

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Monahans, Texas convened on the above date at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall with the following members, officers and visitors present:

<i>David B. Cutbirth</i>	<i>Mayor</i>
<i>Rudy Hernandez</i>	<i>Council Member District No. 1</i>
<i>Absent-Jeppie S. Wilson</i>	<i>Council Member District No. 2/Mayor Pro Tem</i>
<i>Calvin Carrell</i>	<i>Council Member District No. 3</i>
<i>Ivy Valenzuela</i>	<i>Council Member District No. 4</i>
<i>Richard Hawkins</i>	<i>Council Member District No. 5</i>
<i>Rex M. Thee</i>	<i>City Manager</i>
<i>Tonya Todd</i>	<i>City Secretary</i>
<i>Absent-Alan Nicholas</i>	<i>Attorney for the City</i>
<i>Teresa Burnett</i>	<i>Chamber of Commerce</i>
<i>Billy Riley</i>	<i>Chief of Police-MPD</i>
<i>Christy Sullivan</i>	<i>Monahans News</i>
<i>Michael Ziddell</i>	<i>The Sandhills Sun On-line News</i>

ITEM #1 & ITEM #2 Mayor Cutbirth called the meeting to order and Councilman Carrell gave the invocation.

ITEM #3 Administer Oath of Office for Council Member District No. 1, Council Member District No. 4, and Council Member District No. 5. City Secretary Tonya Todd administered the Oath of Office for Council Member District No. 1 Rudy Hernandez, Council Member District No. 4 Ismael “Ivy” Valenzuela, and Council Member District No. 5 Richard Hawkins.

ITEM #4 Elect Mayor Pro Tem

Motion by Councilman Hawkins, seconded by Councilman Hernandez to elect, by acclamation, Jeppie Wilson as Mayor Pro Tem for a one-year term.

Votes were as follows:	“Aye”	Rudy Hernandez
	Absent	Jeppie Wilson
	“Aye”	Calvin Carrell
	“Aye”	Ivy Valenzuela
	“Aye”	Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #5 City Manager Rex M. Thee briefed the Council on approving the minutes of the April 28, 2020 Regular Council Meeting.

Motion by Councilman Carrell, seconded by Councilman Hawkins to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2020, Regular Council Meeting, as presented.

Votes were as follows:

“Aye”	Rudy Hernandez
Absent	Jeppie Wilson
“Aye”	Calvin Carrell
“Aye”	Ivy Valenzuela
“Aye”	Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #6 Consider and Act Upon approving the following consent items:

- a. Accounts Payable in the amount of \$825,381.90
- b. Monthly Reports/Minutes: (a) Airport Manager’s Monthly Report, (b) MEDC Minutes and Monthly Financial Report, (c) Building Permit Monthly Report, (d) Animal Control Monthly Report, (e) Municipal Court Monthly Report, (f) Code Enforcement Officer’s Monthly Report, (g) City Monthly Fund Balance Report, (h) City Monthly Revenue and Expenditure Comparison Summary Report

The Code Enforcement Officer’s Monthly Report was not included as part of the reports submitted.

Motion by Councilman Hernandez, seconded by Councilman Valenzuela, to approve the consent items:

Votes were as follows:

“Aye”	Rudy Hernandez
Absent	Jeppie Wilson
“Aye”	Calvin Carrell
“Aye”	Ivy Valenzuela
“Aye”	Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #7 Presentation by citizens to be heard. Teresa Burnett, Director of the Chamber of Commerce stated that the National Guard facilitated in 27 free mobile tests for the Coronavirus at the Ward County Event Center on Saturday, May 9, 2020 and are awaiting results. Ms. Burnett indicated on May 13, at 1:00 p.m., the Chamber has partnered with the Texas Governor’s Office of Economic Development to host a Small Business Webinar Series for West Texas. Ms. Burnett mentioned that the series will provide the latest updates on COVID-19 recovery resources. Ms. Burnett stated that she is very honored and blessed to help with this project, as well as helping all their Chamber members with resources such as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). Mayor Cutbirth stated that it may seem impossible that Ward County does not have any positive cases, but he is very thankful and very glad the Nursing Home has zero cases. City Manager Rex M. Thee stated that City Hall will unlock the doors on Thursday, May 14th and a germ partition has been installed at the counter of City Hall. Mr. Thee mentioned that the drive through window is still the preferred method of doing business, at this time.

ITEM #8 City Manager Rex Thee briefed the Council with regards to request from Monahans Chamber of Commerce to temporarily Close 5th St. between Allen and Calvin, July 3-4th for the July 4th Freedom Festival. Mr. Thee indicated that the Parade has been cancelled. Ms. Burnett stated that they will still have some booths that are spaced out and marked and the annual

fireworks display will be held. Mr. Thee mentioned that the City will provide portable toilets, ant and mosquito control, and trash trailer.

Motion by Councilman Hawkins, seconded by Councilman Hernandez to approve the request to temporarily close 5th St. between Allen and Calvin, July 3-4th for the July 4th Freedom Festival, at Hill Park.

Votes were as follows:	“Aye”	Rudy Hernandez
	Absent	Jeppie Wilson
	“Aye”	Calvin Carrell
	“Aye”	Ivy Valenzuela
	“Aye”	Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #9 City Manager Rex M. Thee briefed the Council with regards to Resolution No. 2020-017 Adopting a Water Conservation Plan (WCP) for the City of Monahans. Mr. Thee indicated that Texas mandates that public municipal water systems that have 3,300 or more connections have a Water Conservation Plan and update it every five years. Mr. Thee stated that the City recently surpassed 3,300 connections. Mr. Thee mentioned that he hired Enprotec/Hibbs and Todd Engineers, the same company constructing Quela Street Lift Station, to produce the plan. Mr. Thee stated that it is important to have goals to conserve water and to be very mindful to limit water loss, while supporting the water sales that pays the bills for the City.

Motion by Councilman Hernandez, seconded by Councilman Carrell to approve Resolution No. 2020-017:

SECTION 1. That the Water Conservation Plan attached hereto as Exhibit A and made part hereof for all purposes be adopted as the official policy of the City of Monahans.

SECTION 2. That the Mayor is hereby directed to implement, administer, and enforce the Water Conservation Plan.

SECTION 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Votes were as follows:	“Aye”	Rudy Hernandez
	Absent	Jeppie Wilson
	“Aye”	Calvin Carrell
	“Aye”	Ivy Valenzuela
	“Aye”	Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #10 City Manager Rex M. Thee briefed the Council regarding the Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 1277 suspending the Proposed Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) Interim Rate Adjustment of Texas Gas Service Company, A Division of One Gas, Inc. Mr. Thee indicated that the ordinance requests suspension of the rate adjustment request to the PUC for 45 days which would then go into the 60-day process at the State. Mr. Thee stated that since we are part of the El Paso service area, what the City of El Paso does is usually the determining factor for the entire service area. Mr. Thee mentioned that typically, the rate

increase requests by One Gas/Texas Gas Services go into effect after this process unless contested by El Paso and the rate adjustment will be a \$1.19 per month increase for a household. Mr. Thee stated that he recommends final approval of this ordinance suspending the rate adjustment decision.

Motion by Councilman Valenzuela, seconded by Councilman Hernandez to approve the Second and Final Reading Ordinance No. 1277:

ORDINANCE NO. 1277

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MONAHANS, TEXAS SUSPENDING THE PROPOSED GAS RELIABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM INTERIM RATE ADJUSTMENT OF TEXAS GAS SERVICE COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ONE GAS, INC.; FINDING THAT THE MEETING COMPLIES WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT; DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND REQUIRING DELIVERY OF THIS ORDINANCE TO THE COMPANY

A. FINDINGS OF FACT

The foregoing recitals are incorporated into this Ordinance by reference as findings of fact as if expressly set forth herein and such recitals, as findings of fact, are hereby approved.

B. PROPER NOTICE & MEETING

It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public, and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

C. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage.

D. COPY OF ORDINANCE TO TGS

Within 10 days after passage, a copy of this Ordinance shall be sent Stephanie Houle, Texas Gas Service, Barton Skyway IV, 1301 S. Mopac, Suite 400, Austin, Texas 78746.

Votes were as follows:	“Aye”	Rudy Hernandez
	Absent	Jeppie Wilson
	“Aye”	Calvin Carrell
	“Aye”	Ivy Valenzuela
	“Aye”	Richard Hawkins

Motion carried.

ITEM #11 Motion by Councilman Hawkins, seconded by Councilman Carrell to adjourn meeting at 3:39 p.m.

Votes were as follows:	“Aye”	Rudy Hernandez
	Absent	Jeppie Wilson
	“Aye”	Calvin Carrell
	“Aye”	Ivy Valenzuela
	“Aye”	Richard Hawkins

Passed and approved by the Monahans City Council on May 26, 2020.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Tonya Todd, City Secretary

David B. Cutbirth, Mayor