

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE  
CITY OF PRAIRIE VIEW OF WALLER COUNTY, TEXAS  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 23, 2015**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Certification of Quorum**

Roll Call of the Quorum was completed by Administrative Assistant Terry Tuck. The following City Council Members were present: Mayor Frank D. Jackson, Council Member Jonathan Miller, Council Member Jonathon Randle, Council Member Marie Herndon, Council Member Herbert Thomas, and Council Member Paulette Matthews-Barnett.

Also present were City Attorney Paula Alexander, City Financial Advisor JJ Johnson, and Administrative Assistant Terry Tuck.

**Invocation**

Mayor Jackson delivered the invocation.

**Citizens Comments**

Mr. David Allen addressed the City Council with his concerns about sewage treatment and water infiltration. He requested information related to the City's contract with Prairie View A & M University for sewage processing.

Mr. LaVaughn Mosley addressed the City Council regarding payments to the Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. James Larry addressed the City Council regarding the agenda form which he feels affects his first amendment rights. He requested a response in writing about his written request to be placed on the agenda.

Mr. Wendell King addressed the City Council regarding a notice that the building will be torn down. He would like to continue construction on the building.

Mr. Donnie Young addressed the City Council to say he is going to speak on Agenda Item 20.

Ms. Mellrene Young addressed the City Council to say she is going to speak on the agenda item for the building at Owens and Thompson.

Mr. Malcolm Jackson thanked the City Council for the ditch cleaning. He questioned the City's transparency. He addressed the agenda item related to Police Chief Larry Johnson's appointment as Emergency Management Coordinator.

Motion by Council Member Herndon to allow additional time. Second by Council Member Randle.

- Council Member Miller                    Yes
- Council Member Randle                Yes
- Council Member Herndon               Yes
- Council Member Thomas               Yes
- Council Member Barnett.              Yes

Ms. Carla White congratulated Council Member Jonathan Miller on his election by the City Council. She addressed the City Council about getting the City’s money returned from National Urban Construction. She asked the City Council to follow the same rules as the public in terms of rules of deportment.

Motion by Council Member Herndon to allow additional time. Second by Council Member Jonathon Randle.

- Council Member Miller                    Yes
- Council Member Randle                Yes
- Council Member Herndon               Yes
- Council Member Thomas               Yes
- Council Member Barnett.              Yes

Mr. Ronald Leverett addressed a need to be able to hear the speakers addressing the City Council. He asked the City Council to enforce the City’s laws and Code violations. He questioned the expenditure on legal fees..

Motion by Council Member Herndon to allow additional time. Second by Council Member Jonathon Randle.

- Council Member Miller                    Yes
- Council Member Randle                Yes
- Council Member Herndon               Yes
- Council Member Thomas               Yes
- Council Member Barnett.              Yes

Ms. Philana Hemlee addressed the City Council regarding the City’s water service connection fees to be changed from moving from one location to another location within the City limits.

**Presentations**

Chad Nobles, Siemens Infrastructure & Cities, made a presentation on operational cost of water meter reading. His company’s product and service provides improved and faster service. Mayor Jackson stated the Council should schedule a workshop.

A speaker from the Waller County Alliance for Healthy Lifestyle Choices addressed the City Council regarding the need for a Tobacco Ordinance.

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of Minutes from May 26, 2015.

Motion was made by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Randle to accept May 26, 2015 minutes with necessary corrections.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of Emergency Meeting Minutes from May 27, 2015.**

Motion was made by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Randle to accept May 27, 2015 Emergency Meeting Minutes with necessary corrections.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of Emergency Meeting Minutes from May 29, 2015.**

Motion was made by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Randle to accept May 29, 2015 Emergency Meeting Minutes with necessary corrections.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of Special Called Meeting Minutes from May 30, 2015.**

Motion was made by Council Member Randle and seconded by Council Member Thomas to accept May 30, 2015 Special Call Meeting Minutes with necessary corrections.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of Special Meeting Minutes from June 11, 2015.**

Motion was made by Council Member Randle and seconded by Council Member Thomas to accept June 11, 2015 Special Call Meeting Minutes with necessary corrections.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of Ratification of Accounts Payable for June 23, 2015.**

Motion was made by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Randle to accept Ratification of Accounts Payable for June 23, 2015.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: Herndon

Motion passed by majority vote.

### **Department Head Reports**

Department Reports were enclosed in the City Council Packet.

### **Council Members Reports (written)**

City Council written reports were submitted.

### **Mayors Report / Remarks**

Mayor Jackson addressed questions and remarks made by the Citizens. The Mayor's written report was submitted.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Discuss and update on cleaning city drains and ditches in the City of Prairie View and take action on authorizing additional cleaning of street ditches, outfall ditches and flood control projects.**

Fred Alexander, Utility Field Technician, for the City of Prairie View and James King, of King Construction, briefed the Mayor and City Council on city drains and ditches in the City of Prairie View reporting the work that had been completed. It was also noted that other areas need to be cleaned.

Motion was made by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Randle to grant additional time for cleaning of street ditches, outfall ditches and flood control projects.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **New Business**

#### **Discuss and take action on appointing a committee to develop rules and regulations for City Hall building use for Prairie View Citizens.**

Motion was made by Council Member Randle and seconded by Council Member Thomas to select one person to be on a committee to develop rules and regulations for City Hall building use for Prairie View Citizens. Council Member Herndon nominated LaVaughn Mosley.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes

Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Discuss and take action on appointing Councilman Jonathon Randle as Mayor Pro-Tem.**

Motion was made by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Herndon to appoint Councilman Jonathon Randle as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Discuss and take action on appointing Chief Larry Johnson as Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Prairie View.**

Motion by Council Member Herndon not to appoint Chief Larry Johnson as Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Prairie View. It was requested that Council Member Herndon restate the motion in the positive form.

Motion was made by Council Member Herndon and seconded by Council Member Thomas to appoint Chief Larry Johnson as Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of Prairie View.

The City Council discussed concerns with the distance that Chief Johnson would have to travel to the City from his home in the event of an emergency. A question was raised regarding the Chief's training at required emergency management classes. Should this action meet with the City Council's approval, a request was made to place an item on the next agenda about meeting required emergency management training.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	No
Council Member Herndon	No
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	No

Voting against: None

Motion failed by majority vote.

**Discuss and take action on granting an extension to a building permit for renovation property located at 104 Thompson Street (Mellrene Young and Alma Young).**

Ms. Mellrene Young addressed the City Council about renovating a property located at Thompson at Owens Street. She wants to renovate the property to make it an outdoor venue with live music and entertainment. She informed the City Council about the notification process by the City. She referenced experiencing difficulty in obtaining information from the City regarding the status of her case. Ms. Young stated she would like to have a hearing.

Jim Cook, Building Official, reported that based on a complaint from a citizen, an inspection was requested in May, 2015. He noted that under the City's adopted 2012 Building Code, that the structure is categorized as an unsafe building. He detailed the progress of the case. He noted the roof has collapsed; the structure is unsafe. He advised the City Council if it desires to grant an extension, that the Council should request an action plan by an engineer because nothing has happened since 2013.

The City Council asked Ms. Young about the amount of time it would take to rehabilitate the building, about formal plans for the renovation and the reasons for the delay in bringing the building back into compliance. City Council further expressed concern with the building presenting a danger based on the front of the fencing being open and the proximity to a school across the street.

Ms. Young attributed loss of revenue resulting from the removal of a water meter as being the reason she has not been able to complete the renovations. Mayor Jackson noted that the water meter was removed because the building owner or tenants were accessing water illegally without going through the City's utility service.

Motion to approve a one (1) month extension was made by Council Member Randle and seconded by Council Member Miller to allow Ms. Young to bring to the City Council drawings and a plan bearing an Engineer's stamp. Council directed that the building be cleaned out. Fencing has to be placed around the structure.

Council Member Herndon had an unreadiness stating Mr. Cook said the building was unsafe. She asked why the City would leave the building there if it is unsafe if someone can go in and get hurt.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	No
Council Member Thomas	No
Council Member Barnett.	No

Voting against: None

Motion failed by majority vote.

Mayor Jackson informed Ms. Young about the process for her appeal rights. Staff noted Ms. Young she has 30 days to file an appeal for a hearing with the municipal court. The Mayor indicated it is the wish of the Council to demolish the building immediately. Staff indicated the proponents another 90 days. Ms. Young indicated she has already sent a letter to appeal the decision. Mayor Jackson directed a letter from the City to get a letter to Ms. Young as to the court date.

### **Executive Session**

The City Council convened into Executive Session at 10 p.m. pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code, Personnel Matters, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee; and pursuant to Section 552.071 of the Texas Government Code, Consultation with Attorney, to seek the advice of its attorney regarding (1) pending or contemplated litigation, (b) a settlement offer, or (c) a matter on which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflict with this Chapter.

The City Council reconvened into open session at 11:15 p.m.

### **Discuss and take any action on hiring Charles Boggess as the Public Works Field Technician.**

Motion was made by Council Member Randle and seconded by Council Member Thomas to hire Charles Boggess as the Public Works Field Technician.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes
Council Member Herndon	Yes
Council Member Thomas	Yes
Council Member Barnett.	Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Discuss and take action on pending Litigation on National Urban Construction.**

No action was taken on pending litigation on National Urban Construction arising out of Executive Session.

**Discuss and take action on a recommendation for hiring a City Secretary.** Motion was made by Council Member Randle and seconded by Council Member Thomas to set a date of June 30, 2015 for the purpose of interviewing City Secretary candidates.

Council Member Miller	Yes
Council Member Randle	Yes

Council Member Herndon            Yes  
Council Member Thomas            Yes  
Council Member Barnett.            Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Announcements.** There were no announcements made.

**Adjourn.** Motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 11:20 p.m. was made by Council Member Randle and seconded by Council Member Thomas.

Council Member Miller            Yes  
Council Member Randle            Yes  
Council Member Herndon            Yes  
Council Member Thomas            Yes  
Council Member Barnett.            Yes

Voting against: None

Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Approved this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Frank D. Jackson

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary Janie Willman