

CARL HARBERT <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	DAVID RUTLEDGE <i>Mayor</i>	DANNY HARRINGTON <i>Council Member, Place 4</i>
MIKE REED <i>Council Member, Place 2</i>		TERRI GAUTHIER <i>Mayor Pro-Tem/Council Member, Place 5</i>
TAMMI FISETTE <i>Council Member, Place 3</i>		LUCY FIELDS <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CITY OF BRIDGE CITY

January 7, 2020

The City Council of Bridge City met in a regular session on Tuesday, January 7, 2020, at the City Hall of Bridge City, 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor David Rutledge called the City Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor David Rutledge
 Council Member Carl Harbert
 Council Member Mike Reed
 Council Member Tammi Fisette
 Council Member Danny Harrington
 Mayor Pro-Tem Terri Gauthier
 Council Member Lucy Fields

CITY COUNCIL ABSENT: None.

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Jerry D. Jones
 City Secretary Jeanie McDowell
 City Attorney Paul Fukuda
 Finance Director Karen Morgan
 Personnel/Purchasing Director Mitzi Nolan
 Police Chief Paul Davis
 Assistant Utility Superintendent Mike Die
 Public Works Director Mike Lund

2. INVOCATION

Invocation given by City Attorney Paul Fukuda.

3. PLEDGE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE STATE OF TEXAS FLAG

Mayor Rutledge led in the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag and to the State of Texas flag. At the conclusion of the pledges, Mayor Rutledge thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Harbert made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Reed.

With no corrections, additions, or deletions, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fissette, Harrington, Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

(a) City Manager

City Manager Jerry Jones had the following report for Council:

1. Hurricane Harvey Relief Program – the brochure in front of you is to make you aware of this program. If you know someone who has applied or will be applying you will know what is available and what the deadlines will be. This program is money that is available for small businesses. This information you can pass on and the City has extra brochures for anyone interested.
2. Elsie Street Project – Driveways, boxes, and dress up is the only three things that is left out there and the guys are doing a good job.
3. Center Street Ditch Project – the City has had the pre-construction meeting. It has been wet and will get some rain over the weekend, but hoping to begin the project next week.
4. Manholes – pre-construction meeting will be on the January 16, 2020, so the week after, the contractors will probably start on the project.
5. Roadside Ditches – pre-bid meeting was today. They released ten streets and it is not the majority of the money. The ten that were released was actually through a different fund. The \$3 Million has been committed to the City and the engineers are working on plans. The plans should be back to the City within a week or so.
6. Filter Press – will be installed within the next 2 or 3 weeks. The company is waiting on parts and getting it all together. The electricians may start next week.

7. Fire Plugs – The plans are turned in to the Texas Water Development Board. They are still asking questions and reviewing the plans, so that project will be coming together in a month or so.

(b) City Council

Council Member Carl Harbert said he would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and hope we have a very prosperous year. Also, would like to wish Terri an early Happy Birthday.

Council Member Mike Reed

None.

Council Member Tammi Fiset asked Mike Lund about Mr. Griffith's ditch beside his house that has that hump in it, was that taken care of.

Mr. Lund said we have not got on that yet and we are in the process of getting more grades on that. The City Staff was scheduled for this week, but had rain. The City Staff cannot get into the back yard without making a big mess. The City will get that schedule again as soon as the yard is dry enough to get in the back yard. Council Member Fiset said Mr. Griffith talked to you and you told him it was going to be done, I just have not made it down there to look at it. Mr. Lund said that he has talked to Mr. Griffith 2 or 3 times and I have assured him that it will get done. Council Member Fields asked where this was located. Mr. Lund said it was right behind Elda Street and it is a back yard easement ditch.

Mr. Jones said it was part of this project. It is the one when you looked at the plans that they brought to us, when we stopped up the pipe that was going across the street in to the marsh the water was going the other way, it's that one.

Council Member Fiset asked about the concrete at the 4 way stop, we have said that was part of this. Mr. Lund said no that was part of the drain box project that is beginning soon.

Council Member Danny Harrington

None.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier

None.

Council Member Lucy Fields asked Mr. Jones if the Council will know which of the ten roadside ditches were approved. Mr. Jones said he could give her or any Council Member a list of the ditches. He also said they were in 3 different locations of the City, and why they picked that particular group he does not know. Council Member Fields said they get request about when the City is doing ditches all the time.

(c) City Staff Report

None.

Student Representative:

None.

City Attorney Paul Fukuda

None.

(d) Mayor

Mayor David Rutledge had the following report:

1. Mayor Rutledge said he had a letter he would like to read into the minutes. It is as follows:

January 6, 2020

Carolina Velasquez
P.O. Box 270477
Houston, TX 77277

Ms. Velasquez,

On behalf of the citizens of Bridge City and the Bridge City Independent School District, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, your staff, and all the people at Trees for Houston for the successful tree planting and tree giveaway that was held in our city on December 14, 2019. With the generous grant from the Arbor Day Foundation and your wonderful crew, we were able to plant 40 trees around our Bridge City Elementary and Intermediate Schools and 10 more around our City Park. With the tree give-away program, an additional 250 trees were distributed to our citizens and neighbors.

With assistance from your staff and crew, along with some of our local Master Gardeners, the 40 trees were planted by our school children, teachers, staff, parents, and interested citizens, as a school project. Each class was assigned a tree to plant, and each class adopted "their" tree. They will care for and nurture the trees through the next few years, until the trees are self-sustaining. But each one will forever be referred to as "my tree" by each member of the class that helped with its planting.

In addition to the planting of the 40 trees at the schools, we were also able to add ten trees to the City Park to help enhance the experience of families that use and enjoy our park. On those long, hot summer days in the not too distant future, these trees will help provide much-needed shade for our park goers.

The tree give-away program was equally successful. Because of this generous grant, we were able to supply 250 trees to citizens of Bridge City and surrounding communities. Given the information you supplied and the first-hand knowledge provided by our local Master Gardeners club members, these trees will provide benefits to our residents and neighbors for many years to come. As our tree populations have been ravaged over the past 15 years by hurricanes Rita and Ike, and tropical storms Harvey and Imelda, these additional 250 trees will help us replace some much needed foliage and shade that were lost to storms.

Again, please pass along to your staff and crew, your entire team with Trees for Houston and the Arbor Day Foundation our most heart-felt thanks for this wonderful project that will enhance the

lives of our citizens for many years to come.

Mayor Rutledge also said the City will send a similar letter of appreciation and thanks to the Master Gardeners for all their help. They were a big help in this project also.

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION

(a) Consideration and possible action to approve minutes of the December 3, 2019 City Council Meeting

Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2019 City Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member Harrington.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisette, Harrington and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(b) Consideration and possible action to approve the City Bills for the month of November 2019

Council Member Harbert made a motion to approve the City Bills for the month of the November 2019, seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisette, Harrington and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

(c) Consideration and possible action to enter into a Joint Election Agreement Services Contract between Tina Barrow, Orange County Elections Administrator and the City of Bridge City, Texas to supervise and conduct the General Election to be held on May 2, 2020

Council Member Fields made a motion to enter into a Joint Election Agreement Services Contract between Tina Barrow, Orange County Elections Administrator and the City of Bridge City to

supervise and conduct the General Election to be held on May 2, 2020, seconded by Council Member Harbert.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisette, Harrington and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

8. ADJOURN

Council Member Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m., seconded by Council Member Fields.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

MOTION CARRIED.

Ayes: Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Gauthier, Council Members Harbert, Reed, Fisette, Harrington and Fields.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary