

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 1, 2016 AT 6:00 PM

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Eric Barna called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Eric Barna gave the invocation and Mayor Barna led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM**

City Secretary Susie Quinn certified a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

Mayor Eric Barna  
Mayor Pro Tem Scott Bradley  
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Owais Siddiqui  
Councilmember Ben St. Clair  
Councilmember Betty Nichols Spraggins  
Councilmember Sarah Fincanon

Absent:

Councilmember Rob Thomas

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Jennifer Berthiaume, representing MCDC/4B* wanted to promote the community grant program. The Murphy Monitor is writing an article to also help promote this program.

*Jim Moebius, representing the Murphy Chamber of Commerce* announced the Chamber of Commerce will be having their Spring Fever event March 26, 2016 from 10am to 4pm in the Lowes parking lot.

*Keith Patton, resident* wanted to remind everyone the republican precinct convention is at 9:30 this Saturday at the Cottonwood Baptist Church in Allen Texas and encouraged the Murphy residents to participate.

*Ray Shahan, resident* explained the documents he provided to council regarding PD 03-10-590 and the screening in the Ranch subdivision.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

All consent agenda items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

A. Consider and/or act on the February 16, 2016 regular meeting minutes.

- B. Consider and/ or act on the application Stacy McVey, Double Eagle Properties, LLC requesting approval of construction plat for a single story retail center on property zoned PD (Planned Development) District No. 09-12-823 on property located at the southwest corner of FM 544 and Brand Road.

***COUNCIL ACTION (5.A. and 5.B.):***

***APPROVED***

**Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 0 (Councilmember Thomas was absent).**

**6. INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

- A. Consider and/or act on the City of Murphy 2015 Combined Annual Financial Report.

Finance Director, Linda Truitt gave a review for the Combined Annual Financial Report along with Nicole Bradshaw with Pattillo, Brown and Hill L.L.P the audit firm. Truitt explained we received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the past 11 (eleven) years and we will be submitting again for the award this year. Some of the highlights in the Combined Annual Financial Report (CAFR); the General Fund unassigned fund balance at the end of September 2015 is 3.9 million dollars to make almost 4.1 million dollars total in the General Fund Balance. Currently, our net assets exceed liabilities by \$83, 472,045. Our revenues were \$20,717 under the final budget, and expenditures were \$452,083 under the final budget. Our Government long term debt ended at \$34 million dollars with \$3.3 due in FY2016. Legal Debt Margin is at 10% of the total assessed value. Nicole explained statement number 68, which requires a report of the unfunded portion of the TMRS as a liability in the financials. Nicole was pleased to let Council know their opinion is "unmodified" which is the highest level of opinion meaning it is excellent. Assessment of the City's internal control over financial reporting was completed and no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses were found. For grants over \$500k in expenditures there is a special process when reviewing these items to ensure compliance; no significant deficiencies or material weaknesses were found. Overall personnel and management appear to have an understanding of their roles for finances being safeguarded. The firm is suggesting we review all capital asset reports and perform a physical inventory to make sure we have the most current listing as possible for these items.

Mayor Barna clarified we did received a toll road grant, but that monies came from SH121/Sam Rayburn to the city for road improvements like Betsy Road.

***COUNCIL ACTION (6.A.):***

***APPROVED***

**Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to approve the City of Murphy 2015 Combined Annual Financial Report (CAFR) as conducted by Pattillo, Brown and Hill. Councilmember Fincanon seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 0 (Councilmember Thomas was absent).**

- B. Consider and/or act on the park dedication fees owned by Murphy Meadows, PD (Planned Development) No. 15-09-1001 on property located at the southwest corner of Betsy Road and McCreary Road.

Director of Economic/Community Development Kristen Roberts explained this project is a new development with patio home and townhome lots. Park land is not available and fees in the full amount of \$52,800 prior to the final plat submission. The board is requesting the monies be used on park lands in the area near this development.

No discussion on this item from Council.

***COUNCIL ACTION (6.B.):***

***APPROVED***

**Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to approve the park dedication fees in the amount of \$52,800 from Murphy Meadows, PD No. 15-09-1001 and that the funds to be used towards park systems in the neighborhoods surrounding Murphy Meadows subdivision. Councilmember Fincanon seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 0 (Councilmember Thomas was absent).**

- C. Consider and/or act on the bids for Central Park Food Truck Court and parking lot extension and authorize City Manager to execute the contract.

Acting City Manager, Chief Mark Lee explained the bids came in significantly higher mostly due to increased concrete costs. Staff is recommending awarding the contract to Cole Construction including alternate number 1. Council asked for clarification for project completion timeline and lighting. Dennis confirmed the completion date is six (6) months, and the additional lighting was added for safety and will be turned on when there are events or as needed. There was discussion on the timeline and seating options.

***COUNCIL ACTION (6.C.):***

***APPROVED***

**Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to award the contract to Cole Construction, Inc. with Alternate #1 and authorize the Acting Interim City Manager to execute the contract. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 0 (Councilmember Thomas was absent).**

- D. Consider and/or act on an extension of the South Maxwell Creek Trunk Sewer Line and authorize the City Manager to execute the amended agreement.

Acting City Manager, Chief Mark Lee explained the trunk sewer line needs to be extended further north. This item and approval is to allow the City Engineer to design the extension.

***COUNCIL ACTION (6.D.):***

***APPROVED***

**Mayor Pro Tem Bradley moved to award the extension of the South Maxwell Creek line and Amendment #1 to the Engineering Services Agreement and authorize the Acting Interim City Manager to execute the amended agreement. Councilmember Fincanon seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 0 (Councilmember Thomas was absent).**

- E. Consider and/or act on an external audit for the City's water meter system.  
Finance Director Linda Truitt gave background and options for auditing the meters based on half the meters being tested. Council voiced questions regarding how many we should test and discussed when to do this since it is an out of budget item.

Truitt explained some of the things we are working such as Aquahawk for customers to monitor their water usage real time. There was discussion on this product, rollout, social media campaign, etc.

**Public Comments**

**Keith Patton, resident** does not feel we need this audit.

**Jennifer Berthuaume, resident** suggested doing a GIS technology solution in lieu of a water meter audit.

**COUNCIL ACTION (6.E.):**

**NO ACTION**

- F. Discussion on the copper and lead water monitoring report.

Director of Public Services, Bernie Parker gave a presentation answering the questions from Mayor Barna. Parker explained we missed taking the samples in 2015, we did a mail out notification to all residents, and the City engineer confirmed we do not have any lead pipes in use in the City of Murphy. In 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012 our results for this lead/copper testing came back well below the threshold set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Contributing factors to missing this test in 2015 were notifications being changed by the state; the City no longer received plastic bottles in the mail to remind us the test was to take place as in previous test years, and there was staff turnover in the Public Works department which led to a loss of institutional knowledge. Parker explained City Staff are doing several things to help prevent this from occurring again; reminders are placed on multiple staff members calendars, automatic shipment of bottles from the testing laboratories are to be sent in the correct time frame so that the City can test in the summer months as required by TCEQ. A standard operating procedure for the public works department has been developed to help ensure institutional knowledge stays in place. Council asked for clarification of why we have to test June through September and the language in the notice that was sent out. Parker confirmed TCEQ requires the test to be done in the warm weather because it ensures the best quality of test results. The letter language was provided directly from TCEQ and does not allow for deviations.

Council also asked about the water report; Parker confirmed that the Annual Water Quality Report, or as it is also called, the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR report) is posted on the City's website and there is a section on lead and copper testing. He reminded Council that the North Texas Municipal Water District tests for copper and lead on a monthly basis and there have not been any issues.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION ONLY (6.F.):**

**NO ACTION**

- G. Discussion regarding standardizing the speed limit on Betsy Lane between Dublin Road and McCreary Road.

Police Lieutenant, Adana Barber explained the police's recommendation to post all speed limits at thirty five miles per hour (35 mph) along Betsy Road. Council asked for clarification on what the speed limit is going from Plano down Betsy into Murphy, Barber confirmed it is thirty five miles per hour (35 mph).

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION ONLY (6.G.):**

**NO ACTION**

- H. Discussion regarding Tibbals Elementary and the City Ordinance Sec. 20.03.047 Speed through school zones (f).

Police Lieutenant, Adana Barber explained we have received some complaints regarding this area. Recommendation 1 is posting many signs prohibiting parking during the school zone hours. Recommendation 2 is to update the ordinance and clarify. Council asked for clarification if the ordinance update would update for all 3 elementary schools, Barber confirmed it would.

**Public Comment**

**John Daugherty, resident** explained he lives in the area this would affect, he prefers recommendation number 2, but would like to consider putting in a no left turn to divert the traffic an alternate way through Morningside, Rosewood, Tablerock and Windy Knoll.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION ONLY (6.H.):**

**NO ACTION**

**7. CITY MANAGER/STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Timbers Nature Preserve

Acting City Manager, Chief Mark Lee reported the final walkthrough took place February 18<sup>th</sup> and we have a few items left to take care of that are ADA compliance issues. We are 98% complete with this project.

- B. Betsy Lane Road Widening Project

This project is continuing, sidewalks are nearing completion, and landscaping is being worked on.

- C. South Maxwell Creek Parallel Trunk Sewer Line

The South end of this project is still too wet to begin on that end. There will be a second crew beginning on this project if current weather patterns hold.

- D. North Murphy Road

Landscaping in the medians is continuing, State Representative Jodie Laubenberg will be holding a meeting with TxDot and the HOAS Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00PM.

Council asked regarding the conduit on in the center lanes for future light poles. Lee said he would work on finding the answer on that.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the regular council meeting was adjourned at 7:16 PM.

APPROVED BY:



Eric Barna, Mayor

ATTEST:



Susie Quinn, City Secretary

