

**CITY OF THROCKMORTON
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9th, 2022**

1. Mayor Will Carroll called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with council members present: Susie Oliver, Cathey Lee, and Judy Jackson. Absent members, Lester Moses, and Ricky Escalon. Also present was, Jimmy Collins, Public Works Director and, Angie Scarlett, City Secretary, Kim Bundy, Assistant Secretary and Caleb Hodges. Invocation was given by Mayor Carroll.

2. ***Council Members approved the minutes from the July 12th, 2022, Regular Meeting.***

Motion to approve the minutes was made by-----Susie Oliver
Second by-----Cathey Lee
Motion carried 3-0

3. ***Citizens Participation***

Mayor Carroll noted that the angle parking on South Minter looks good. Council member, Susie Oliver added that she noticed while TxDot was still there, that the angle parking did not extend in front of her gym like they proposed to initially do. In talking to TxDot, she was able to get them to return and finish the job in front of her business, "The Gym." Caleb Hodges asked about the drainage in that block. Mayor Carroll noted that the city is in the first stages of the Revitalization sidewalk grant that will take care of the drainage problem there. This will be our number one priority with this grant.

Mayor Carroll received an email about the airport. The city is included in a planning of 2024/25 Capital project for a complete rebuild. They even suggested to possibly find a completely different location. Caleb Hodges asked if the runway could be lengthened because sometimes when the AirEvac helicopter is unable to make it here for emergencies, a plane is sent but cannot take off on our airport because the size of its length is too short. Mayor Carroll reported that no, unfortunately, the airports' location keeps us from being able to make the runway any longer but is hoping of maybe more options on getting some land somewhere else in the county when this capital project comes around. The airport is still in a notam situation at this time, but we do not want it closed permanently.

Caleb Hodges – Discuss Country Club Water

Caleb discussed to the council about the country club water situation. He has been president of the club for 4 years and was under the impression that they had an agreement with the city because the bill for the club house has always been \$30.00 and has never changed. There was a leak at the meter a while back and the city had to go and fix the leak and replace the meter. The first bill the club received after the leak and having to change out the meter, was higher than the usual \$30.00 and that is when they were questioning the agreement that was thought to be in place. The city has no record of said agreement with the country club. Caleb went on to say that they were not aware of how much their water bill would be when the next bill came out which was over \$800.00. Caleb was told by city worker, Josh Hampton that the meter was not working about 2 years back but he told Josh, it doesn't really matter how much water is used, we only have to pay \$30.00 a month anyway. The country club has 3 faucets in which the country club has been using to water a few of their greens with and therefore the bill was much higher. Caleb told the council he was not looking to get free water but was asking for forgiveness on this one bill because of them not knowing how to regulate or estimate how much they have been using in the past. There was more discussion from the council that they were under the assumption that only raw water from the lake was to be used to water the golf course and the meter for the club house was only used for the club house itself. Caleb again mentioned yes, but that were still under the assumption that there was an agreement with the city that they would only be charged the 30 dollars no matter how much water was used. Mayor Carroll added that there is no agreement that the city has from the country club stating this. The only agreement we have with the country club is that raw water could be used at no charge. The water used at the country club for watering greens was unknown to us and the biggest problem with all this is that the city has been buying water from Graham for the past 4 months at \$30,000 dollars a month so if we say that we will forgive this, that means the city is paying for the country clubs water bill and by law, we can't do that. We can't donate to anyone, churches, businesses, or anybody, the way the enterprise is set up. The city even must pay for all the water we use ourselves.

More discussion from the council to Caleb about the length of time the meter has not been working and water that has been used since then for watering greens. It was asked why water from the lake was not being used to water these greens and Caleb said that they are working on getting this accomplished.

Council member Cathey Lee noted that the city really doesn't have a choice, legally in this matter with having to buy water for the city at this time from Graham. Mayor Carroll told Caleb that no one knew that the water at the club house was being used for watering and if we had known, the meter would have been checked on before but knowing that it hasn't been used over the years, the reading would stay at a 0. Caleb noted again that Josh told him that it wasn't working one day but that he told Josh that it wasn't his problem. Council member Susie Oliver asked Caleb, "so knowing that the meter was not working, you were still using way over the 30 dollar a month that you said you had some kind of an agreement". He replied, "yes, whether we used 100 gallons or 100,000, I was still under the assumption that it would only be the 30.00."

Mayor Carroll noted that the cities obligation to this resource starts the day that new meter was put in. Anything before that is in the past. From this point on, the city is responsible for that reading, just like everyone else in town, it has to be charged. All we can do now is move forward from when we were notified of the problem and got it

fixed. Caleb was also informed that the club house is not in the city limits and has only been charged with inside rates which is \$30.00 minimum for the first 1,000 gallons. Outside rates are \$60.00 and will be implemented to this account as it is outside the city limits.

A motion was made by-----Cathey Lee
That the country club would be charged for the full amount of their bill (836.25), with no adjustments.
Second by-----Judy Jackson
Motion carried, 3-0

4. ***Bobby Thompson – Discuss Firehall repairs- Did not show up till later in meeting.***
Bobby addressed the council on behalf of the Fire Department. The old firehall needs repairs and they are asking for financial help from the city. Bobby presented pictures of some repairs needed to the council. Stucco is falling off the walls and causing leaks in the upstairs but with repairs for this, it would be a huge project. More discussion on if the county has been approached to also help. The mayor added that we could start with at least getting the bathrooms in working order but without a plan or an amount of the costs, it will be hard to commit to anything right now. Bobby mentioned that he got an estimate from Bobby Bundy that could range in the \$40,000's but that would be for replacing only walls. The mayor discussed with Bobby T and the council that the bathrooms would be a good place to start and get them at least functional and then possibly do more later. The council agreed on doing this. Bobby T also asked the council about the alley way behind the storage units he owns on west Washington. The alley was taken over by metal from Joe Ed Barrington's studio and now he would like that to be cleaned out and alley put back in for better accessibility. Public Works Director Jimmy Collins noted that he would work on getting the alley put back in.


5. ***Discuss/Vote on "Proposed" Tax Rate for 2022/2023 Budget***
The proposed tax rate was discussed and approved by the council.
A motion was made by-----Judy Jackson
To approve the voter approval tax rate of .765372/100. This will raise about \$8,500 more tax dollars.
A second was made by-----Susie Oliver
Motion carried 3-0.

7. ***Budget Workshop***
The Budget was reviewed and discussed to the council with Public Works Director, Jimmy Collins going over the water, sewer, and garbage fund. City Secretary, Angie Scarlett went over the revenues and expenditures for the new year's General Budget. There was discussion on the budget items with the council. The new budget will be presented at next month's meeting.

8. ***Public Works Director Report***
Jimmy Collins, Public Works Director reported that all summertime help have returned to school and that they really did a great job this year. Water plant is running about half lake, half Graham and we're still waiting on the electrician to come and do the work needed. Scada system is still on hold and waiting on parts to get here for completion. Been busy fixing water leaks and working on those. Lake is getting low, hoping for rain soon.

9. ***Pay Bills/Financial Director Report***
Bills were discussed and reviewed by the council. Financials were reported by the mayor and reviewed by the council.
Motion to pay the bills was made by-----Susie Oliver
Second was made by-----Cathey Lee
Motion carried 3-0

10. ***Adjourn-*** Cathey Lee made the motion to adjourn.
Motion carried 3-0



Angie Scarlett, City Secretary



Will Carroll, Mayor