

Minutes

City Council - Regular Session City Council Meeting

CITY OF SIMONTON

December 19, 2023

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the City Council - Regular Session Meeting of the Simonton City Council held on December 19, 2023 at 6:30 PM.

1. Call to Order

A quorum was present with the following City Councilmembers in attendance:
Laurie Boudreaux, Courtney Cox, Burns Turner, Faith Haley, Justin Boudreau, and Kelli Matula

City Staff present:

Interim City Secretary Janie Willman

Sitting in for City Attorney Justin Pruitt from Olson and Olson, Philip Boedeker, Attorney

Public Present:

Daniel McJunkin

2. Invocation and Pledge

Mayor Boudreaux delivered the invocation.
Mayor Boudreaux led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Public Comments

There were no members of the public to address the City Council.

4. Consider and take action on the Consent Agenda

- a. Monthly Paid Bills
City of Simonton Payment Report October 1, 2023 – October 31, 2023
City of Simonton Council Report Check Dates October 1, 2023 – October 31, 2023
- b. Approve Draft Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2023 and December 5, 2023 City Council Meetings

Motion by Councilmember Matula to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented.
Councilmember Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Five

Noes: None

Motion Passed.

Present and not voting except in the event of a tie: Mayor Boudreaux.

New Business

- 5.a. Consider and take action acknowledging the City of Simonton, Texas Sales and Use Tax Report, November 2023, Q4. Mayor Boudreaux announced that Ryan Fortner had provided updated

information through December 2023, Q4. However, the updated information was received after the meeting agenda was posted. Attorney Boedecker informed the City Council that it would be best to address questions related to the November 2023, Q4 Report. It was noted the City Council cannot formally acknowledge receipt of the December 2023 Q4 Report until January 2024.

Mr. Fortner addressed the City Council and provided highlights of the information provided to the City Council in their binders.

- 5.b. Receive Formal Presentation Updating the City Council on the Progress of the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (CPAC) 3 Meeting.

CPAC Committee Chair Susan LaDart made a formal presentation. It was noted that a Review copy was emailed to the City Council.

- 5.c. Receive Report from Mayor Regarding Twinwood (U.S.) Municipal Utility District No. 1 Organizational Meeting.

Mayor Boudreaux informed the City Council that the City received an invitation to the Twinwood Municipal Utility District MUD 1 Organizational Meeting. The Meeting was to allow the leadership to attend to all the legal requirements to establish the Municipal Utility District and organize to conduct the business of the District. The City was provided with an updated Master Plan Draft which includes Orchid Estates which is the MUD District No. 1 Plan. Mayor Boudreaux informed the City Council that the initial development being established is Orchid Estates which is both in Simonton and in the ETJ. The Mayor invited the City Council to review the organizational handbook provided as a courtesy to the Mayor. It was noted that the Draft Plan is being shared with the CPAC.

- 5.d. CenterPoint Energy Filing Application for Approval to Amend its Distribution Cost Recovery Factor (DCRF) on December 14, 2023. Acknowledge Receipt of Filing Application and recommendations from Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C.

The City Council received notice of the CenterPoint Energy Filing Application on December 14. A recommendation was received on Thursday at 5:15 p.m. to the Gulf Coast Coalition of Cities as follows. "In the filing, the Company is seeking an increase in distribution revenues of \$85,901,658. If approved, the increase to an average residential customer will be \$1.53 per month. As a reimbursable matter, GCCC is authorized to intervene in the matter. We have engaged the services of a consultant, Mr. Karl Nalepa, to review the Company's filing. Mr. Nalepa will conduct discovery and identify adjustments that should be made to the Company's request.

Due to the recent change in the law, CenterPoint may now file two DCRF cases per year. Cities have jurisdiction over this matter. However, because of the expedited timeline (i.e. 60 days) and ambiguity in the statute, we are not recommending that cities take action to deny this application once it is filed. We will keep you apprised as events warrant."

This item is not posted for action. It is posted to inform the City Council of the Filing received and the recommendation to the Gulf Coast Coalition of Cities.

6. Reports

a. Mayor Report.

a.1. Personnel Recruitment Update. The Mayor reported that after reviewing the resumes again, she is down to interviewing at last 3 persons for one position and at least 2 persons for the second position with the intention of bringing someone on-board by the 2nd week in January and 3rd week in January, respectively. In order to keep on-track with the City's daily work and to prepare the transition plan and organizing materials, she reported that the Interim City Secretary will remain until the end of January 2024.

a.2. Fort Bend County Subsidence District Update. The City has not received any response to the Mayor's counteroffer to the Fort Bend County Subsidence District.

a.3. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision for TPDES Permit No. WQ0013051002 Renewal for Municipal Wastewater. After speaking with Mayor Ball of Weston Lakes, it was determined that the Application and Letter were sent to Simonton City Hall for their attention as their City Secretary was housed in this building at one time. The document has since been collected by their City Secretary with their thanks for ensuring they received the original letter and information.

a.4. ARPA Expansion of City Hall Update. Shanna O'Hara, the Assistant Project Manager for LJA came to City Hall with contractors to complete compiling information needed to complete the numbers needed for the Bidding part of the process for January 2024. The Mayor met with techs scheduled by the Impress Computers vendor to obtain costs for cabling and other technical updates for the City Council Chambers to be included in the costs to be reported as part of the upcoming Bidding process. The Mayor reminded the City Council that there is \$15,000 for repair of the existing restroom facility in the Fire Bay to allow for upgrading to include a shower stall in the existing Fire Bay.

a.5. e-Code 360 Update. City Council Members attended training on the upgrade and review of the project and how to use the on-line platform which contains the 75 questions for review and feedback from the City of Simonton. It was agreed to set-up another meeting in January 2024 to ensure we are all on-track with our respective assignments. We will assign sets of questions to each trainee attending the meeting and meet informally to continue the work until we get to the last set of questions on which we need the City Attorney's review. Just a reminder here that to get the work completed by March 11, 2024, we have to work collaboratively and in a focused manner. The Mayor expressed her appreciation to the City Council's volunteers to get this most important work completed on a timely basis.

b. City Staff Report. Interim City Secretary Willman asked the City Council for clarity related to the City Council Calendar and upcoming dates for January. The Mayor noted that the change in the January Meeting Dates will allow the Council and staff to enjoy Christmas-related travel plans. City Attorney Boedeker informed the City Council that since this is an administrative change, it can be clarified today. He noted there must be at least four members of the City Council to attend a Special Meeting in addition to the Mayor to establish quorum and conduct business.

c. City Council Member Report. There were no City Councilmembers to report at this time.

7. Adjournment. The Mayor adjourned the meeting without objection at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Boudreau

Mayor

James Sullivan

Interim City Secretary