

City of Wimberley
City Hall
221 Stillwater
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Minutes of Regular Meeting of City Council
May 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

City Council meeting called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Mayor Steve Thurber.

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

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Steve Thurber, Councilmembers Tom Talcott, Cindy Anderson, Matt Meeks, Pam Showalter, and John White.

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

Citizens Communications

No citizen comments were heard.

1. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of April 16, 2015
- B. Approval of minutes of the Special City Council meeting of April 16, 2015

Councilmember Meeks moved to approve both Consent Agenda items, as presented. Councilmember Talcott seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

2. City Administrator Report

- Status report on the Central Wimberley Wastewater Project

City Administrator Ferguson reported that a preliminary meeting is set for next week with legal counsel on upcoming steps in the contested case hearing process. He reported that water quality tests performed after Market Days indicated elevated levels on Cypress Creek, with monitoring to continue.

- Status report on the management of the deer population within the city limits

City Administrator Ferguson reported that there will be an Urban Deer Workshop to be held at Texas State University on May 29, 2015 on deer management tools and solutions. He noted registration deadlines and asked Council members to notify him, if able to attend. Councilmember Showalter suggested that specific citizen volunteer(s) be chosen to take the place of any Council member(s) who cannot attend the seminar.

- Status report on the search for a new city marshal

City Administrator Ferguson reported on applicant interviews to be held tomorrow and stated that the majority of feedback received is supportive of replacing the city marshal.

- Status report on May 9, 2015 City of Wimberley General Election

City Administrator Ferguson reported on May 9th voting times at the Wimberley Community Center and advised that City Hall will also be open. He noted that unofficial results will be announced at the Community Center after the polls close. He anticipated canvass of election results will be held at 12:00 p.m. on May 15, 2015. Brief discussion addressed counting of mail-in ballots.

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

City Administrator Ferguson reported that the swimming area is open weekends only in May, with daily operations to start Memorial Day through Labor Day. He reported on record attendance for this season's first weekend and provided details on registration and activities related to the Blue Hole Nature Camp Series. He thanked artist Benge Elliott for his generous donation of a sculpture to enhance the fire pit area. He noted Arts Fest was very successful, with a record number of vendors. He advised that discussions with Arts Fest organizers are exploring the possibility of expanding festivities to other areas of the Park for next year's event. He noted recent location photo/video shooting activities at the Park and stated that all efforts are made to avoid inconveniencing the public during those shoots.

- Status report on the operation of the public restrooms in central Wimberley

City Administrator Ferguson reported on regular maintenance of public restrooms and the need to temporarily shut down due to crowds associated with the barbecue cook-off event held on April 18, 2015. He noted that had the City been involved in the planning phase of this event, closing of the restroom facility could have been avoided. He apologized for any inconvenience to the public and advised that event organizers have assured that the City will be included in next year's event planning efforts.

In addition, City Administrator Ferguson reported on nearly completed line/pole work by Pedernales Electric Cooperative and its preliminary planning of underground utilities as part of the City's proposed central wastewater system. He also reported on a recent vehicle/pedestrian accident at a crosswalk in the Wimberley Square, noted existing safety improvements, and the need for vigilance by motorists and pedestrians to observe and obey all signage. He noted that additional stand-up portable signs have been ordered to augment existing signage. Brief discussion addressed possible State assistance and alternate solutions.

3. Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Discuss and consider possible action authorizing the mayor to enter into a professional services agreement with *Singleton, Clark & Company* relating to the preparation of the

City of Wimberley Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2015. (*City Administrator*)

City Administrator Ferguson recommended approval of the agreement with the audit firm of *Singleton, Clark & Company*, which has prepared the City's Annual Financial Report for the previous eight years, with no problems encountered.

Councilmember Meeks moved to approve the authorizing the mayor to enter into a professional services agreement with *Singleton, Clark & Company*, as presented. Councilmember Showalter seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

- B. Discuss and consider action amending the City of Wimberley's existing professional services agreement with *Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.* to provide technical support for the City in the upcoming contested case hearing process relating to the City's proposed wastewater discharge permit. (*City Administrator*)

City Administrator Ferguson recommended approval of the agreement amendment to provide technical support for the City, as needed, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000, during the upcoming contested case hearing process. He noted that this additional expense will be paid from the City's General Fund and is not covered under funds allocated as part of the City's loan from Texas Water Development Board.

Councilmember White moved to approve the amendment to the City's existing professional services agreement with *Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.*, as presented. Councilmember Anderson seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 4-0. Councilmember Talcott abstained.

- C. Discuss and consider action authorizing pay adjustments for the Public Works Assistant and Receptionist/Finance Clerk relating to a mid-year City staff reorganization. (*City Administrator*)

City Administrator Ferguson recommended the pay adjustments resulting from the recently implemented staff reorganization, outlined specific changes in job duties, and noted proposed hourly wage increases.

Councilmember Talcott moved to approve the pay adjustments, as presented. Councilmember Meeks seconded. Motion carried on a vote of 5-0.

4. City Council Reports

- Announcements
- Future Agenda Items

Mayor Thurber recognized Councilmember Anderson, whose son Tristan wrote an award-winning essay, earning her the honor of being named of 2015 Mother of the Year.

Mayor Thurber also expressed appreciation to Councilmember Meeks for his service on Council. He said it has been an honor working with Councilmember Meeks, who will be greatly missed.

Councilmember Anderson reported on her personal observation of children swimming in Cypress Creek last Saturday, despite warning signs on health hazards. She requested that consideration be given to installing additional higher-profile signage to emphasize the existence of health hazards. She also favored consideration of providing extra restroom facilities during events that may overburden existing facilities, such as the recent barbecue cook-off.

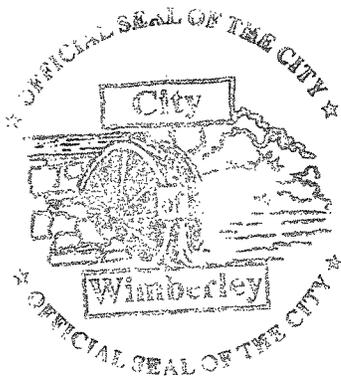
Hearing no further announcements or future agenda items, Mayor Thurber called the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment: Council meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Recorded by:

Cara McPartland
Cara McPartland

These minutes approved on the 21st of May, 2015.



APPROVED:

Steve Thurber
Steve Thurber, Mayor