

Village of Wimberley
City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall, 14500 RR 12, Suite 22
Thursday, January 3, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Linda Hewlett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Steven Sweet of the Wimberley Methodist Church offered the Invocation.

Mayor Linda Hewlett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dell Hood conducted Roll Call. Present were:

Mayor Linda Hewlett
Council Member Walter Brown
Council Member Steve Klepfer
Council Member Martha Knies
Council Member Matt Manis
Council Member Tony McGee.

1. Consent Items

Councilwoman Knies moved to approve the Minutes of the December 20, 2001 City Council Meeting and the designation of City holidays for 2002, Councilman Brown seconded, motion approved 5-0.

2. Presentations of Citizens

A. Citizens' Comments:

Jason Fricke and Shawn Tuthill, both of Banister's Creekview Grill, said City Building Inspector Lance Powers has told the grill owners that a Building Permit cannot be issued until zoning is approved, but this is contrary to what the owners had been led to believe. They said the business had always been operated as a restaurant and will continue as a restaurant, and the last part of their building plans will be submitted tomorrow (Friday, January 4). They believe there has been miscommunication and confusion in the information they have been given. City Administrator Steve Harrison said he had tried to reach Mr. Powers before this meeting for clarification, but stated he had spoken to him earlier in the day and understood that no building permit had been issued yet since the applicant had not submitted required plans for review. If the final part of their plans are in City Hall tomorrow, Mr. Powers can do an expedited review. Mayor Hewlett said she is sure the City can clear up the matter tomorrow.

B. Pedernales Electric Update:

Russ Adamik, Kyle District Manager of Pedernales Electric Cooperative, said PEC is accepting Christmas trees for recycling, which it will use for mulch. It offers an Afghan pine tree for planting to anyone who brings in a tree for mulching. He presented a check for \$13,558.10 as the PEC

franchise fee payment to the City for the period October 1-December 31, 2001. Council expressed appreciation for PEC's generous cooperation.

3. Reports from Committees

Bert Ray, chairman of the Comprehensive Plan Committee, summarized the Committee's work to date. The Committee has a large amount of public opinion materials from its community workshops and will put this public input in order, ascertain the goals of Wimberley's citizens for the community as expressed in the workshops and other meetings, and present the results to Council. He said the Committee has achieved two of the three tasks it took on: an inventory and analysis of community resources, and receiving community opinion through public meetings. The Committee would like to have an archive to keep the materials it has received from the public, and he asked Council to consider where such an archive could be created. In response to questions from Council Mr. Ray said City Administrator Steve Harrison has given him a list of possible categories into which the Comprehensive Plan could be organized; he would like to do an outline of Goals and Objectives before spending a lot of time on the final Plan; and he hopes to have the Plan completed by summer. Mr. Harrison said there is a lot of flexibility in the categories he gave Mr. Ray and in what the State allows in comprehensive plans, but there is no guidance from the State on land use categories for the plans nor for the level of detail. Mr. Ray noted the Comprehensive Plan is not the same as a master plan and will not have detailed information such as would be included in an engineering plan. He said he was not sure at this point how the Comprehensive Plan would deal with areas such as roads which have committees or boards working on them, but that he wants to keep the Comprehensive Plan as a general document and not include minutiae.

4. Items from Council

Councilman Brown said he will have a nominee to the Water and Wastewater Advisory Board for nomination at the next Council meeting.

5. Old Business

Consider and act on extending the term of Interim City Engineer:

City Administrator Steve Harrison said because the Request for Qualification for a permanent City Engineer is not ready yet, and it will take time to publicize the position and receive applications, he recommends Council extend the appointment of Joel Wilkinson in the position until March 1, 2002. Councilman Klepfer said he wants to be sure local engineers have a chance to participate in the application process. Councilman Brown moved to appoint Mr. Wilkinson as Interim City Engineer until March 1, 2002, Councilman McGee seconded, motion approved 5-0.

6. New Business

A. Discussion of long-term goals and Council focus for 2002:

At the request of Councilman Klepfer, item continued by consent of Council.

B. Appoint Dell Hood as Recording Secretary for Council:

Councilman McGee moved to appoint Dell Hood as Recording Secretary, Councilwoman Knies seconded. Councilman Manis said he wants to be sure the City is keeping a voice recording of

Council meetings as well as the Minutes; City Administrator Steve Harrison said it will be done. Motion approved 5-0.

C. Appoint additional signatories for City checks

City Administrator Steve Harrison said he wants to be sure there will always be two people available to sign City checks, so that payments are not delayed. The Mayor Pro-Tem is an alternate signer for the Mayor but there is no alternate signer for Councilman Manis. Councilman Manis moved to have Councilman Tony McGee named as alternate signer for himself; Councilman McGee seconded. Councilman Manis said he wants it to be clear that an alternate signer does not sign checks if the person for whom he is the alternate is in town and available to sign; Mr. Harrison agreed with this policy. Motion passed 5-0.

7. City Administrator Report

A. Building Permit Process Meeting:

City Administrator Steve Harrison said he is setting up a meeting of builders, developers and licensed contractors in the Wimberley area to discuss the process of getting building permits and the City's requirements and procedures. No date has been set but it could be later in January. Invitations will be issued both by letter and telephone; Mr. Harrison is developing a packet of materials to hand out to participants. Councilman Klepfer said he is concerned that people responsible for carrying out or policing City policies must be very careful not to editorialize on those policies; they must be and be seen to be neutral administrators of Council policies.

B. Project List:

Mr. Harrison handed out a "Project List" for 2002, a list of items he and the city's staff are working on. He will give Council a status report on a regular basis, identifying items that have been completed and re-arranging projects as necessary. Councilman Manis suggested that Solid Waste Disposal Franchise be added to the list.

C. Financial Process:

Mr. Harrison has set up a process for approval of invoices as they are submitted to City Hall. He will set up a similar process to handle the receipt of funds coming to the City.

D. Agenda Format Suggested Changes:

Mr. Harrison has revised the agenda format for Council meetings and included two items in italics to give the public more information about how the City conducts its business. Council members discussed the suggested format. They agreed it would be preferable to have items involving City staff or subordinate units (Committees, Boards, Commissions), or volunteer groups, discussed early in meetings instead of at the end, so that the concerned people could leave if desired. They also discussed having agenda items assigned to individuals and how items should be presented to Council for discussion; they agreed that the suggested format is good but that they can try different ways to see what works best and what they prefer.

8. Announcements

Councilwoman Knies said she thinks the Council owes an expression of thanks to the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses for their outstanding job in decorating the city for Christmas. Council heartily agreed; it was suggested the City approve a Resolution expressing its appreciation.

9. Council adjourned at 8:07 p.m. by unanimous vote on a motion by Councilman Klepfer, seconded by Councilman Manis.

VILLAGE OF WIMBERLEY

By Linda Hewlett
Linda Hewlett, Mayor

Dell Hood
Dell Hood, Recording Secretary