CITY COUNCIL MEETING
City Council
December 19, 2023
6:00 p.m.      City Hall

City Officials Present:
Mayor                      Edward Adams
Mayor Pro Tem              Mary Speidel
Councilmember             Nathan Lindeman
Councilmember             Danny Davila
Councilmember             Greg Ybarra
City Manager               John Hobson
City Secretary             Cathy Duhart
City Attorney              Desiree Voth
Utility Clerk              Angela Montemayor

The Sinton City Council held a City Council Meeting on January 16, 2024, in the Council Chambers of the Sinton City Hall. A notice of this meeting was posted at least 72 hours in advance in accordance with Section 551, Texas Government Code. With a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

Citizens present: Matthew Garza, Estevan Guerra, Norma Jean Rivera

Mayor Edward Adams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Invocation was given by City Councilmember Danny Davila, and all present recited the American and Texas pledges. Roll Call was then taken.

Mayor Adams stated that this is the first meeting of the new year and he is looking forward to the new year and that the city is looking good.

PUBLIC HEARING

Special Reports/Presentations/Formal Announcements, Recognition, and Reports that may be discussed:

1. Sinton ISD—Mrs. Troup, School & Community Relations Coordinator was not present.

2. Sinton Chamber of Commerce—Norma Jean Rivera, Chamber of Commerce Board Member, was present and introduced the newly appointed President/CEO of the Sinton Chamber, Estevan Guerra, who will be starting January 22, 2024. There were five applicants interviewed and he was the one chosen for the position. Mr. Guerra is a 2006 graduate from Sinton High School and he was recently the Director of Visitor Services Center for Visit Corpus Christi and has a background with the Disney Company.
Citizens to Be Heard: None

CONSENT AGENDA:
(All of the following items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be self-explanatory by the Council and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member, staff member or citizen requests removal of the item from the consent agenda for the purpose of discussion. For removal of an item, a request must be made to the Council when the Consent Agenda is opened for Council Action.)

1. Discussion and action on the Special City Council Meeting Minutes from the meeting held on December 5, 2023.
2. Discussion and action on the City Council Meeting Minutes from the meeting held on December 19, 2023.
3. Discussion and action on approving the 2024 City of Sinton General and Special Election Calendar.

Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items. The second was made by Councilmember Nathan Lindeman. The motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

No. 11627 ACTION ON A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FOR FILING A PETITION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOMERSET PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2; CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADVISABILITY OF THE CREATION OF SAID DISTRICT; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOTICE BY THE CITY SECRETARY REGARDING THE PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THERewith, ORDINANCE NO. 2023-17, AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED PROJECT PLAN AND FINANCING AND ENLARGING THE BOUNDARIES OF REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE, CITY OF SINTON, TEXAS (SOMERSET DEVELOPMENT) TO INCLUDE ADJACENT PROPERTY FOR TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PURPOSES AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING.

Mr. Hobson advised this Resolution is the first step in establishing Public Improvement District No. 2 which will incorporate the property south of the existing Public Improvement District No. 1. This does not include the San Patricio County Courthouse, but everything surrounding it; where ECOR will go. This has been reviewed by our Bond Counsel Mr. Binford and Financial Advisor Mr. McCliney and everything is in order to proceed.

Councilmember Nathan Lindeman made the motion to approve Resolution No. 20240116, a Resolution accepting for filing a petition for establishment of the
Somerset Public Improvement District No. 2. The second was made by Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel. The motion carried 5-0.

No. 11628  Action on THE CITY’S ENTERING INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SOMERSET LAND DEVELOPMENT, LLC RELATING TO PROPOSED SOMERSET PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2 AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY SECRETARY TO EXECUTE ON THE CITY’S BEHALF.

Mr. Hobson advised that this Professional Services Agreement was also done with Somerset Public Improvement District No. 1 which will cover any of the expenses incurred in establishing Somerset Public Improvement District No. 2. By law, the PID creator is responsible for those expenses from any professional services from Bond Counsel, Financial Advisors, or from PID Administrators. The applicant, Wiley McIlvain has established an account of $50,000 that will be used to pay those expenses and this Resolution just puts everything into place.

Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel made the motion to approve the City’s entering into a Professional Services Agreement with Somerset Land Development, LLC relating to proposed Somerset Public Improvement District No. 2. The second was made by Councilmember Nathan Lindeman. The motion carried 5-0.

No. 11629  Action on appointing Fontaine M. Gonzalez as Municipal Court Judge.

Mr. Hobson advised that Fontaine M. Gonzalez had previously been appointed as Special Judge of the Sinton Municipal Court because she did not reside in the city limits. Fontaine Gonzalez now resides in the city limits and is now qualified to serve as Municipal Court Judge.

Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel made the motion to appoint Fontaine M. Gonzalez as Municipal Court Judge for the Sinton Municipal Court. The second was made by Councilmember Danny Davila. The motion carried 5-0.

No. 11630  Action on awarding a Buyboard bid to Fun Abounds for the purchase and installation of playground equipment.

Mr. Hobson advised that the Parks Advisory Board met tonight, prior to this meeting and they did recommend moving forward with this project. Mr. Hobson has been working with a company called Fun Abounds out of Sugar Land, Texas; they are a distributor for BCI Burk—they provide the playground equipment. The total bid was $548,886 and it is within the budget provided.

Councilmember Greg Ybarra made the motion to award a BuyBoard bid to Fun Abounds for the purchase and installation of playground equipment. The second was made by Councilmember Nathan Lindeman. The motion carried 5-0.
No. 11631  Action on contracting with San Patricio County Election’s Office to run the City of Sinton Elections beginning May 4, 2024.

Cathy Duhart, City Secretary advised that the City did contract with San Patricio County Election’s Office for last year’s election, and are wanting to contract again for City of Sinton Elections on May 4, 2024.

Councilmember Nathan Lindeman made the motion to contract with the San Patricio County Election’s Office to run the City of Sinton Elections. The second was made by Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel. The motion carried 5-0.

No. 11632  Action on setting February 13, 2024 as the date for the City Council Meeting in February. This is to be in compliance with the last day to call the Election.

Cathy Duhart, City Secretary advised that the Election has to be called by statutory date of February 16, 2024, which can’t be changed. The City Council Meeting being moved up to February 13, 2024 will ensure we are in compliance with the State regarding elections.

Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel made the motion to set February 13, 2024 as the date for the City Council Meeting in February. The second was made by Councilmember Greg Ybarra. The motion carried 5-0.

No. 11633  Action on appointing an Alternate Member to the Board of Adjustment to fill a vacancy.

Cathy Duhart, City Secretary advised that there are three Alternate Members for the Board of Adjustment, to be used in the case of a board member being absent or not able to attend the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel suggested Roland Cantu to fill the vacancy.

Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel made the motion to appoint Roland Cantu as an Alternate Member to the Board of Adjustment to fill a vacancy. The second was made by Councilmember Nathan Lindeman. The motion carried 5-0.

The motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Danny Davila. The second was made by Mayor Pro Tem Mary Speidel. The motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Edward Adams

Attest: City Secretary Cathy Duhart