

§ STATE OF TEXAS  
§ CALDWELL COUNTY  
§ CITY OF LULING

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LULING, MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M. IN CITY HALL 509 EAST CROCKETT STREET.**

The following members were present:

Mike Hendricks	Mayor
John Wells	Council Member
Jackie Campbell	Council Member
Wayne Tresner	Council Member
James Nickels	Council Member
CJ Watts	Council Member

Staff Members present:

Mark Mayor	City Manager
Martha C. Velasquez	City Secretary
Bill Sala	Police Chief
Sonny Rougeou	Finance Director
Elizabeth Mundine	Finance Administrative Assistant

**1. Call Meeting to Order.**

Mayor Hendricks called the meeting to order and welcomed all the visitors.

2. **Consent Agenda** — *All consent agenda items listed 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 a Council member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda. Information concerning consent agenda items is available for public view.*
- a. **Approval of Minutes of the February 14, 2019 regular City Council meeting, Special Council Meeting February 7, 2019 and (2) Budget Workshops on February 7<sup>th</sup> and February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019.**
  - b. **Consider/Approval of Accounts Payable.**
  - c. **Consider/action on a resolution reviewing and adopting the City of Luling Investment Policy.**
  - d. **Consider/action accepting from the City Secretary, a certificate of unopposed candidates for Council Member Ward 1 and Council Member Ward 3 for the 2019 General Election.**
  - e. **Consider/action approval of an Ordinance declaring unopposed candidates in the May 4, 2019 General Election, elected to office; cancelling the election for contests with unopposed candidates; making various findings and provisions related to the subject and providing for an effective date.**

Sonny Rougeou stated that there were no changes in the Luling Investment Policy, but it's a resolution that must be passed every year.

City Manager, Mark Mayo, stated that we were declaring unopposed candidates in the May 4, 2019 General Election, elected to office and cancelling the election for contests with unopposed candidates.

Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member John Wells to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

**3. Citizen Comment Period with City Council.**

*Any person with business before the City Council, not scheduled on the agenda, may speak to the Council. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting. Comments will be limited to three (3) to five (5) minutes per person.*

There were no citizen comments at this time.

**4. Consider/action a review from Watermelon Thump organization on 2018 event and upcoming event for 2019.**

Bubba Damon, Watermelon Thump director stated that there were no changes for the Watermelon Thump organization events for 2019. Bubba stated that they were doing the same thing they did last year.

Council Member James Nickells made a motion seconded by Council Member Wayne Tresner approving the map and no changes from last year. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

**5. Consider/action approving a recommendation from Planning and Zoning regarding submitted Conditional Use Permit application from Douglas Randall Hood for operating a residential office and storage, repair and maintenance of inflatable (hours by appointment only) in a (RLD) Residential Low Density District within the City of Luling. The legal description of the tract of land is O.T. Luling, Block 61, Lot 8,9 Pat 7, 10 with the address of 312 E. Crockett St., Luling, Texas, property identification of 23742.**

Ryan DeCamp, Code Enforcement Officer stated that Planning and Zoning recommended that it get denied on the grounds that they felt that he did not have enough room to operate his business. Ryan stated that Mr. Hood's business is inflatables. Mr. Hood is present and he would like to speak to the Council.

Ryan stated that this was the second time that this was presented to Planning and Zoning. The first time it came before the Planning and Zoning, they asked him to clean up his property because he had a RV, Boat and trailer in the front yard. They also postponed it to the following month so they could name the conditions to put on the conditional use permit. The second time that it came before the Planning and Zoning, they denied the request because they felt that he does not have enough room to operate the inflatable business.

Mr. Hood asked how much room is needed for him to blow up the inflatables. He stated that he is not asking permission to keep one up permanently; he said he just needs to blow them up to clean them. He stated that the longest one will be inflated in front of his house would be about 2 or 3 hours to let it dry up after he cleans the inflatable.

City Council discussed that there were other citizens around town that were operating the same business at their residence.

James Montgomery stated that he owns property close to this residence, and that it is close to the school and he opposes the conditional use permit, he said that Mr. Hood did a good job of cleaning up his property, but that he does not think Mr. Hood has enough room to operate this type of business at his residence.

Council Member Wells suggested that we postpone for next month and everyone go look at the property and then think of some of conditions they would like to place on Conditional Use Permit.

Following discussion, Council Member Jackie Campbell made motions seconded by Council Member C.J. Watts to postpone until next month and that would give them time to look at the conditions to put on this application. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

Mark Mayo stated that he feels we need to take into consideration what Planning and Zoning stated about the clean-up and that should be one of the conditions and he would like the conditions to be brought to us a week before the next meeting so we can have enough time to put it together for the Council.

**6. Consider/action approving an ordinance adopting a budget for the ensuing fiscal year beginning April 1, 2019 and ending March 31, 2020 in accordance with the Charter of the City of Luling, Texas and repealing all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith.**

Finance Director, Sonny Rougeou stated that we had provided you a summarized report of the entire budget. It includes all the funds. Sonny asked if the Council had any questions of him or Liz that they could answer and this time.

Sonny Rougeou stated that if the budget was approved that they would bind it and give us a copy.

Mayor Hendricks stated that he would like to compliment Sonny and Liz on the job they have done on the budget; we appreciate all the work that you two have done on the budget.

Council Member John Wells made a motion seconded by Council Member Wayne Tresner to approving the ordinance adopting the budget for the ensuing fiscal year beginning April 1, 2019 and ending March 31, 2020 in accordance with the Charter of the City of Luling, Texas and repealing all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

**7. Consider/action approving an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Luling, Texas, amending section 6-48 – Political signs, to reflect current state law; providing for severability; providing repealer; providing penalty; providing for publication; and providing an effective date.**

Code Enforcement Officer Ryan DeCamp stated that he would like to apologize for the timing of this ordinance, it wasn't planned this way. Ryan said that he had a school board member ask him some questions on our city political sign ordinance. He stated that our ordinance is a little confusing, the wording is a little off, however if you read the state election law you can see why it is written that way. Ryan stated that he had sent this to our city attorney and he sent it back pretty quickly. In the ordinance, in section 7, you can provide an effect date, and he would like to change it to go into effect after elections.

Mayor Hendricks asked Ryan if the City wanted to change this ordinance away from the State, could we? Ryan stated NO, we could not.

Mark stated that all ordinances have to be in line or greater than the state rules and regulations.

Council Member John Wells stated that he was recusing himself from any discussion or voting on this matter.

Mayor Hendricks stated that he would suggest we make the effective date of June 1, 2019.

Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member C.J. Watts to approve the ordinance of the City Council of the City of Luling, Texas amending section 6-48- Political signs, to reflect current state law; providing for severability; providing repealer; providing penalty; providing for publication; and providing June 1, 2019 as the effective date. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

**8. Consider/action approving Interlocal agreement between the City of Luling and Caldwell County to cooperate and provide services for road construction related projects within the city limits of City.**

City Manager, Mark Mayo stated that this came up because the City of Luling wants the County to help us with a maintainer and working on a baseball field. We noticed that we did not have an agreement with Caldwell County or City of Luling. Mark stated that he got together with Peter, City's attorney, to draw up an Interlocal agreement along with the County's attorney.

Council Member Wayne Tresner made a motion seconded by Council Member James Nickells approving the Interlocal agreement between the City of Luling and Caldwell County to cooperate and provide services for road construction related projects within the city limits of City. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

**9. Consider/action approving a customer service contract between the City of Luling and LCRA for tree trimming with McCoy Tree Surgery.**

Electric Superintendent, Buddy Pearson stated that we have a contract every year with LCRA for tree trimming around the city. This contract is for a week, 40 hours and they will have 2 crews trimming. LCRA negotiates the price with the contractors and McCoy Tree Surgery had the lowest rate, which was \$12,000. They have had the lowest rate for the last 2 years.

Council Member Jackie Campbell made a motion seconded by Council Member James Nickells approving a customer service contract between the City of Luling and LCRA for tree trimming with McCoy Tree Surgery. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

**10. Consider/action approving a LCRA Customer Services Contract with the City of Luling for Substation Inspection, Maintenance and Testing.**

Buddy Pearson stated that this is a contract that we renew every 5 years. LCRA come by and by passes our breakers and test them puts them on a machine and makes sure everything is working fine. They use to do this every month but now they test them twice a year, which is better because you don't wear out your equipment. They will be billing us \$221.67 monthly for 5 years.

Council Member Wayne Tresner made a motion seconded by Council Member Jackie Campbell approving a LCRA Customer Services Contract with the City of Luling for Substation Inspection, Maintenance and Testing. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

**11. Consider/action setting rate of pay for election judge and clerks for the 2019 General Election.**

City Manager, Mark Mayo stated that the City Secretary had checked with the school and the county and we would like to propose \$12.00 an hour.

Council Member CJ Watts made a motion seconded by Council Member Wayne Tresner to pay the election judge and clerks \$12.00 an hour for the 2019 General Election. The motion carried with all members present voting unanimously in favor of the motion.

**12. Police Department Monthly Activity Report.**

There were no questions for the Chief or comments from the Chief.

**13. Adjourn.**

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mike Hendricks, Mayor  
City of Luling

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Martha C. Velasquez  
City Secretary