

Meeting Minutes
City of Seagraves, TX
SPECIAL SESSION
SEAGRAVES CITY COUNCIL
July 16th, 2019
City Hall

07-16-19

Guests: No guests.

1.) Call to Order: 06:01PM Mayor declared a quorum

2.) Invocation: Ruben Valles

- 3.) Roll Call: Charles Evans-Mayor, Cindy Durham, Debra Middleton, Kendra Sellers, Ruben Valles, Shannon Wadzeck
- 4.) Discussion of Code Enforcement: Mayor Evans began by introducing the topic of discussion and reported that The Mayor and The Municipal Judge had visited Tahoka to ask what the administration of that city did regarding code enforcement and police practices. The Mayor began to show the council a post card used by that city when Alderman Middleton said that she thought that the letter was ready to be sent out and that it was her understanding that the only issue was the amount of the penalty that was to be stated in that letter. Judge Sellers said that the fine of \$2,000.00 stated in the existing ordinance is allowable by state statute for fire and safety violations in weed control. The City Secretary said that the fine referenced in the letter for junk vehicles was taken from another ordinance and that ordinance made no mention of the fine being renewed every day that the violation continued whereas the ordinance regarding weed control did so. Alderman Middleton said that she thought the council was going to decide how much to charge for the violations. Alderman Wadzeck asked if anyone had checked on the dogs in the yard at the residence located at Avenue J and 14th St. The Alderman asked why the city seemed to overlook the mistreatment of dogs and asked when the Animal Control Officer had decided to go on vacation. Alderman Middleton said that she was ready to just send out the letter. Judge Sellers said that he had community service workers available to stuff and address the envelopes and asked the Chief if the letters could be printed on the copier in the Police Department because it was a lease and the cost of the toner would not be an issue. The Chief said that would be fine. The Judge added that the diagram the Mayor had shown the council could be printed on the back of the letter. Alderman Middleton said the letter should be printed and sent out as is.

Alderman Wadzeck Motioned to print and send the letter, Second by Alderman Sellers. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Alderman Middleton asked how the enforcement phase is to be carried out. Judge Sellers said that Avenue F and 12th divide the city in quarters and enforcement could work 2 streets in each quarter each day until the city was covered. Mayor Evans said that he wanted Director Goodger to become certified so that a mentorship program could be started in the city because an enforcement agent must be certified in order to tag a house and issue citations. The Mayor also said that at each city he visited, Code Enforcement attended City Council meetings and made a report. Mayor Evans asked The Council if they wanted Code Enforcement to make a report at the budget workshop session for Administration and Municipal Court. Alderman Sellers said that Code Enforcement had a boss to instruct and receive report. Mayor Evans said he thought it would be more effective for Code Enforcement to attend Council Meetings to hear concerns and give report. Alderman Sellers agreed. The Mayor directed the Secretary to list Meet with Code Enforcement above Budget Workshop with Administration and Municipal Court. on the agenda for July 23rd at 06:00PM.

5.) Budget Workshop Police Department: The Chief said that Officer Mendoza was going to begin patrol tomorrow. The Chief said that Officer Briones would begin ride along patrols on Thursday. Mayor Evans said that in Tahoka the Chief of Police had four patrolmen and that the department there operated a schedule of five days on and two days off. That Chief said that the schedule resulted in a 6 hour per day period of no coverage but that the period of no coverage was dynamic and constantly changed so no pattern was made. The Mayor said that The Chief in Tahoka worked 8 to 5 on a rotating five-day week and while on duty The Chief was also on patrol. The Mayor said that he had asked the Chief if the period of no coverage resulted in increased crime during that period. The Chief had responded that Tahoka had the same problems as any other town but whatever problems they do have are no worse with the gap in coverage. The Mayor said the Chief in Tahoka told him that patrol officers there were paid at a rate of \$13.50 per hour and that the same rate was paid to officers in Brownfield. Budget Workshop of the department requested budget for the Police Department began 06:45PM The department requests were examined line by line and council proposals were recorded to the budget worksheet.

Alderman Durham Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 08:38PM

Charles Evans,

Mavor

Dan Grife,

Attest

City Secretary