

CITY OF COFFEE CITY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
7019 Pleasant Ridge Rd.
Coffee City, Texas 75763

September 09, 2019

The City Council of Coffee City, Texas, convened in regular session on September 09, 2019 at City Hall Court Room, 7019 Pleasant Ridge Road, Coffee City, Texas. The following City Officials were present:

GeoJan Wright, Mayor (Present)	Douglas Davis, City Secretary (Present)
Phil Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tern (Present)	Shellena Bivens, Municipal Court Judge (Present)
Don Weaver, Alderman (Present)	Chris Moore, Fire Chief (Present)
Riley Standifer, Alderman (Present)	James Kirkham, Police Chief (Present)
Terry Cooper, Alderman (Present)	
Edward McDaniel (Present)	

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Wright called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilman Rutledge

3. Invocation.

The invocation was given by Councilman Standifer

4. Roll Call and announce if quorum is present.

The roll was called by the city secretary. All members of the council were present, and a quorum existed.

5. Opening Remarks: Welcome to the City Council Meeting of Coffee City Texas

The Mayor welcomed everyone, and said that we have a guest here for a plat approval. She thanked everyone for attending the town hall meeting in August. She said that she thought that it was a good meeting, and she thinks that we have some obvious passionate members of our community regarding certain things. She said that she feels strongly that we (the council) are here as elected members, to hear their voices and to see what is important to them. She stated "Its not about our own agendas as we come to the table we do bring our own agendas." We should be concerned with what ever the city would deem as important to them.

6. Consider and Act upon Consent Items: #7, #8, #9, #10.

The Mayor stated that due to the EDC not having held a meeting and approved their check registers, the city could not approve the registers. So she said that they would table items 9 and 10.

Item 9. Approve the EDC Check Register for the month of AUGUST 2019 was tabled.

Item 10. Approve the EDC H.O.T. Account Check Register for AUGUST 2019 was tabled.

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- 7. Approve the Minutes from the City Council Meeting on AUGUST 12, 2019, as written.**

Councilman Cooper made a motion to accept the August 12, 2019 minutes as written. Councilman Standifer seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and was unanimous.

- 8. Approve the City Check Register for the month of AUGUST 2019.**

Councilman Cooper asked what eBay road expenses was on the check register. The Mayor stated that the police department was diligent in trying to save money, and be cost effective, so they are creative in their purchases. She said that you will see amazon and eBay in some of their purchasing venues. The Mayor stated that charge was for a pole saw that was purchased for trimming limbs that was overhanging the streets. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge asked the Fire Chief if they came and inspected the fire departments brush truck? Fire Chief Chris Moore stated that they came on Wednesday and he introduced the representative to the Mayor. He stated that they told him and the Mayor that the funds would be released in about thirty days. Chief Moore stated that the truck passed, and that they were just waiting on the check.

Councilman Standifer made a motion to accept the check register for the month of August 2019. Councilman Cooper seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and was unanimous.

- 9. Approve the EDC Check Register for the month of AUGUST 2019.**

Item 9. Approve the EDC Check Register for the month of AUGUST 2019 was tabled.

- 10. Approve the EDC H.O.T. Account Check Register for AUGUST 2019.**

Item 10. Approve the EDC H.O.T. Account Check Register for AUGUST 2019 was tabled.

- 11. Open Forum:**

- a. Open Forum is limited to items currently on the agenda.
- b. Speakers must sign in 10 minutes before the beginning of the meeting.
- c. Speakers will be given 3 minutes to speak.

There were no speakers for Open Forum.

- 12. Consider and Act upon the selection of new Website Agreement and Host.**

The Mayor stated that she had taken note that the web site was imposing on other city duties. She stated that she looked into soliciting bids for a new website agreement and host. She stated that she had received two bids. She stated that they were sealed bids. One was from Seed Stock, and the other was from EZ IT Solutions. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge opened one of the bids, and councilman Weaver opened the other. The Mayor stated that she would like to hear the councils thoughts. Councilman Weaver stated that the company that he opened the website bid for, also is the one that will be discussed later in the meeting for doing grant writing. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge stated that the proposal he was

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given to open, was wanting to charge \$175.00 per month, and had no setup fee. Councilman Weaver stated that the bid he opened was for \$75.00 per month, and had a \$550.00 setup fee. He went on to state that the domain names would be registered annually for \$15.00. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge asked Councilman Weaver where the company was located. Councilman Weaver stated that it was a PO Box in Tyler Texas. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge stated that his had no address listed on the bid. A citizen from the floor spoke and stated that Seed Stock was located in Whitehouse. Councilman Weaver asked if the person was aware of there services. The person stated that they had improved their website tremendously. The Mayor stated that Seed Stock has the capability to produce a monthly newsletter for the city and that she could do e-mail blasts. Mayor ProTem Rutledge stated that the bid he had had only one reference listed. He then asked if either of the companies were taking the website that we have now, and moving forward, or if they were going to create a new site. The Mayor stated that she thinks that Seed Stock is looking at a total redesign of the site due to the applications that she can build into the new site. Councilman Weaver stated that Seed Stock had three references. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge stated that he felt that the council should have some conversations with the bidders before they should move forward. He stated that he would like to get the City Secretary to set down with them and go through the website we have now. Councilman Cooper made a motion to table this item. Councilman Weaver seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and was unanimous.

13. Consider and Act upon Platt Revision on behalf of Robert and Christina Hicks via Halo Surveying.

The council reviewed the requested changes to the plat on Coffee Landing road. The Mayor asked if it was just combining lot 1a and a small section. The representative from Halo Surveying stated that it was lot 1a and the adjacent means and bounds property because they want to build a house . After a review, and discussion, Councilman Weaver made a motion to accept the plat changes. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and was unanimous.

14. Mayor's Report:

- a. Report of Town Hall and Joint Meeting of the EDC and City Council.
The Mayor stated that in the council packet there was a one page report on the ballot results from the meeting. She went on to state that at the town hall meeting, they took a poll with about 13 things on the ballot asking the citizens to rate what they thought was most important. She stated that the top ten were fire and police protection, restaurant was third, road maintenance was fourth, water system was fifth, economic development was important, city sewer was important and had some very interesting comments, the next important was a coffee shop, and then a gas station. There were four in favor of a property tax for road repair, 13 maybes,

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and 16 no. For the proposed interlocal agreement with Berryville, 14 people said yes, 17 said maybe, and 2 said no. The Mayor stated that there were other comments made, and internet was one. She stated that several areas could not get internet in Coffee City, and she asked Mr. Ray Ver Hey to expand on the subject. He stated that he had a hard time getting internet on Pine street when he first moved in. He stated that the internet providers were very high, and limited in monthly usage. He said that he had to get a hotspot through his cell phone provider just to get internet at his house. He suggested that the people in Coffee City get a petition together and take it to Suddenlink to see if they would put internet in. The Mayor stated that she called Suddenlink and that they were not helpful, and it was impossible to get to a higher level of support. She stated that her next move would be to contact Lance Gooden, the state representative for this area, to see if he could help with getting internet in Coffee City. The Fire Chief asked the Mayor if she wanted him to call the person with Suddenlink that he called to get Suddenlink into city hall. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge said yes. He went on to say that the Suddenlink representative said he would look at Coffee Landing road and he had not heard anything. The Fire Chief said that the representative said that he would look at Coffee Landing, behind Fat Dogs, and Royal Forrest. The Mayor stated that some of the other suggestions were a laundry mat, fast food, city lights, community grocery, community events, a red light at 155 & 3506, and town home development. The Mayor asked Councilman Weaver for comments because he represented the EDC as well as the council. Councilman Weaver stated that the poll represented about a 10 percent response for the city, and if there was a vote of 50% for something, that only represented about 7 people. Went on to say either good or bad, he just wanted the people to realize what the actual numbers were. Councilman Weaver went on to say that there has been a lot of time spent on the water system, the sewer system, and on these particular developments. He stated that the Mayor did a great job of bringing people together to speak their opinions, but his concern was that the people that did show up had specific agendas in mind. He went on to say that the only way the city could go forward with either the sewer or water system is with a hefty grant. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge said that he wanted to address something that Councilman Weaver had said. He stated that when the sewer system was looked at in the past, it was proposed to put a property tax on every homeowner to pay for a sewer system on 155 only. He stated that from a standpoint of what could be collected, because we are a class b city, the most we could charge is .25 cents per \$1000 in property value, and that would not be enough to do the sewer system. He stated that he thinks the city should go back and do an analysis to see what has changed. Councilman Standifer stated that the last time they had looked at putting a sewer system in, the cost was ten million dollars. He stated that it is eighty-five thousand

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dollars to put a red light at 3506 & 155. Councilman Weaver said "its easy to say that we want this, but how are we going to get it, and who is going to pay for it".

The Mayor asked Councilman Cooper if he had a comment, and he said no he was just listening.

She then asked Councilman McDaniel if he had a comment, and he said that he thought a coffee shop would be good.

The Mayor asked Mr. Ver Hey if he had a question. He asked if the city allowed people to come up and dump garbage in the city dumpster? The Mayor and council said no. He stated that he saw people all of the time coming up and dropping off garbage in the city dumpster. He suggested that the city do a mailout to the citizens asking their opinions. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge stated that would work if you put a self-addressed stamped envelope so that they could send it back.

The Mayor said "it's a small number representation, but I don't think the citizens have really been asked, or have been asked to engage. I have been doing a lot of asking to engage, and my thought process is here and what I heard from this is if these people are dead set (Business owners and citizens) then they need to come to the table, and they need to have a vested interest". Councilman Weaver said that most of the property that is crucial to Coffee City's growth is in play. He said that the business people that were coming in had not asked for a sewer, or water system, they are ready to go as it is, and that is how the city grows quick and efficiently. The owners are taking responsibility.

b. Grant Writing Project.

The Mayor stated that the person she spoke with at Seed Stock is a grant writer. The Mayor stated that Seed Stock has been hired by the city, to identify three to five funding opportunities, and their deliverables will be:

- *Initial grant work and collaboration*
- *To write a narrative for one of the identified projects*
- *To compile the application content, research, report development, they will collaborate with the council, and they will do the grant writing.*

c. Review of the Official Henderson County Ballot.

The Mayor stated that there was an informational paper in the packet that is a sample ballot for the upcoming November election.

15. EDC Report

EDC member Cynthia Swanson reported that the EDC did not meet in September.

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16. Municipal Court Report

Coffee City Municipal Court Judge Shellena Bivens reported that for the month of August 2019 there were 340 new cases, 52 dismissal after completion of drivers safety, 10 dismissals after completion of deferred adjudication, 12 dismissals after proof of insurance, 82 warrants issued, 1 dismissal after completion of community service, 8 dismissals after jail credit, and 1 dismissal for indigency in the amount of \$215. There was \$46,644 collected in fines for the month, and GHS collected \$6,168. There has been a legislative update with several financial changes for the municipal courts in Texas, and will be done in two waves. The state traffic fine went from \$30 to \$50 because, they did away with the driver responsibility program, that went to support trauma centers. The second wave of changes goes into effect January 1st and we will get more information on those changes as we get closer. The Judge stated that the OCA and state comptroller are trying to figure out how we can spend these new monies that we keep locally. She said that there are a lot of changes, but nothing that will affect us locally.

17. Police Report

COFFEE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

August 2019

In the month of August, 2019 the Coffee City Police Department had 56 calls for service and /or officer-initiated activities.

Accident: 6	Funeral Escort:	Road hazard: 2
Agency Assist: 9	Fire:	Shots Fired: 2
Alarm:	Follow up:	Stolen Vehicle:
Animal:	Illegally Parked Vehicles:	Suspicious Activity: 3
Assault: 1	Information: 3	Suspicious Person: 6
Burglary of habitation: 1	Loose livestock:	Suspicious Vehicle: 2

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Civil Matter: 2	Lost Child:	Terroristic Threat:
Criminal Mischief:	Lost Property:	Theft:
Criminal Trespass:	Loud Noise:	Unlawful carrying of weapon:
Code Enforcement:	Medical Services:	Vehicle Impound: 8
Code clean up:	Misdemeanor Arrest: 2	Warrant Service: 2
Code in Progress:	Motorist Assist: 8	Welfare Check: 1
Disturbance: 3	Nuisance ordinance violation:	Harassment:
Death/Homicide:	Possession of Controlled Sub:	911 Hang Up: 1
D.W.I:	Public Intoxication:	Bomb Threat:
Evading:	Possession of Marijuana:	Open Door:
Fake ID:	Reckless Driver:	Distress: 1
Felony Arrest: 2	Reports: 5	Burglary of a Vehicle: 1
Dog Bite:	Welfare Check:	Burglary in Progress: 1
Suicidal Person:	Lost Property:	Call for an E.M.S.: 1
Missing Person:	911 Hang Up:	Runaway: 1

The Coffee City Police Department currently has 3 Full time officers, 4 Reserve Police Officers.

Lt. Frank Serrato Full Time	Matthew Lopez: Injured	
Cody Welch: Full time		
Chief James Kirkham: Full Time	Michael Green: 20	
	Lt. Wayne Frazier: 20	
	Edgar Clayton:	

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August 2019: The Coffee City Police Department had a total of 391 contacts and of those were 342 citations and 236 warnings and 3 voided.

<u>CITATIONS:</u>		
Allowing Unlicensed Driver to Drive:	Failed to Stop at Designated Point:	Speeding 1-9mph: 8
Defective equipment: 7	Failed to Dim Headlights: 3	Speeding 10-19mph: 174
Driving While License Invalid: 18	Failed to YIELD Right of Emergency Vehicle: 32	Speeding 20 mph over: 25
Driving down turn lane:	Fictitious Plates:	Blue Headlights: 1
Disregard Stop Sign: 2	Failed to Display Driver License:	Operating Golf Cart: 1
Driver License Restrictions:	Littering:	Unrestraint Child: 2
Drug paraphernalia:	No Insurance: 16	Window tint: 4
Expired Driver License: 3	No License Plate light:	Displayed Improper L.P.:
Expired MVR:	No Rear License Plate:	Improper MVR Displayed:
Fail to change address on Driver License: 1	No Seat Belt: 2	Following to Close: 1
Failed to Control Speed:	No Front License Plate:	Poss. Of Paraphernalia: 5
Failure to Display Reg.	No Driver's License: 12	Failed to Maintain Single Lane: 1
Failed to Signal Turn: 5	Open Container: 3	No Trailer Lights: 1
Failed to Signal Lane Change:	Obscured License Plate: 1	Unregistered Trailer: 1
Failure to Display MVR: 8	Public Intoxication:	
Failure to Display D.L.: 1	Displayed Altered L.P.:	

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18. Fire Dept. Report

MONTHLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORT TO THE CITY OF COFFEE CITY COUNCIL

4 September

2019 DEPARTMENT: Coffee City Volunteer Fire

Department FOR THE PERIOD ENDING: 31 August 2019

SUBMITTED BY: Fire Chief Chris L. Moore

In the month of August, we had 26 calls for service. Call volume is average

0 Building Fires	0 Good Intent	5 Grass / Unattended Fire
2 MVA's	8 Medical Calls	0 illegal Burn (Construction Clean Up)
4 Tree Obstruction	0 Public Service (Unlock car)	
4 Boat Calls	3 Burn Ban Warnings	

We currently have 16 Senior Fire Fighters and no Explorers 2 Mascots.

Upcoming Events

October

National Night Out 1st

Square Fair TBD

HCFA Fire School 19-20

Eastman Fire School 12-14

December

Holiday Meal 14th

If you have any questions or problems please contact me.

CHRIS L. MOORE

Fire Chief

Cell: 903-539-7925

thefirechief@outlook.com

Mayor Wright asked Lieutenant Serrato to give an update of the National Night Out preparations. He stated that he had been out last week, and was going to get with Vicki Castleberry for a status update, but had not. The Mayor asked Vicki Castleberry for an update. Vicki Castleberry stated that they had received a few logos from sponsors that

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they were going to be putting on the bags. She stated that there were about six businesses that were going to be participating and two or three more that were going to be setting up booths. She went on to say that they have bouncy houses, grilled food, and t-shirts that are going out to staff members. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge asked if anyone had gone out to the businesses. Officer Serrato stated that he had gone to several of the businesses and put up advertisements. The Mayor stated that she appreciated the fire department and the Judge for coming together and helping with the event.

19. Adjournment.

The Mayor asked if there was any other business. No one had any other business. Mayor Pro Tem Rutledge made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Weaver seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and was unanimous.

Attestation:

These minutes were approved on October 15, 2019



Mayor



City Secretary