



CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Piper called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Piper and Councilmembers Krause, Patterson, Penn and Venable.

Also present: Joe Davis, Interim City Clerk/Customer Service.

Councilmember Thrasher arrived at 6:50 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Piper led the Pledge of Allegiance and thanked all veterans for their service.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Well Development, Additional Site(s) Exploration: *Tabled from the April 19, 2022 Regular Meeting.* To approve the Statham Water Department to continue the well development project adhering to the goals of Mayor and Council of water independence. Due to Well No. 3 not being the most viable at this time and capping site No. 3 at Hillman-Rainwater, City staff requests \$60,000 with a 15% contingency for well exploration of a potential three sites to include surveying and drilling per detailed in the attached letter dated April 5, 2022 from the water department's operator Jordan McDaniel. This approval also includes the Mayor's signature on agreement(s) with Ground-Water Services, Inc., the firm assisting the City with well exploration and development, in order to keep the project moving while personnel, contractors and equipment are on-site.

-Mayor Piper read the discussion item and led the discussion by speaking of the well sites being considered. Site P-1A is favorable. Site P-2 is not favorable. Sunset Drive site is favorable. He relayed that Jordan McDaniel, Public Works Director, has spoken with landowners and they are positive about the sale/lease of their land.

-Councilmember Venable spoke of his request for sites and costs associated with those sites from Jordan McDaniel.

-Councilmember Penn asked are we planning to purchase or lease the sites.

-Mayor Piper noted that EMI is working on a plan for the 54-acre lake.

-Councilmember Venable shared that he felt Statham's future is tied to water dependency and it was important for the City to move forward. He is not opposed to the pond, however, would hate to commit debt for it if the City can avoid that.

-Councilmember Patterson talked about the need to find out what the sites are going to cost.

-Councilmember Krause shared that she had been in touch with the dredger that is currently working on Fort Yargo Lake. He is willing to meet with council to discuss Statham's project and costs associated with dredging. She also shared that we need all questions answered before decisions are made.

-Councilmember Penn said water independence will benefit the city but he needs to know what all the costs involved will be.

-Councilmember Krause relayed information about the capped wells on Lillian Way.

-Councilmember Venable said there still appears to be many unanswered questions about the water situation and suggested tabling the item until more information is available.

-Mayor Piper shared that the business item could only be tabled one more time, and after that, if council votes no there will be a 6-month moratorium on the item. He relayed that EMI would have the requested reports ready in about three months.

Added Discussion Items:

-Councilmember Venable relayed that several citizens have asked that city sidewalks be placed on the next business session. Mayor Piper shared that he is hesitant to open up that up for discussion.

-Councilmember Krause felt that the alleyways needed to be on the next work session as well. Who is responsible for the upkeep of the alleyways? She also felt the need to discuss sidewalks. She also provided an update on the upcoming DOT citizen meeting. Councilmember Venable was confused about the date, and it was reiterated that the meeting would be held on May 12, 2022 from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm at Bear Creek Middle School.

-Councilmember Penn asked about the baseball fields lease agreement. Mayor Piper said he was waiting on the agreement.

CITIZEN INPUT: None

MINUTE APPROVAL

1. April 19, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes (draft minutes provided to mayor and council on April 20, 2022).

Councilmember Venable made a motion to approve the April 19, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. Councilmember Patterson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

At 7:21 p.m., Mayor Piper asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Venable made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Patterson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.