CERTIFICATION

I, Paula Mullins, Interim City Secretary of the City of Timpson, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the records of the City of Timpson, Texas, and that the following are true and correct copies of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held on November 20, 2012

Witness my hand and official seal of the City of Timpson, Texas on this 21st day of November 2012.



Paula Mullins,
Interim City Secretary, City of Timpson, Texas

