City of Pine Forest





Signed and agreed this 13th day of February, 2023.

Cathy Dazel
Cathy Nagel/Mayor ()
Josse Santana, Council Place 1
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James McCullar, Council Place 2
Attest:
City Attorney, Paul Fukuda

OF PINE FOREST * SPANISH

Council Place 3

Cynthia Worsham, Council Place 4

Wesley Brown, Council Place 5



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City of Pine Forest

REGULAR MEETING: Monday January 9, 2023 at 6:00 PM, held at Pine Forest City Hall.

Council Present: Mayor Cathy Nagel, Council Member Place 1 Jesse Santana, Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member Place 2 James McCullar, and Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown

Council Absent: Council member Place 4 Cynthia Worsham

Others Present: City Attorney Paul Fukuda, and Caci Groom

Item 1: Meeting Called to order at 6:00PM.

Item 2: Invocation.

Item 3: Pledges to the Unites States Flag and Texas State Flag.

Item 4:Citizen/Visitor's Forum: Caci Groom was here to introduce herself as the new TDEM representative for our county.

Item 5: Mayors Comments: Mayor Cathy Nagel informed council of the upcoming Vidor Chamber of Commerce Membership Banquet held at 185 N. Main St. Vidor, Texas 77662 at 6 pm. RSVP tables are 6 seats for \$250 or \$30 per person attending. Only two will be able attend so single tickets were decided on.

Item 6: Place 1 Council Member Jesse Santana made a motion to approve the December Consent Agenda. Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**



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Item 7:

A. Report from Chief Bill Meza:

Chief Meza did issue a warning ticket to a resident for excessive noise of a motor vehicle after curfew hours. Doing routine traffic stops and issuing speeding citations. The rabbit issue from the previous month is under control at this time.

B. Report from Grant Coordinator (Lacey Turner):

Council Meeting 1/9

Infrastructure:

Fittz & Shipman just finished the 100% design plans which were approved a couple council meetings ago. I met with Langford, GLO & Fittz and Shipman this past month via conference call. Everything is on track.

Our next step is the archaeological dig. Received an email from Justin on 12/26, "We finally got an answer back from THC! Looks like we will only have to do an archy dig now on 2 sites instead of 3. Once we hear more on when the dig will be performed, I will let you know!"

Hurricane Harvey:

I spoke with Brian Contreras our TDEM/State Rep. on July 26th to discuss road project. We completed the RTM closing meeting with FEMA on 9/16/22, so we will now only work with TDEM (state) from here on out until the road project and DAC is completely closed out.

I have also forwarded Orange County all of the Scope and costing and coordinates for the approved, assigned Lakeview Cutoff pieces. Of course, the county is currently backed up and will most likely not be able to complete work until after the beginning of next year. The County stated that we could piggyback off of their current road projects and they could do the work for us without having to hire an engineer directly. We were awarded \$65,290.56 from FEMA and will have a 10% match. We were told by Traylor & Associates that the City can use funds from the ARPA grant to cover the full cost plus the 10% match since TDEM is now saying we must pay for repairs upfront and be reimbursed by State. Once this is complete, we will finally be complete with all Hurricane Harvey projects.

We just received \$1800.00 in December 2022 from FEMA on the DAC "Direct Administration Cost" project which will conclude this project for close-out. Leaving only the road project to complete this grant.



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ARPA: American Rescue Plan Act:

We currently have \$92,445.74 in our account which includes both part of the 1st tranche and we also received the 2nd tranche in October 2022. Out of this total, we need to decide how council would like to use these funds. I know it was discussed that we would use part of these funds to cover Hurricane Harvey Road repairs, plus the 10% match since it is a FEMA reimbursement program, and the remaining can go to road repair within the City.

CDBG 23-24

Langford Community was awarded at the last council meeting for Grant Administration. We have already had our first meeting with Langford to discuss moving forward. The next step is procuring an engineer I have started the process on this and should start receiving bids soon. I would also like the input from the council on City needs and what project/projects the council would like to see these funds go towards to input on the application. The Grant amount is for \$500,000. Please see attached e-mail for allowable projects. Since Roads/streets are an allowable cost, my recommendation would be to reconstruct a few roadways since Hurricane Harvey left us in bad shape. Also, Since the City does not meet City Wide LMI criteria, we will have to complete a project specific area survey study on the proposed project areas that is required by TDA. I have included a copy of the survey in the most recent newsletter, but since we haven't had much luck in the past with getting surveys completed, they did suggest an outside contractor if available that could assist us with getting these completed, but he comes at a cost. I'm awaiting more details for this service if he's available to come to our area.

CDBG 2019 Floods & Hurricane Imelda:

Applications were due by August 1st. This is what we needed the community surveys for. We actually submitted 2 applications. One application was for Streets and drainage in the amount of 1 million, 10 thousand. The projects we selected were street improvements to improve drainage along Hulett Street & Kilmer Drive. The 2nd application was for development and construction for a water plant to provide water to the City in the amount of 1 million 10 thousand. We procured Traylor & Associates and Fittz & Shipman to work with on this Grant. We received response from GLO on 12/2/22 that applications are being reviewed and they have requested additional information in which must be provided by January 2023 to be considered. I will keep everyone updated.

The projects for these applications were brainstormed with Traylor and associates' staff during our monthly meeting as city needs/projects that would benefit the city and its citizens. We submitted 2 separate applications in case 1 project application is not selected. We can of course opt not to go forward with one or more of the applications if council chooses, if we for some reason are awarded on one or both.



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H20 Hazard Mitigation Plan- (Orange County Community wide grant):

This is a grant that the county is submitting as a whole. We have attended several in-person and online meetings with the County and surrounding cities to brainstorm eligible projects for each City and we also have several community wide projects that the county has chosen that will benefit the entire county. We have submitted our Action Plan to the County for review and have selected these eligible projects based upon our City needs such as assistance with Flood insurance premiums due to Hurricane Harvey, street & drainage improvements including water retention, detention ponds, upgrading culverts and clearing debris due to severe storms and weather, reconstruct city-wide flood prone properties, canopy cover in public park area for extreme heat & weather, area wide emergency alert system "Reverse 911" and digital weather signs, NOAA weather radios for police station and emergency response personnel, construct a community wide evacuation center, build safe room shelters in high risk areas for residents during severe weather alerts, and install outdoor city-wide warning siren. These projects are not guaranteed to be funded, but we at least have a good action plan to move forward with. The County will be submitting this application by, and then it will be a waiting stage. Will update when I have more information.

Update from Stevie with Orange County on H20

Below is the remaining timeline of the SETRPC Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update /Orange County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update:

- Orange County draft Plan will be submitted to Orange County and the participating jurisdiction, ISDs, and special districts for review by the end of this week, early next. We will request a 2week review period in which any revisions or feedback will be due back to us.
- My mid-August review feedback will be provided back to H2O and we will incorporate revisions into the Plan to submit to TDEM by August 31st, 2022.
- TDEM is usually a 6-week review period, however we are experiencing a longer review process on their end, so as of right now we are informing our clients to expect anywhere from 12-18 week review with TDEM.
- Once they complete their review, we will make any necessary revisions to submit to FEMA; if not revisions come from their review, it will be sent to FEMA for review and approval

I know Orange County plan expires on September 10th, 2022, in which we discussed with SETRPC and they further discussed on their 7/12/22 meeting the following:

- A letter can be sent requesting additional time to get approval to TDEM/FEMA for applications.
- This letter is called "Extraordinary Circumstance Letter (ECL)" FEMA allows 12 months for ECL's. If the counties or any of the participating jurisdictions have applied under 4485 or previous disasters, they can submit an extraordinary circumstance letter stating



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they will have an approved and adopted plan within 12 months of accepting the award and that will cover them, IF the plan isn't approved at the time of the award from the grant.

- The extraordinary circumstance letter covers them for 12 months, however there shouldn't be any reason for this review to take anywhere near that amount of time.
- Even with the plans being expired, the Counties and jurisdictions will remain eligible for Public Assistance funds due to a tropical storm. And then once the HMGP funds become available for the disaster and jurisdictions want to apply for mitigation funding, they can still submit a letter of extraordinary circumstances

FMA Grant (piggyback with county)-

submitted 1 household. 140 Nagel Street due to excessive flooding. I believe a walk-through was completed at this address, but no further update at this time.

C. Report from the CFO (Connie Stanton):

Connie informs council that she has visited with all the gaming rooms in the city. They have all came in and paid their fees. There are 89 total machines. All background checks have been completed from all. City stickers still need to be put on all machines. City does have the sticker and as soon as the State stickers are put on all machines Connie will place the City stickers as well. All facilities do have their state stickers. Everything is good on the books.

D. Report from Road Committee:

Nothing to report

Item 8: Discussion and possible action to appoint a new council member for Pine Forest Council Member Place 3 for the remainder of the unexpired term. **NO ACTION TAKEN**



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Item 9: Council Member Place 2/Mayor Pro Tem James McCullar made a motion to approve the 2023 City Holiday Calendar. Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 10: Council Member Place 2/Mayor Pro Tem James McCullar made a motion to accept the monthly service fee of \$249.99 for IT services from Texas Network Services. Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 11: Council Member Place 1 Jesse Santana made a motion to approve the bid in the amount of \$5,406.00 by JBH Maintenance for fence repairs at the detention pond. Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 12: Discussion regarding procedures for the identification, repair, and removal of dilapidated structures within Pine Forest. Will be working with Rodney Price to see what ordinances he may have prior to the Harvey Flood.

Item 13: Place 5 Council Member Wesley Brown made a motion to use the 2023/2024 TXCDBG Grant for: Top priority would be for Road and Street improvements and 2nd would be a Waste Water Improvement System. Council Member Place 2/Mayor Pro Tem James McCullar 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Item 14: Discussion and possible action on updating the Chapter 10 Nuisance Ordinance. **NO ACTION**

Item 15: Council Member Place 5 Wesley Brown made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Place 1 Jesse Santana 2nd the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY ALL PRESENT**

Adjournment @ 6:52