CITY OF TATUM REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES FOR MAY 16, 2023

The city council met in regular session May 16, 2023 at 5:30pm in the City Hall Meeting room with the following members present:

Mayor-Don Hall

CITY SECRETARY Letitia Poindexter **City Council Members**

Tate Smith Mayor-Pro Tem
Dana Buddecke
Kim Smith & Greggory Cole
J.R Smith
Wendell Moore

Call to order @ 5:30pm By Mayor - Don Hall

Invocation:

Citizens:

Stevie Shaw addressed council with concerns of the conditions of the city streets and over grown grass, specifically Shaw Rd 2217. With the Pot Holes and Steet in poor condition is a safety concern and the grass along the road needs to be bush-hogged and maintained, it's a fire hazard. The poor conditions wit the streets here in Tatum needs to be repaired. The Concerns of the Citizens are real and frustrating. Talking with the County and was told to contact the city, The City says not our problem. The mayor spoke to his concerns and apologized in behalf of the city and recognized his concerns, that he too has pot holes on his street and agrees this situation needs to be addressed. The mayor also stated, my street will not get fixed until yours is filled in. Also, keep in mind with all the rain it will need to dry up before anything can get started. We will be working with Rusk County to start repairing the streets here in the city limits of Tatum by filling in pot holes. But the conditions need to be dry before any work can be done.

Dana spoke up and wanted to Thank Kim Smith for his Years of Service on the Council and Serving to represent City of Tatum, The Mayor along with the other Council Members gave their thanks and appreciation to him for his long-term service.

Jayden Collins Addressed the Council to ask for sponsor for a pageant she will be participating on July 18, 2023. She stated with the help of the City for Sponsor, she would give a percentage of her winnings to bring a splash pad here to Tatum for the children.

She will gather more information and speak aging at a later date.

Nakita With Tedco gave a brief update that the Pecan Pie Festival was a big success and is already getting ready for next year, working with 42 business and vendors. Some from out of state to bring in for economic development. Will bring additional updates with each meeting.

AGENDA:

- 1. Checks were approved, the minutes were approved with the exception that in the regular meeting on April 10, the vest for the PD to accessories would be a \$100.00 plus and the invoice for the 2 new hand-held radios and the 5 refurbished radios for the PD's vehicles and one in city hall and a backup were to be purchased as one Not bundled with the tasers that were approved for the PD for safety. J.R said, "If these corrections are noted, I think its fine to approve the minutes". JR motioned Wendell 2nd All in favor None opposed
- 2. Canvasing of the votes from My 6th,

Election Judge addressed the council and explained there was a tie between Palmer & Keller,

After a re-count and discussion with the talliers, it was a tie. We will have to have another elections unless they agree to flip a coin, draw high card etc. After discussion with the council and the public. It was agreed to stay after and do a re-count to triple check.

Wendell Motioned Kim 2nd All in favor None Opposed

- 3. Discussion of run off dates: After a heavy discussion with dates and if the election judge Rayford Gibson would be here, it was final that early voting will begin June5th and run through June 13th with final day June 17th Saturday of 2023. All voting will be held at City Hall.
- J.R Motioned Wendell 2nd All in favor None Opposed
- 4. Swear in Elected Officials: Tate Smith and Greggory Cole.

Greggory Cole was sworn in as his elected role of City Council Member, at that time, Kim Smith stood and congratulated him and stepped aside, Greg took his seat for his first meeting.

Tate Smith was sworn in and held his seat with the election.

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5. Hire licensed electrician to put Police Dept security cameras on individual circuit.

Councilman J.R spoke on this matter that the security camera's need to be on a separate breaker from the vending machine outside due to the breaker trips from the moisture in the line.

After a brief discussion the council agreed and the mayor requested 2 Bids.

Wendell Motioned J.R 2nd All in favor None opposed

6. Discussion to brick up PD evidence window at City Hall.

J.R begin the discussion that it's a clear view to evidence room from outside and is a safety issue, Wendell agreed but said, Bars would work and would be most cost effective and serve the same purpose.

The Mayor asked for 2 bids and a motion.

Wendell Motioned J.R. 2nd All in favor None Opposed

7. Discussion of work for the city must be approved by Council.

The Discussion kicked off by Tate that example the work by rusk county in front of city hall with the road repair, "I didn't know anything about it, until it was done. Seems like that could have been put up for discussion. The mayor stated, I didn't know until it was done, It was mentioned but I never signed a contract or talked with rusk county to do the work. Wendell said, Michael had talked with him briefly letting him know it's a safety issue for the buses carrying children.

Michael spoke from the back saying after talking with rusk county commissioner, He said, It's a dangerous and needs to be fixed. Then the next few days he met them and it was repaired.

The mayor said due to mis communication and everyone not on the same page that any work being done for the city will be brought before the council for a vote. Michael said, would if there is an emergency, like example a road is washed out and vehicles falls in it.?

Tate said, I want a meeting for every decision regarding work for the city. If it's not a life-threatening emergency, then let's hold a meeting and discuss it.

Mayor asked, what do ya'll want to do? Anyone want to make a motion.?

Wendell said, anything over \$50.00 dollars would need a meeting?

J.R, I think that's doable with exception of normal daily operations.

J.R. Motioned Tate 2nd All in favor None Opposed

8. Discussion of two signatures on all checks.			
The mayor spoke on this, By having two signatures on all checks would help with acknowledging what is going on and to ensure security. Open up Communication with each other.			
J.R. Motioned	Tate 2 nd	All in favor	None Opposed
9. Quotes for Computers for City Hall.			
Dana mentioned that upon the quotes from CBS that we already have, that a resource we could check with is East Texas Council of Governments. They service other cities and could give a bid.			
This will be tabled until other bids are received.			
Dana Motioned	Tate 2 nd	All in favor	None Opposed
10. Discussion to hire summer workers.			
Wendell had said, this was just a thought, that if the city hired summer workers to help with filling in pot holes and other things this could take some weight off the guys so thy could focus on getting some of the water repairs done. I had put it on the agenda to discuss.			
11. Discussion on previous city secretary.			
After a brief silence, one of the Previous City Secretary's spoke up and wanted to know why her name kept being mentioned. Wendell and Stormy went back and forth and Vacation time was brought up, that she took and paid herself without approval. She said she did have approval,			
After 15 minutes of back and forth, The Mayor reminded her that he has every memo that she had signed or requested and not one was with pay. Both sides agreed to let it all go and nothing will be said after tonight.			
Mayor Don Hall announced that re-counting the votes tonight after meeting.			
Meeting Adjourned at 7:32pm			

Mayor: ____

Date: ____

Attest:

Date: _____