

THE LEVELLAND CITY COUNCIL MET IN EMERGENCY SESSION ON THURSDAY, THE 26TH OF MARCH 2020 AT LEVELLAND CITY HALL, R. O. DENNIS COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1709 AVENUE H, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Barbra Pinner	Honorable Mayor	Via Video Conferencing
Jim Myatt	Councilmember	Via Video Conferencing
Max Ledesma	Mayor Pro-Tem	Via Video Conferencing
Breann Buxkemper	Councilmember	Via Video Conferencing
Joe Bill Vardeman	Councilmember	Via Video Conferencing
Matt Wade	City Attorney	Absent
Erik Rejino	City Manager	Present
Beth A. Walls	City Secretary	Present

In accordance with order of the Office of Governor issued March 16, 2020, the City Council of the City of Levelland conducted this meeting in the R.O. Dennis City Council Chambers, located at 1709 Avenue H, Levelland, Texas by video/telephone conference in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called “social distancing”) to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The members of the City Council participated in this meeting remotely through video conference providing for two-way video and audio communication for each member of the City Council.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation was given by Mayor Pinner and Joe Bill Vardeman.

Statements by Citizens:

The meeting was conducted via zoom and live streamed via Facebook. The public was permitted to offer public comments during this portion of the meeting telephonically and via comments on the Facebook Live stream.

One comment was received regarding a local restaurant’s operation.

FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Discussion and necessary action to renew and/or amend by means of Resolution 2020-09 the City of Levelland Declaration of Local State of Disaster due to a Public Health Emergency as it relates to COVID-19 dated March 19, 2020.

Motion by Joe Bill Vardeman

Seconded by Breann Buxkemper

To approve Resolution 2020-09 amending the City of Levelland Declaration of Local State of Disaster due to a Public Health Emergency as it relates to COVID-19 dated March 19, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

SECOND ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on Ordinance # 1048-B amending Ordinance # 858 amending the City of Levelland Emergency Management Program.

City Secretary Beth A. Walls read Ordinance # 1048-B

Motion by Joe Bill Vardeman

Seconded by Breann Buxkemper

To approve Ordinance # 1048-B amending Ordinance # 858 amending the City of Levelland Emergency Management Program.

Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth A Walls, TRMC, IPMA-SCP, CPM, City Secretary

THE LEVELLAND CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, THE 30TH OF MARCH 2020 AT LEVELLAND CITY HALL, R. O. DENNIS COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1709 AVENUE H, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Barbra Pinner	Honorable Mayor	Via Video Conferencing
Jim Myatt	Councilmember	Via Video Conferencing
Max Ledesma	Mayor Pro-Tem	Via Video Conferencing
Breann Buxkemper	Councilmember	Via Video Conferencing
Joe Bill Vardeman	Councilmember	Via Video Conferencing
Matt Wade	City Attorney	Via Video Conferencing
Erik Rejino	City Manager	Via Video Conferencing
Beth A. Walls	City Secretary	Present

In accordance with order of the Office of Governor issued March 16, 2020, the City Council of the City of Levelland conducted this meeting in the R.O. Dennis City Council Chambers, located at 1709 Avenue H, Levelland, Texas by video/telephone conference in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called “social distancing”) to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The members of the City Council participated in this meeting remotely through video conference providing for two-way video and audio communication for each member of the City Council.

Invocation was given by Mayor Pinner.

Statements by Citizens:

The meeting was conducted via zoom and live streamed via Facebook. The public was permitted to offer public comments during this portion of the meeting telephonically and via comments on the Facebook Live stream.

No comments via telephone process. We had many questions asked by people on Facebook Live regarding the proposed Stay at Home order.

FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Discuss and consider approving Resolution 2020-11, implementing additional restrictions and regulations regarding the Public Health Emergency to contain and prevent the continued spread of COVID-19.

Motion by Joe Bill Vardeman

Seconded by Breann Buxkemper

To approve Resolution 20-11, implementing additional restrictions and regulations regarding the Public Health Emergency to contain and prevent the continued spread of COVID-19.

Motion carried unanimously.

SECOND ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 regular meeting.

Motion by Jim Myatt

Seconded by Breann Buxkemper

To approve the minutes of the March 2, 2020 regular meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

THIRD ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on a request for funding from the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund for the ABC Rodeo.

The Tourism & Lodging Committee recently met and considered a funding request from the ABC Rodeo. During the meeting, the committee recommended funding as follows:

ABC Rodeo

Event Date: May 28th – 30th

Location: Mallet Event Center & Arena
Requested: \$3,500
Recommendation: \$ 3,500
New Event/No History

As of the end of February there were \$187,119.39 in the HOT Fund.

Motion by Breann Buxkemper
Seconded by Joe Bill Vardeman
To approve the Hotel Occupancy Tax funds request for the ABC Rodeo in the amount of \$3,500.
Motion carried unanimously.

FOURTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action regarding an agreement with Keep Texas Beautiful, to participate in the Keep Texas Recycling Program.

The City of Levelland began operations of the Levelland Recycling Center in 2009 after receiving a regional solid waste grant in 2008. In February of 2011 the City of Levelland entered into an agreement with Cooperative Teamwork & Recycling Assistance (CTRA). CTRA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which was formed in November 1994 based on the concept of cooperative marketing. CTRA consisted of 60 rural recycling cooperatives representing more than 500 public, private and nonprofit entities. Their mission has been to provide cooperative marketing of recyclable commodities to promote the development of end-market for recyclables in Texas and to promote education about recycling. Through the various partnerships that CTRA has they have been able to negotiate competitive prices for recyclables for their customers. CTRA also coordinates the sale and pickup of recyclables for their customers. Lastly they serve as a support and information resource to their customers due to their expertise in recycling. CTRA provides these services through a 10 percent fee charged on the sale of recyclables.

In January of this year CTRA merged with Keep Texas Beautiful to form a new program called Keep Texas Recycling. While CTRA is now dissolved the services to implement and expand recycling programs will continue through Keep Texas Recycling. The new program will continue to provide cooperative marketing of recyclables and commodities and technical assistance in the areas of recycling.

Staff recommended that we enter into a new agreement with Keep Texas Beautiful to participate in the Keep Texas Recycling Program. While the contract is a two year contract, there is a clause in the contract that allows either party to withdraw from the contract as long as a 30 day notice is provided to the other party.

Motion by Joe Bill Vardeman
Seconded by Breann Buxkemper
To approve the agreement with Keep Texas Beautiful to participate in the Keep Texas Recycling Program.
Motion carried unanimously.

FIFTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on Resolution 2020-10 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a license and right of way usage agreement with South Plains College.

South Plains College (SPC) approached us about use of our right of way. As you know, SPC recently held their annual scholarship gala. One of the items that was auctioned off was naming rights on a street sign. The sign will be located at the corner of Lamar Drive and C.M. Sanders Drive which is west of the administration building at SPC. The sign will also meet the same reflectivity standards that our normal sign standards dictate. In addition the pole will be a breakaway pole similar to our other street signs. When we were first approached about this I had both Chief Garcia and Director of Streets and Sanitation Kevin Hurn look into the possibility and we found no issue with allowing the sign to be placed in this location.

Similar to what we did for the Cochran-Hockley County Association of Retired Teachers to place a Little Free Library at Sherman Park City Attorney Matt Wade has drafted a license agreement that will allow SPC use of the City right of way. We feel this is a simple way for the City to support one of our partners by allowing them use of the right of way.

Motion by Breann Buxkemper

Seconded by Jim Myatt

To approve Resolution 2020-10 authorizing the City Manager to enter into a license and right of way usage agreement with South Plains College.

Motion carried unanimously.

SIXTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action to award bid for Wastewater Department Pickup.

The current budget includes funds to replace three vehicles in the Water Department, one vehicle in the Waste Water Department, and one vehicle in the Inspections Department. A bid opening for these vehicles was held on December 1st and the bids received were as follows:

Water Department Pick Up:

Bidder	Vehicle Bid	Bid Amount	Trade In	Total
Smith South Plains	2020 Ford F-250	\$27,630.63	\$3,500.00	\$24,130.63

The bid is within the budgeted amount of \$35,000 in the wastewater department.

Motion by Joe Bill Vardeman

Seconded by Jim Myatt

To award the bid for the Wastewater Department Pickup truck to Smith South Plains.

Motion carried unanimously.

SEVENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on an interlocal agreement with the City of Clyde regarding the transfer of disc golf baskets.

This past fall the Parks Department reworked the entire disc golf course at City Park. The original 18-hole course was installed back in the early 2000s. After nearly 20 years the course was in need of repairs and improvements. Director of Parks and Cemetery Dustin Reichelt worked with local disc golf enthusiast to redevelop a 10-hole course with new baskets and signage.

At this time, we have 18 baskets from the original course that we need to dispose of. The baskets are not in very good shape which is the reason we replaced them. However, Dustin has been in conversations with the City of Clyde, a small community outside of Abilene, that has some interest and use in the 18 baskets.

Staff recommended that we give the disc golf baskets to the City of Clyde as long as they agree to pick them up. That will keep us from having to dispose of them and allows the baskets to be used by another municipality. This would be similar to other interlocal agreements that have been approved by Council such as the Christmas decorations given to the City of Ropesville.

Motion by Breann Buxkemper

Seconded by Jim Myatt

To approve an interlocal agreement with the City of Clyde regarding the transfer of disc golf baskets.

Motion carried unanimously.

EIGHTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action to approve the 2019 Annual Police Racial Profiling Report.

Chief Garcia presented the annual racial profiling report as well as the annual activity report.

Motion by Breann Buxkemper
Seconded by Joe Bill Vardeman
To approve the 2019 Annual Police Racial Profiling Report.
Motion carried unanimously.

NINTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action to approve the 2019 Annual Police Activity Reports.

Motion by Joe Bill Vardeman
Seconded by Max Ledesma
To approve the 2019 Annual Police Activity Reports
Motion carried unanimously.

TENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action on an amendment regarding the lease extension for the Sports Complex Farm with Wells Produce through December 31,2020.

Last month the City Council moved forward with extending the lease agreement with Wells Produce through the end of the calendar year. The 19 acres being leased are located east of the sports complex as shown on the map following this memo. The majority of this land is master planned for a future phase of the Levelland-Oxy Sports Complex. At this time the City nor the Levelland Community Development Corporation have the funding to proceed with another phase of the sports complex which is the reason this land has been leased in recent years.

Mr. Joe Bob Wells with Wells Produce approached me recently and asked us to amend the lease agreement that Council approved last month. Mr. Wells came in earlier this month and asked if we could change the lease agreement to where the agreement is directly between him (Joe Bob Wells) and not Wells Produce. He indicated that when he went to renew the insurance for the property he is leasing, his insurance company was requiring him to purchase two insurance policies because both Wells Produce and himself were listed on the lease. He mentioned this has not been an issue in prior years.

Accordingly, he has requested that we amend the current agreement and remove Wells Produce and just make the agreement directly between himself and the City. I have checked with City Attorney Matt Wade and we don't see any issues with doing this. At this time staff is recommending we make this change for Mr. Wells as there is no disadvantage to the City that we have been able to identify.

Motion by Breann Buxkemper
Seconded by Jim Myatt
To approve an amendment to the lease extension for the Sports Complex Farm with Wells Produce through December 31, 2020.
Motion carried unanimously.

ELEVENTH ITEM OF BUSINESS:

Consider and take necessary action to award a contract for an automated weather observing system for the Levelland Municipal Airport.

Last year the City Council and the County Commissioners authorized City staff to formally request funding from TxDOT Aviation to assist with the installation of an automated weather observing system (AWOS). Also last year the City and the County committed \$25,000 each from the airport oil royalties to go towards a matching grant with TxDOT. The grant received is for \$150,000 making the total funds available for the project \$200,000.

Since receiving the grant award, we have been working with TxDOT to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the AWOS. The RFP was released last month, and bids were due back on March 11th. The bid we received was as follows:

DBT Transportation Services: \$180,293.00

Staff recommended that we award the project to DBT Transportation Services.

Motion by Joe Bill Vardeman

Seconded by Jim Myatt

To award a contract with DBT Transportation Services in the amount of \$180,293.00 for an automated weather observing system for the Levelland Municipal Airport.

Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth A Walls, TRMC, IPMA-SCP, CPM, City Secretary