

April 6, 2015

On this the 6th day of April 2015 6:30 P.M., the City Commission of the City of Hereford, Texas, convened in a regular session in the Commission Chamber, in the City Hall, the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting having been given as prescribed by Chapter 551 of the Government Code, with the following members being present and in attendance, to-wit:

Robert D. Josserand, Mayor
 Jose A. Garza, Commissioner Place One
 Angie Alonzo, Commissioner Place Two
 Linda Cumpston, Commissioner, Place Four
 Cathy Bunch, Commissioner Place Five
 Sam Metcalf, Commissioner Place Six
 Rick L. Hanna, City Manager
 Suzanne Finch, City Secretary

Absent: Charlie Kerr, Commissioner Place Three
 Slater C. Elza, City Attorney

Mike Higgins from the Hereford Brand was in attendance to witness the proceedings. Also in attendance were Audie Sciumbato, Tom Simons, and Seletta Gholson.

Mayor Josserand voiced the invocation and then called upon Commissioner Cumpston to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag. He then called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and introduced each item on the agenda.

REGULAR HEARING:

ITEM 1 - Consider approval of minutes for the March 16th, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Bunch made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Metcalf seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

PUBLIC HEARING:

ITEM 2 - Consider rezoning request for property located in the 900 Block of S. Jackson on the east side of the street (vacant lots). (Requested by Jose R. Jaramillo Olmos)

Mayor Josserand stated the Planning & Zoning Commission met March 31st and they voted to deny the request. He noted the way the by-laws are written it takes a heavy majority [requires "the favorable vote of three-fourths (3/4) of all the members of the City Commission"] to turn over the decision of the Planning & Zoning Commission. He noted since the full Commission was not present, they were not in a position to override the Planning & Zoning Commission; so, their decision would be upheld.

REGULAR HEARINGS:

ITEM 3 - Consider approval of appointments to the City's Board of Electrical Examiners.

Mayor Josserand noted the terms of Jerry Ethridge and Leroy Lucero expire this month. Mr. Lucero moved and is ineligible to serve; Joe Sanchez is willing to serve as a Master Electrician on the board.

Commissioner Cumpston made the motion to re-appoint Jerry Ethridge and to appoint Joe Sanchez to serve a four-year term on the City's Board of Electrical Examiners. Commissioner Garza seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 4 - Consider approval of appointments to the City's Plumbing and Mechanical Board of Adjustments and Appeals.

Mayor Josserand stated the four-year terms of Harold Barrett and Shannon Wilburn expire April 2015 and the position for a licensed heating and air conditioning contractor is vacant; Mack Nielsen is willing to serve in this position.

Commissioner Metcalf made the motion to re-appoint Harold Barrett and Shannon Wilburn and to appoint Mack Nielsen to serve a four-year term on the City's Plumbing and Mechanical Board of Adjustments and Appeals. Commissioner Cumpston seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 5 - Consider Ordinance No. 04.06.15 approving a negotiated resolution between the Atmos West Texas Cities Steering Committee ("WTX Cities") and Atmos Energy Corp., West Texas Division regarding the Company's 2014 Rate Review Mechanism filing; declaring existing rates to be unreasonable; adopting tariffs that reflect rate adjustments consistent with the negotiated settlement; finding the rates to be set by the attached tariffs to be just and reasonable and in the public interest; requiring the company to reimburse Cities' reasonable ratemaking expenses; determining that this ordinance was passed in accordance with the requirements of the Texas Open Meetings Act; adopting a savings clause; declaring an effective date; and requiring delivery of this ordinance to the Company and the WTX Cities' legal counsel.

Mayor Josserand called upon City Manager Hanna to comment briefly on this item. City Manager Hanna recommended approving the Ordinance as the rate increase had been negotiated down from a much higher figure.

ORDINANCE NO. 04.06.15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS, APPROVING A NEGOTIATED RESOLUTION BETWEEN THE ATMOS WEST TEXAS CITIES STEERING COMMITTEE ("WTX CITIES") AND ATMOS ENERGY CORP., WEST TEXAS DIVISION REGARDING THE COMPANY'S 2014 RATE REVIEW MECHANISM FILING; DECLARING EXISTING RATES TO BE UNREASONABLE; ADOPTING TARIFFS THAT REFLECT RATE ADJUSTMENTS CONSISTENT WITH THE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT; FINDING THE RATES TO BE SET BY THE ATTACHED TARIFFS TO BE JUST AND REASONABLE AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST; REQUIRING THE COMPANY TO REIMBURSE CITIES' REASONABLE RATEMAKING EXPENSES; DETERMINING THAT THIS ORDINANCE WAS PASSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; ADOPTING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND REQUIRING DELIVERY OF THIS ORDINANCE TO THE COMPANY AND THE WTX CITIES' LEGAL COUNSEL.

Commissioner Bunch made the motion to approve Ordinance No. 04.06.15 approving the negotiated resolution between Atmos and the West Texas Steering Committee as presented. Commissioner Garza seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 6 - Consider option to extend city manager's existing contract.

Commissioner Alonzo made the motion to approve the extension of the City Manager's contract for an additional four years beginning September 2015 through September 2019. Commissioner Garza seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 7 - Consider adding Veterans Day as an official City holiday.

Mayor Josserand stated for whatever reason the City has never honored the veterans by observing this holiday. He asked the Commission to do so now by adding Veterans Day to the official list of City holidays.

City Manager Hanna noted emergency services such as police and fire would still be at work.

Commissioner Metcalf made the motion for the acceptance of Veterans Day as an official holiday. Commissioner Cumpton seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 8 - Announcements and comments from Mayor and City Commissioners.

Commissioner Cumpton stated this is a good thing - the addition of Veterans Day in order to recognize our veterans.

ITEM 9 - Announcements and comments from City Staff.

City Manager Hanna stated we have been given the Criminal Justice grant; railroad crossings are being repaired; and dips/asphalt being repaired around town. He noted this will probably be Mayor Josserand's last full Commission meeting and he stated in his 25 years as a city manager, Mayor Josserand is by far the best mayor he has ever worked with and he thanked him for his many years of service to our community.

ITEM 10 - Public Comments.

Captain Williams thanked the Commission for honoring the Veterans.

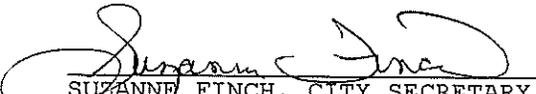
Mrs. Gholson agreed as veterans and their families do so much for our community.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

APPROVED:


ROBERT D. JOSSERAND, MAYOR
CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS

ATTEST:


SUZANNE FINCH, CITY SECRETARY