

City of Wimberley
City Hall, 221 Stillwater
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Minutes of Regular Meeting of City Council
May 5, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

City Council meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Bob Flocke.

Mayor Flocke gave the Invocation and Councilmembers led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Bob Flocke and Councilmembers Marilee Wood, Mac McCullough, Steve Thurber, and John White.

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Ferguson and City Secretary Cara McPartland

Citizens Communications

Wimberley business owner Marci Anderson spoke on the City's recent budget workshop meeting and past and current business development in Wimberley. She cited her earlier successful business endeavors and recalled the origination of the Wimberley Merchants Association in 1997. She asked that the community work together to overcome the current business climate of division and prejudices to become a cooperative business community and offered her services toward those efforts.

Wimberley resident Stephanie Reynolds gave City Administrator Ferguson her response to the City's notice regarding her driveway and asked whether Council was aware of recent action taken. She stated that there was no forewarning that her property was going to be blocked off. Mrs. Reynolds said that she is not in violation of City Code and felt that the City has singled her out in an attempt to intimidate her. Mrs. Reynolds cited a list of various types of statutory violations that she alleged the City has engaged in and stated that she has proof of same. She hoped that the City will remove the recently installed railroad ties and questioned their effectiveness as a safety measure. Mrs. Reynolds stated that her property's access should be grandfathered and asked Council to think about hazardous materials stored in industrial buildings and how the residents are blocked in, if a fire breaks out. Mrs. Reynolds stated that the railroad tie installation is not in keeping with the "quaint" nature of Wimberley as described in the City's Comprehensive Plan. She reminded Council of her previous requests to remove the "illegal turnaround" and stated "I can't see out of my legal driveway."

Oak Hill resident Ed Cooper spoke in support of Stephanie and Scott Reynolds and against action taken by the City. He stated that the press and District Attorney have been notified and other actions are being taken. He thought there should be some transparency and accountability and felt that the City is "strong-arming" the Reynolds. He did not understand "why this vitriol and this hatred exist in this community, which used to be such a pleasant, sleepy little community." He believed the City is "butting heads" with the Reynolds "because she's made some noise." He did not see the reason for the installation of the railroad tie barricades or for the

need for a driveway permit. Mr. Cooper stated that his friends in the media have been advised of this situation and hated to see people “get run over” out of anger. Mr. Cooper referred to the City’s expenditure of funds to improve a road that was later blocked off and said that it made no sense to him.

1. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of April 21, 2011.
- B. Approval of the minutes of the Special City Council meeting of April 21, 2011.
- C. Approval of the resignation of Rick Millinor from the City of Wimberley Ethics Commission. (*City Administrator*)

Councilmember Thurber moved to approve all Consent Agenda items as presented. Councilmember White pulled Consent Agenda Item 1A, due to a question about his vote on Agenda Item 3A. Councilmember Thurber restated his motion to approve remaining Consent Agenda Items 1B and 1C as presented. Councilmember McCullough seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0. It was agreed to reconsider Consent Agenda Item 1A at Council’s next meeting.

2. City Administrator Report

- Status report on the construction of the Hays County-City of Wimberley Regional Hike and Bike Trail and associated parking areas

City Administrator Ferguson reported that official opening of the Trail will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2011 at 10 a.m., including a brief ceremony and partial walk starting at the new First Baptist Church site.

- Status report on the development of a FM 2325 sidewalk coalition

City Administrator Ferguson reported on the progress of a recent Transportation Advisory Board meeting to consider development of a stakeholder list/task force and scheduling of a community meeting.

- Status report on the development of the Blue Hole Regional Park

City Administrator Ferguson introduced newly hired Blue Hole Regional Park Manager Doug Carter. He reported on hiring of Park staff, equipment acquisition, and Mr. Carter’s anticipated move into his new offices by the end of May. The tentative opening date for the Park is June 11, 2011 at 10 a.m., with a possible ribbon cutting ceremony beforehand. Drought conditions are being monitored with the contractor due to concerns relating to newly installed landscaping. He reported on construction progress at the Park and noted ongoing fundraising efforts for the next phase of construction.

- Status report on the preparations for the May 14, 2011 City of Wimberley General Election

City Administrator Ferguson reported on this item later in the meeting (see Agenda Item No. 4).

- Status report on the possible development of a master plan for the Wimberley Square area

City Administrator Ferguson reported on the benefits of developing a master plan to property owners and the community in general in order to address issues with future development for the subject area. He advised that the Planning and Zoning Commission favored a more cost-effective approach to review existing City plans before beginning the public meeting process and/or engaging an outside consultant.

- Status report on the implementation of a community document shredding program

City Administrator Ferguson reported that residents may bring an allowable amount of documents for shredding to City Hall on Saturday, May 7, 2011 from 9:30 to 11 a.m., free of charge. He noted that all shredded material will be recycled and that residents should bring proof of residency.

- Status report on efforts to resolve recent traffic safety issues on La Buena Vista Drive

City Administrator Ferguson reported that a traffic safety hazard existed at a cut-through at the intersection of Las Flores and La Buena Vista. He advised that railroad tie barricades were installed to restrict cut-through traffic. He noted that the City received notice today from Insurance Service Office (ISO), a fire/insurance rating agency, that the City's draft review was very favorable, which has positive impact for property owners' insurance rates. He commended the Wimberley Fire Department and Wimberley Water Supply Corporation for their roles in receiving such a favorable rating.

Concerns were expressed about the community shredding event being held on the same day as Market Day. It was acknowledged that future event scheduling will attempt to avoid conflicts with Market Days.

3. Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Discuss and consider possible action regarding a proposed underground agreement, conveyance of conduit agreement and electric utility easement relating to the development of the Blue Hole Regional Park. (*City Administrator*)

City Administrator Ferguson explained that all three of the subject documents are associated with the installation of the new underground electric service for the Park, with any costs to be paid from the Blue Hole Park Development Fund.

Councilmember McCullough moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember White seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

- B. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the proposed rules for the Blue Hole Regional Park fire pit rental area. (*Parks and Recreation Advisory Board*)

In accordance with Council's direction at its April 21, 2011 meeting, City Administrator Ferguson incorporated the input of Blue Hole Regional Park Manager Doug Carter and the Wimberley Fire Department into the proposed set of fire pit rental rules as follows:

- Do not use combustible liquids, such as gasoline or lighter fluid, to start a fire in the pit.
- Do not build a fire larger than the boundaries of the pit.
- Do not cut down trees or trim branches for firewood. Use only clean, dry firewood provided by the City.
- Do not remove any materials from the Park or waters.
- Leave no embers burning. Please douse your fire with water and not dirt.
- Dispose of trash and ashes in containers provided for each.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
- Glass containers are prohibited.
- The possession and/or use of illegal drugs are prohibited.
- Be considerate of others – please, no amplified music.
- Fires are not allowed when air pollution alerts are in place, or when otherwise posted.

Discussion addressed language added that may allow use of the fire pit during burn ban periods, if property graded and not otherwise prohibited. It was confirmed that there will be Park staff and a water source nearby the fire pit area.

Councilmember Thurber moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Wood seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0. City Administrator Ferguson commented briefly on the State's drought index map.

- C. Discuss and consider possible action regarding a request from the Wimberley 4-H Club to place signage in the public right-of-way relating to the upcoming Wimberley Memorial Day weekend rodeo. (*City Administrator*)

City Administrator Ferguson reported no changes from previous years' requests for this annual event and recommended approval.

Councilmember White moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Thurber seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0.

4. City Council Reports

- Announcements
- Future Agenda Items

Council expressed appreciation to Councilmember Wood for her service on Place One of City Council.

City Administrator Ferguson reminded that the General Election is May 14, 2011 and noted remaining early voting dates/times at the Wimberley Community Center.

Hearing no further announcements or future agenda items, Mayor Flocke called the meeting adjourned.

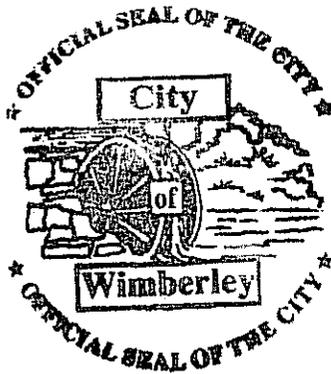
Adjournment: Council meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Recorded by:

Cara McPartland
Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 19th of May, 2011.

APPROVED:



Steve Thurber

Steve Thurber, Mayor Pro Tem