

**LONE STAR CITY COUNCIL
FIRE HALL – 201 WEST INDUSTRIAL
March 18, 2021, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

*We reserve the right to enter into Executive Session on any Agenda item pertaining to
TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. Sections 551.071-551.078, 551.087-551.089*

In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code, the City of Lone Star issues this public notice. If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in executive or closed session, the board will convene in such executive or closed session in accordance with Section 551 of the Texas Government Code, Et Seq. The City Council will consider and act on the following items:

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on the meeting notice.

This meeting will be closed to in-person attendance by the public. A temporary suspension of the Open Meetings Act to allow telephone or videoconference public meetings has been granted by Governor Greg Abbott. These actions are being taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring people into a group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code. Telephonic capabilities will be utilized to allow individuals to address the Council. Emails may also be submitted. **Members of the public are entitled to participate remotely via GoToMeeting Teleconferencing.** Citizens may join the GoToMeeting by logging on at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/279857501> . They may also join by calling **+1 (646) 749-3122** and entering the Access Code: **279-857-501**. Participants will be asked to **mute their phones/microphones** until invited to speak during the Public Comments part of the meeting. There will be an audio recording made of the meeting and uploaded to the City website the next business day.

Members of the public who wish to submit their written comments on a listed agenda item must submit their comments by emailing citysecretary@lonestartx.net or by calling 903-656-2311 for staff assistance.

Comments must be received before 3:00 p.m., Thursday, March 18, 2021.

MINUTES

Present were Mayor Pro Tem Jerri Chism, Aldermen Rudy Dudley, Mona Brown, Lynn Cox, Jeremy Livingston and City Secretary Tina Love. Absent was Mayor Randy Hodges.

1. CALL TO ORDER by Mayor Pro Tem Jerri Chism at 6:05 PM

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**Invocation led by Lynn Cox
Pledge of Allegiance - All in Unison**

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS: *At this time, anyone will be allowed to speak on any matter other than personnel matters or matters under litigation, for length of time not to exceed three minutes. No Council/Board discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law.]*

NONE

4. CONSENT ITEMS:

Minutes of the Regular Meeting on February 24, 2021.

A motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on February 24, 2021 was made by Lynn Cox, with a second by Rudy Dudley. All present voted aye.

5. REPORTS:

5-1: Judge/Court Report

- 5-2: Police Department Report
- 5-3: Fire Chief Report
- 5-4: Public Works Report
- 5-5: Water District Report
- 5-6: Financial Reports
 - a. Water and Sewer Fund
 - b. General Fund

A motion to approve Reports 5-1 through 5-6 a. and b. was made by Mona Brown, with a second by Lynn Cox. All present voted aye.

6. ACTION ITEMS

- 6-1: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to appoint election judges for the upcoming May 1st election.

A motion to elect Natalie Livingston and Latricia Ottinger as election judges for the May 1st election was made by Mona Brown, with a second by Rudy Dudley. All present voted aye.

- 6-2: Review, Discussion and Possible Action by the Council to consider allowing Paul Dorough to take the public works vehicle home for call outs.

Public Waterworks Supervisor, Shane Townson, presented to the council the response time would be quicker and overtime rate less if Paul Dorough was allowed to take the public works vehicle home for callouts.

A motion to allow Paul Dorough to take the public works vehicle home for callouts was made by Mona Brown, with a second by Jeremy Livingston. All present voted aye.

- 6-3: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to consider reinstating the \$3.00 service charge for credit card payments taken over the phone.

The City Secretary asked the council to consider re-instating the \$3.00 services charge for credit card payments taken over the phone to offset incurred monthly credit card charges paid by the city.

A motion to reinstate the \$3.00 service charge for phone credit card payments was made by Rudy Dudley, with a second by Mona Brown. All present voted aye.

- 6-4: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to establish the effective date for the CenterPoint Energy 2021 Annual gas reliability infrastructure program (GRIP).

The City Secretary presented to the City Council the CenterPoint Energy 2021 Annual GRIP Adjustment for the Beaumont/East Texas Division interim rate adjustment (IRA). The proposed IRA would become effective on May 3, 2021, unless the City suspends the date for no longer than 45 days. The proposed IRA

would increase residential customer rates \$2.39/month, General Service (small volume) \$3.92/month and General Service (large volume) \$18.31/month.

A motion to suspend the CenterPoint Energy IRA for 45 days was made by Lynn Cox, with a second by Jeremy Livingston. All present voted aye.

6-4: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to discuss the cost and repairs for the electronic sign.

Mitch Cox, EDC Chairman and Rudy Dudley, EDC Member provided the Council information about the cost to repair the electronic sign located downtown. It has been inoperable for a while and interest has been expressed by citizens in getting it repaired.

On March 22, 2021, Rudy Dudley met with Carla Martin of Sign Express in Mt. Pleasant Tx. from whom we purchased the sign in 2015. Rudy provided Ms. Martin pictures of the sign display and discussed some of the problems encountered. An estimate to repair the sign cannot be determined until the sign is evaluated. An estimate for the components to repair the sign are listed below:

Trip cost to evaluate the sign:	\$150.00 per trip
Cost of power supply, approximately 26 each	\$ 96.00 each
Cost of electronic modules, approximately 90 - 100 each	\$ 45.00 each

To purchase a new sign, same size, is approximately \$48,000.00. The cost to repair the current sign is undetermined but based upon the provided cost of power supplies and electronic modules could cost approximately \$7,500 if all components had to be replaced. The EDC is asking the City Council to consider approval to spend up to \$10,000 to repair the sign.

A motion to spend up to \$10,000 to repair the electronic sign was made by Mona Brown, with a second from Lynn Cox. All present voted aye.

6-5: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to discuss improvements to the Fire Department building.

Chief Blythe discussed improvements recently made to the Fire Department meeting room with funds donated by the PD and FD. The Council was asked if the City would consider using money from a CD to help pay for additional improvements. A quote was provided by CNH Development to remodel the interior at \$20,982.76. This quote includes removing the existing panel, install, tape, and texture new drywall, paint, install new baseboard, remove and replace existing counter tops, install back splash, install Wayne's coat on outside of kitchen island, install new ceiling fixtures and replace with 4 ft. LED lights, and install new electrical trim for outlets, switches and cover plates. The Council asked for the current quote be itemized and asked for additional quotes be obtained for comparison. A recent leak in the roof prompted discussion about the roofs condition, age, and potential damages incurred by recent storms. The group discussed additional items in the building which needed to be evaluated, but agreed no remodeling would occur until the roof was evaluated.

A motion to have the insurance company evaluate the roof for damages and additional itemized quotes be provided to the Council was made by Lynn Cox, with a Second by Rudy Dudley. All present voted Aye.

6-6: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council for variance to 217 W. Germany and Rocky Point Adventures.

Kevin Martin expressed his concerns about fencing and other issues observed at Rocky Point. He identified the current fence as a safety issue and is concerned of someone getting hurt. He asked about city ordinances pertaining to alcohol sales, hours of operation for businesses which sale alcohol, and noise ordinances. He questioned the special event hours for activities at Rocky Point and wanted to know if there were a way the neighbors could be notified of when special activities are to occur. He also asked about the variance for 217 W. Germany and would like to know if there is a plan or drawing for what is going to be placed there.

The council discussed the need to look at ordinances to see what is in existence and determine if new ones are required.

A motion to table this item until review of ordinances was made by Rudy Dudley, with a second by Lynn Cox. All present voted aye.

8. ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Mona Brown, with a second by Jeremy Livingston. All preset voted aye.

/s/ Jerri Chism
Jerri Chism, Mayor Pro Tem

/s/ Tina Love
Tina Love, City Secretary