

# MINUTES - CITY OF BEAUMONT

W.L. Pate, Jr., At-Large  
Dr. Alan B. Coleman, Mayor Pro Tem  
Ward II  
Audwin Samuel, Ward III  
Tyrone E. Cooper, City Attorney

**BECKY AMES, MAYOR**  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 24, 2015  
Kyle Hayes, City Manager

Gethrel Wright, At-Large  
Michael D. Getz,

William R. Sam, Sr. Ward IV  
Tina Broussard, City Clerk

The City Council of the City of Beaumont, Texas, met in a regular session on **March 24, 2015**, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 801 Main Street, Beaumont, Texas, at 1:30 p.m. to consider the following:

## OPENING

- \* Invocation                      Pledge of Allegiance                      Roll Call
- \* Presentations and Recognition
- \* Public Comment: Persons may speak on scheduled agenda items 1-2/Consent Agenda
- \* Consent Agenda

Mayor Ames called the council meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Pastor David Hudson of the Scott Olive Baptist Church gave the invocation. John Ellis, Lamar University American Government honor student, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was made by Stephanie Gandy, Deputy City Clerk.

Present at the meeting were Mayor Ames, Mayor Pro Tem Coleman, Councilmembers Getz, Wright, Pate, Samuel and Sam. Absent: Tina Broussard, City Clerk. Also present were Kyle Hayes, City Manager; Tyrone Cooper, City Attorney; Stephanie Gandy, Deputy City Clerk.

## Proclamations, Presentations, Recognitions

**"American Red Cross Month"** – Proclamation read by Councilmember Wright; accepted by Chester Jourdan, American Red Cross

**Community Wildland/Urban Interface Protection Plan (CWPP)** – Proclamation read by Councilmember Pate; accepted by Fire Chief Anne Huff, City of Beaumont

**"YMBL South Texas State Fair Days in Beaumont"** - March 26 – April 5, 2015 - Proclamation read by Mayor Ames; accepted by Harvey Zernial, YMBL Fair Chairman, and Wayne Stockly, YMBL President

**Audit Presentation** – Chris Breaux with Whitley Dean presented the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

**Mayor Ames read the announcement regarding Executive Session being held at the conclusion of the General Business portion of the meeting.**

**Public Comment:** Persons may speak on scheduled agenda items 1-2/Consent Agenda.

**None**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- \* Approval of minutes - **March 17, 2015**
- \* Confirmation of committee appointments – **Resolution 15 - 052**

Sandra Womack would be reappointed to the Police Department Community Advisory Board. The current term would expire January 10, 2017. (Mayor Becky Ames)

Ava Graves would be reappointed to the Convention and Tourism Advisory Board. The current term would expire January 31, 2017. (Councilmember Bill Sam)

- A) Approve an annual contract with Southern Cement Slurry, Inc., of Porter, for the purchase of cement slurry for road rehabilitation – **Resolution 15 - 053**
- B) Approve a change order to the contract with Allco, LLC, related to the South Park Area Water and Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project – **Resolution 15 - 054**
- C) Authorize the City Manager to apply for and receive funding from the State of Texas for Inter Library Loan activities for FY 2015 – **Resolution 15 - 055**
- D) Authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary for a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Beaumont and the City of Houston – **Resolution 15 - 056**

Councilmember Samuel moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Pate seconded the motion.

**AYES: MAYOR AMES, MAYOR PRO TEM COLEMAN, COUNCILMEMBERS GETZ, WRIGHT, PATE, SAMUEL AND SAM**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED**

## GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Consider authorizing the City Manager to apply to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs for Emergency Solutions Grant funds.

Given the extent of the homeless problem within our community, we are recommending that an application be made to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for Emergency Solution Grant funds. As the lead agency under the application, the City would accept applications from various local providers, to act as sub-recipients of the program, providing services directly to the homeless.

This competitive process would be similar to the recently-administered Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing (HPRP) Program that the City administered over the last two years. If awarded, a call for applications will be made and submitted to the Community Development Advisory Committee for consideration and recommendation to City Council for final award. We expect the grant amount to be \$266,735.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), administered through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA).

Approval of resolution.

Councilmember Wright moved to **APPROVE A RESOLUTION THAT THE CITY MANAGER BE AND HE IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR FUNDING IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$266,735 IN EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) FUNDING THROUGH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (TDHCA) TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR THE HOMELESS.** Councilmember Coleman seconded the motion.

**AYES: MAYOR AMES, MAYOR PRO TEM COLEMAN, COUNCILMEMBERS GETZ, WRIGHT, PATE, SAMUEL AND SAM**

**NAYS: NONE**

**MOTION PASSED**

### **Resolution 15 - 057**

2. Consider a resolution approving the renewal of an annual maintenance agreement from SunGard Public Sector for use by Police, Fire and EMS.

SunGard Public Sector software is used by Police, Fire, and EMS for dispatching of emergency personnel, records management for Police, miscellaneous reporting,

case management, and numerous other essential functions for Public Safety. This purchase is exempt from competitive bidding since it is available from only one (1) source having exclusive rights to modify and maintain the software. The software maintenance agreement provides twenty-four/seven unlimited telephone support for 911 dispatching; Monday – Friday, 8 – 5 support for mobile computers, electronic field reporting, and all records management applications, and provides annual software upgrades.

This agreement is for an annual period beginning January 2015.

General Fund – Information Technology and Confiscated Goods – Police.

Approval of resolution.

Councilmember Sam moved to APPROVE A RESOLUTION THAT THE CITY MANAGER BE, AND HE IS HEREBY, AUTHORIZED TO PAY AN INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$233,531.58 TO SUNGUARD PUBLIC SECTOR FOR THE RENEWAL OF AN ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMS PUBLIC SAFETY SOFTWARE SUPPORT BEGINNING JANUARY, 2015. Councilmember Samuel seconded the motion.

**AYES:** MAYOR AMES, MAYOR PRO TEM COLEMAN, COUNCILMEMBERS GETZ, WRIGHT, PATE, SAMUEL AND SAM

**NAYS:** NONE

**MOTION PASSED**

**Resolution 15 - 058**

#### **COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

**MAYOR PRO TEM COLEMAN -**

THANKED LAURA CLARK, CFO, AND HER STAFF FOR ALL THEIR GREAT WORK AND THE GREAT REPORT, STATED HE AND HIS WIFE ARE GLAD TO BE BACK HOME FROM THEIR TRIP TO GUATEMALA, WHERE THEY WERE GUESTS OF SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND PERFORMED SEVERAL CHARITABLE DENTAL PROCEDURES AT A CONVENT AND SCHOOL

**COUNCILMEMBER GETZ -**

THANKED MAYOR AMES FOR ATTENDING THE TOWNHALL MEETING AT ROGERS PARK ON LAST TUESDAY, THE MEETING WAS INTENDED TO RECEIVE CITIZENS' INPUT ON THE AFFORDABLE LIVING

DEVELOPMENT ON PHELAN BOULEVARD, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEVELOPER ATTENDED THE MEETING AND PROVIDED INFORMATION ON IT, THE MAJORITY OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE ARE OPPOSED TO THE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PROPOSED LOCATION, ASKED THAT COUNCIL SUPPORT ANOTHER PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTH END OR RESCIND SUPPORT FOR THE PHELAN LOCATION AND THAT IT BE BROUGHT TO COUNCIL AT A FUTURE MEETING

**COUNCILMEMBER WRIGHT -**

SO HAPPY THAT COUNCIL GAVE THE PROCLAMATION TO THE RED CROSS, THEY DO SO MUCH FOR THE CITY AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS, THANKED THE YMBL FOR ALL THAT THEY DO TO RAISE FUNDS FOR SO MANY VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, THANKED THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR JOINING WITH THE TEXAS FOREST SERVICE TO LEARN AND HELP BETTER SERVE THE AREA, AMAZED AT ALL THE WONDERFUL THINGS THAT HAPPEN IN THE CITY

**COUNCILMEMBER PATE -**

COMMENTED ON THE BEAUMONT HERITAGE SOCIETY'S FUNDRAISER LAST SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE CHAMBERS' HOUSE, THEY DID A WONDERFUL JOB, SO MANY GREAT THINGS GOING ON IN OUR COMMUNITY, SALUTED THE LAMAR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN ATTENDANCE, MENTIONED THAT LE GRANDE BALL IS ALSO THIS WEEKEND, IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN HELPING OUT THE COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AT LAMAR, THERE SHOULD STILL BE TICKETS AVAILABLE, THANKED THE YMBL FOR THE WORK THEY, THEY ALL ARE STRICTLY VOLUNTEERS, WE'RE REALLY FORTUNATE TO HAVE SUCH AN AWESOME ORGANIZATION, ENCOURAGES EVERYONE TO GO OUT AND SUPPORT THE FAIR BECAUSE THE MONEY COMES BACK TO THE COMMUNITY, ANNOUNCED THE EASTER EGG HUNT THIS WEEKEND AT STERLING PRUITT, ENCOURAGED EVERYONE TO ATTEND

**COUNCILMEMBER SAMUEL -**

THANKED THE LAMAR STUDENTS FOR ATTENDING COUNCIL MEETING, EXPLAINED THAT THEY ARE NOT JUST OUR LEADERS OF TOMORROW BUT ARE OUR LEADERS OF TODAY AS WELL, ASKED COUNCIL TO PLEASE BE AWARE OF WHAT IS DONE ESPECIALLY

WHEN IT INVOLVES POSSIBLE LITIGATION, THE BEAUMONT HOUSING AUTHORITY HAS BEEN BATTLING TEXAS APPLESEED OVER NOT ALLOWING A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF PUBLIC OR LOW INCOME HOUSING TO BE PLACED IN ONE PARTICULAR AREA OF THE CITY SO AS NOT TO IMPACT JUST THAT AREA, ANY TIME AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS ARE PROPOSED FOR NON IMPACTED AREAS OF THE CITY THERE'S AN ARGUMENT BUT WHEN IT'S TO BE PLACED IN A HIGH IMPACT AREA, IT'S OKAY, THAT IS WHY TEXAS APPLESEED AND THE FAIR HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS ARE FIGHTING TO PREVENT THIS TYPE OF DISCRIMINATION IN OUR CITY, DOES THE COUNCIL MAKE DECISIONS ON WHAT THEY FEEL IS RIGHT, JUST AND FAIR OR DO THEY MAKE THEIR DECISIONS BASED ON WHERE THEY GET THE MOST DECENSION, IT CAN CONTINUE BUT COUNCIL HAS TO BE ACCOUNTABLE AT SOME POINT, SUSPECTS THAT IF THINGS KEEP MOVING IN THE DIRECTION THEY HAVE BEEN THERE WILL CONTINUE TO BE LAWSUITS AND FIGHTS, THIS IS NOT ABOUT SUPPORTING ONE PARTICULAR ORGANIZATION

**COUNCILMEMBER SAM -**

APPRECIATES THE LAMAR STUDENTS FOR BEING IN ATTENDANCE, BELIEVES IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT EVERYONE HEARD THE PREVIOUS COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS, STATED THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF POSITIVE THINGS GOING ON IN THE CITY THAT MAY HAVE BEEN OVERLOOKED, MENTIONED THAT CENTRAL AND OZEN HIGH SCHOOLS PARTICIPATED IN THE REGIONAL AND STATE COMPETITIONS AND IS VERY PROUD OF THEM, WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE GOOD THINGS CONTINUE, STATED THAT AT THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES CONFERENCE IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT CITIES HAVE A POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND WAS QUITE PROUD THAT BEAUMONT IS AHEAD OF THE CURVE BECAUSE ONE IS ALREADY IN PLACE HERE, BEAUMONT IS AHEAD OF THE GAME IN MANY WAYS AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT KIND OF THING CONTINUE, ATTENDED A HISTORY MONTH FOR WOMEN AND THANKED Ms. PIERRE FOR PUTTING THAT PROGRAM TOGETHER, IT WAS WONDERFUL

**CITY ATTORNEY COOPER - NONE**

**CITY MANAGER HAYES - NONE**

**MAYOR AMES - NONE**

**Public Comments (Persons are limited to three minutes)**

**Roy D. Kirkland                      5715 Townhouse Lane                      Beaumont, TX**

Spoke against the low income housing project planned for Phelan Boulevard, feels there is a failure to communicate between the City and the citizens, there are too many citizens against the project, voiced concerns about crime in an apartment complex behind the proposed project, feels Council shouldn't have approved resolutions in support of the low income projects without first speaking with the community

**Helen Ingram                      500 Franklin                      Beaumont, TX**

Came to speak on behalf of Nell's Place about sewage problems over the weekend, the problem was reported and employees waited all day Saturday and Monday, City employees failed to come out

**Landry Rountree                      1565 S. Major Drive                      Beaumont, TX**

Stated that today is number 477 since the legal resolution signed against his company, that there are two types of law – good law and bad law, good law is promoted and cultivated by wise council to help and serve the community, bad law has it's roots in faulty and bad council and serves to oppress the people; religious comments

**Sandra Marshall                      5680 Phelps Road                      Beaumont, TX**

Voiced concerns regarding the conditions of Phelps Road, stated that since she has been in residence the past 15 years Phelps Road has not been resurfaced for the one mile stretch between Tyrrell Park Road and Fannett Road, all of the other roads have been resurfaced with no sidewalks, due to Phelps Road being used as a detour there are multiple potholes that residents have to dodge that were patched when the media was contacted, a neighbor had the road in front of his home fixed when he complained to the media but the rest of the one mile stretch has yet to be fixed

Open session of meeting recessed at 2:33 p.m.

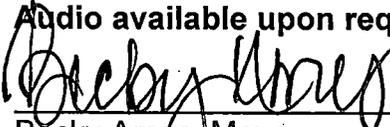
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- \* Consider matters related to contemplated or pending litigation in accordance with Section 551.071 of the Government Code:

United States of America vs. City of Beaumont, Texas

There being no action taken in Executive Session, Council adjourned.

Audio available upon request in the City Clerk's Office.

  
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Becky Ames, Mayor

  
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Stephanie Gandy, Deputy City Clerk

