

City of Mertzon

Council Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2016

Those Present:

Council Members-
Michael Kahlig
Jim Tharp
Terry Criner
Elodia Hinojosa

Regular Meeting

Employees-
Ginny Rhymes
LeeAnna Cavness
Anthony Shank
Norman Rhymes
Steve Thompson
Daniel Bermea
Sean Williamson

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Terry Criner with quorum present. Opening prayer led by Michael Kahlig. Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the Texas Flag were recited by everyone present.

Public Comments On Any Agenda Item: Debbie Elkins had concerns regarding city equipment being sold/traded without the approval of the Council. Mrs. Elkins also stated her concerns about city roads not being maintained correctly. Liz Mase also had concerns regarding the location of city equipment that had been sold/traded. Charlene Holland addressed the Council with her concerns regarding City Street conditions and stated that the citizens of Mertzon want "their small town back". Maria Gomez addressed the Council with her concerns about employees doing their jobs correctly. Johnny Wales addressed the Council about Council responsibilities and their duties. Joe Harper also addressed the Council with his concerns regarding financial issues, city equipment, and accountability of Council Members.

City Hall- Polling Place For May 7 Election: Council disagreed with elections being held at City Hall. Consideration of holding elections at the County Show Barn due to the Community Center not being available. Motion made by Mr. Michael Kahlig to approve the County Show Barn as the polling place, motion seconded by Mrs. Celica Belcher, motion passed with all in favor.

Emergency Meeting: Mr. Terry Criner moved for this item to be discussed in Executive Session.

Executive Session: The Council went into Executive session at 7:20 p.m. The council came back into open session at 8:10 p.m.

Return To Open Session: The Council came back into open session to make decisions on items discussed in the Executive Session. Motion made by Mr. Michael Kahlig to put Jim Rose on administrative leave with pay, pending the outcome of the current investigation, motion seconded by Mr. Jim Tharp, motion passed with all in favor.

Budget Amendment: This item was tabled for future Council Meeting.

Stipend: This item was tabled for future Council Meeting.

Employee And Citizen Concerns: Employees informed Council Members of projects they are working on within the city.

City Secretary's Report: Motion made by Mr. Jim Tharp to approve minutes from the previous meeting, motion seconded by Mr. Michael Kahlig, motion passed with all in favor.

Items from the Council: Mr. Jim Tharp addressed his concerns regarding an electrician living at the sewer plant. Mr. Terry Criner stated that he would inform the electrician that he cannot stay at the sewer plant. Mr. Tharp also addressed the Council with information pertaining to the TCEQ Inspection that was conducted. Mr. Tharp informed the Council that false information had been given to the Council about the findings of the inspection. Mr. Michael Kahlig had questions about the whereabouts of the guns that the city had purchased for the Police Department. Mr. Kahlig was informed about the known location of the firearms. Mr. Kahlig also requested an update on the annual audit. Mr. Kahlig was informed that the audit is still on-going and that as soon as information was available, the audit would be on the agenda.

Adjournment: Motion made by Mr. Michael Kahlig, seconded by Mrs. Celica Belcher, motion passed with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Signed:


Terry Criner – Mayor Pro Tem


City Secretary Ginny Rhymes