



# City Of Seagraves

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## Regular Session

### Seagraves City Council

Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – 7:00 P.M

City Council Chambers 309 Hill St.

**Guest:** Larry Carlisle, Calvin Sellers, Brent Grundstrom, Renee Goodger, Barry Brian, Lee Lerma, Tino Rodriguez, Justin Cantwell, Juan Gonzalez, Adan Davila

- 1) **Call to Order-Announce Quorum:** 07:00PM
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance:** Dan Grife
- 3) **Invocation:** Charles Evans
- 4) **Roll Call:** Charles Evans, Cindy Durham, Kendra Sellers, Debra Middleton, Ruben Valles, Shannon Wadzeck
- 5) **Approve Minutes:** Debra Middleton Motion to accept minutes of 01-14-19 Regular Session, Second by Kendra Sellers. Motion passed by unanimous vote.  
Kendra Sellers Motion to accept minutes of 01-24-19 Special Session, Second by Cindy Durham. Motion passed by unanimous vote.  
Shannon Wadzeck pointed out an inconsistency in the spelling of the name of a guest at the previous Special Session. Correction was noted. Shannon Wadzeck Motion to accept minutes of 02-07-19 Special Session with noted correction, Second by Debra Middleton. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- 6) **Public Comments:** Prior to public comment Ruben Valles asked to be recognized. Mayor Evans recognized Alderman Valles. Mr. Valles addressed the council and asked that no one on the council respond to any public comment. Point of Order.  
Tino Rodriguez addressed the council saying that he represented a group of citizens that wished to make use of the rodeo grounds for team roping and possibly a rodeo at some point  
Barry Brian and Juan Gonzalez of the American Legion addressed the council. Mr. Brian said that they had finished the preliminary steps in the Memorial Highway project and that it would be submitted to the legislature this session. He said that he hoped to have the markers in place within six months. After the motion is approved by the legislature, the matter would next be taken to TX-DOT for implementation where funds for the costs of the markers would be needed. He said that for the stretch dedicated to Butch Hill two marker posts would be purchased at a cost of \$5,000.00 and that they were asking for financial help to cover the cost. He recited a brief history of Mr. Hill who gave his life in service to the country during the Viet Nam conflict.
- 7) **Discussion over uses of the Rodeo Grounds:** Mayor Evans asked Mr. Rodriguez what he had in mind. . He said that the group frequently traveled to other locations where rodeo facilities were located to do

the roping and they had all agreed that having a place in Seagraves would be a benefit and may draw other competitors from the region. He said that the group would make all needed repairs at no cost to the city and would obtain and maintain all necessary insurance. Mayor Evans replied that his request would be taken into consideration and asked that he leave contact information with the City Secretary. The council then began a discussion about the rodeo at White Rock. The Mayor then directed the City Secretary to make inquiries with the City Attorney and the insurance company regarding the proposal.

- 8) **Zoning Ordinance:** Mayor Evans began by stating that the council must decide what it is exactly that they expected the Zoning Board to achieve when they were constituted and to give them some sort of time frame to accomplish the task. Renee Goodger said that she would like to see the board to revise certain sections of the existing ordinance and to revise the zoning map. Ruben Valles asked what was wrong with the existing ordinance and map. Ms. Goodger said that there were several sections that were problematic such as set back requirements that were unrealistic in Seagraves. She said that many lots were smaller than the setback minimums so that according to the ordinance, nothing could be constructed on them. She said that the map did not realistically represent the referenced sections of the city as pertains to the existing ordinance. Debra Middleton said that the council should call back all the original zoning board members and have them look at the ordinance to see what needs to be done with it. Mayor Evans said that the council should try to get some people that had expertise to work on it. Renee Goodger said that Mr. Cantwell should be appointed as president of the board. Ms. Middleton said that the original members would have the best understanding of the ordinance and how to proceed. Mayor Evans agreed that it may be best to bring back people who had been involved in writing the original ordinance. Ms. Middleton said that at the last meeting the council had asked the City Secretary to draft a letter to the residents stating that the ordinance was going to be enforced and to give them time to prepare for it. She continued that no such letter had been presented to the council yet. The City Secretary pointed out that the letter referenced by Ms. Middleton was, in fact, to advise the residents of the pending enforcement of other Ordinances that did not involve the Zoning Ordinance. He also reminded the council that it had not been decided whether this letter should be mailed to all residents at once or if it were to be targeted to different districts at different times so that concerted efforts in different areas would be made. The City Secretary said that a letter would be drafted referencing the Junk Car Ordinance and the Weed Ordinance and would state a date 3 months in future for enforcement to commence. This draft letter would be emailed to the council for comment or edit prior to printing and postage. Renee Goodger suggested that this communication could be included with the quarterly mailing for water quality to save postage expense. Mayor Evans asked if those reports were read or usually thrown out. Ms. Goodger said that they were mostly thrown away without being read. There was a brief discussion by multiple parties suggesting colored paper or card stock or ways to provoke the reading of the communication. Ms. Goodger suggested that her department could distribute the warning as the read meters. She said that they went to every house in the city and could use “door hangers” and put them on every front door as they went about the monthly meter reading. That way if it were decided to target a specific area only the doors in that section would be hung. Ms. Middleton said that he council should call a Special Session to appoint the previous board and to have them swear in. Several people spoke about what dates may be suitable and several schedule conflicts were mentioned. The City Secretary suggested that any person interested in serving on the Zoning Board stop by City Hall and take the Oath of Office. He said that he would then present the list of those who had done so to the council. The council could then accept or reject them and make a motion to appoint those that had been accepted. A

resolution to that effect would then be prepared and enacted after being added to an agenda. This would ensure that the Board was Legally Constituted. Ms. Middleton said that she would like to have the board begin as soon as possible and would prefer it done in a special session. The City Secretary was directed to schedule a meeting to discuss Junk Cars and Weeds and how to notify the residents and to set dates for enforcement on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 06:00PM. (added to agenda for 2-14-19 meeting: 1) Approve Zoning Board and swear in all members. 2)[added after executive session of 02-11-19] list Executive Session with Renee Goodger/Personnel Matters)

- 9) **Municipal Court Report:** Calvin Sellers asked if any of the council had any questions about the report. Debra Middleton asked what the 4 dismissals were. Calvin Sellers said one was for a school zone speeding citation where the check box for school zone had not been checked by the officer. Other dismissals were for duplicate citations.

Kendra Sellers Motion to accept, Second by Ruben Valles. Motion Passed by unanimous vote.

- 10) **Police Report:** Alderman Valles asked to be recognized. He said that the monthly reports from the Police and Public Works departments had not been included in the pre-session information packets and the council did not have enough time to review them. He asked that they be included in the packets in future and pointed out that the Police Department had an administrative aid for such matters. Debra Middleton asked if the Chief had ordered the technical upgrade for the patrol vehicles. Mr. Grundstrom said that he had. Mr. Grundstrom asked that if any of the council were contacted by citizens regarding Knucklehead Garage, they be directed to him as he was working in cooperation with the Houston P.D. Cindy Durham asked if there was any chance that victims from Seagraves would get their money back and the Chief replied probably not but they were hoping to get a conviction. Shannon Wadzeck asked what the Ordinance Violation in the city was. The Chief said that he was un-sure, but it was probably to do with an un-permitted vendor. Debra Middleton asked about overtime. The Chief said he had rearranged the schedule to use flex time and avoid overtime. Charles Evans asked if the vehicle involved in the accident had been taken to the body shop for an estimate. Debra Middleton asked if the claim had been settled. The City Secretary reported that TMLIRP has sent a check for \$5,504.57 but the city had to cover towing at \$825.12 from that. The Chief had not had an estimate for repair made but he said he would see to it. He said that two of the patrol cars would be paid off in March and he would like to replace them at that time. Debra Middleton said that if the estimate for repair was higher than the settlement, the city could request additional funds from the insurer. The Chief was directed to get an estimate from a repair shop.

Motion to Accept by Kendra Sellers, Second by Shannon Wadzeck. Motion Passed by unanimous vote.

- 11) **Public Works Report:** Ms. Goodger began by saying that she did not have an administrative aid. She continued saying that she had been talking with Tammy Houston who worked part time for the Municipal Court and would like to have her work for the Public Works Department on the days when she did not work at the court. She continued that Ms. Houston was already a municipal employee and could move to full time by working 2 days at Public Works and 3 at the Court. She said Ms. Houston would help with the reports and recordkeeping because there were many pressing issues facing the City at this time which will require more involvement by the Public Works Director. She said that the Water Tower had been alarming over the weekend and that upon inspection a leak was discovered. She said she had already been in contact with Otis Dow; the firm that had repaired the tower a few years ago. She said that the tower was in so bad a condition that it will have to be replaced but that it must be repaired right away. She has been looking for as built schematics but had not been able to locate them. The tower

was built in 1965 and the plans could not be located. Debra Middleton asked if the tower was part of the city infrastructure. Ms. Goodger said that it was. She said that Mr. Perry Evans of the engineering firm Enprotec Hibbs and Todd was looking into TWDB revolving funds for water and waste water but that the deadline for application is March first, so she doubted that we had enough time to get a loan this year but that the city should try. Ms. Middleton asked if she had an idea how much a new water tower would cost. Ms. Goodger said between 3 and 5 million dollars. Cindy Durham asked what the down time would be while emergency repairs were being made to the existing tower. Ms. Goodger said that she could have the system function for 2 or more weeks by utilizing the pumps but if they had to overwork much longer they could begin to fail. She said that the tower would have to be drained into the surface storage tanks before repairs could begin. She said that a new tower would take about one year to construct but if the repairs to the existing tower were made, it should last until the replacement was ready. She reminded the council that the city waste water system had to be repaired and replaced as well. She reported that the USDA grant the city was trying to get for the waste water system was stalled because of the recent government shutdown.

Motion to Accept the Report by Kendra Sellers, Second by Shannon Wadzeck. Motion Passed by unanimous vote.

- 12) **Administrative Report:** The City Secretary went over the bullet points. (See Report) Shannon Wadzeck asked about the hours of operation at City Hall. The City Secretary explained that between the hours of 08:00AM and 09:00AM the previous day receipts were counted, and the end of day process done to be able to make the daily deposit. He continued by explaining that during penalty and cut off the city processed payments until the last minute, often until past 09:00. Prior to changing hours deposits were not made daily, as required by sound accounting principal and bank reconciliation had not been done since 2013.

Motion to Accept by Kendra Sellers, Second by Cindy Durham. Motion Passed by unanimous vote.

Ruben Valles Motion to adjourn to Executive Session-Personnel Matters:

**EXECUTIVE SESSION CALLED AT 09:16PM**

**RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION 10:01PM**

- 13) **Set Date for Next Regular Session:** March 11th at 07:00PM in Council Chambers.

**Motion to Adjourn:** motion by Kendra Sellers, Second by Debra Middleton

**Adjournment 10:04PM**

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**Charles Evans, Mayor**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City Secretary (Dan Grife)**