

Minutes of the Regular  
Scheduled Meeting  
Troup City Council  
February 26, 2013

A Regular Scheduled Meeting of the Troup City Council was held Tuesday February 26, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Troup Independent School District Administration Building. Councilpersons present were: Mayor John Whitsell, Jeff Hale, Joe Carlyle, Tim Young, Chip Richardson and Mayor Pro Tem Carole Wilson. Also present were City Administrator Gene Cottle and City Secretary Buffie Deason.

Guests attending were Joseph Orozco, Suzanne Loudemy, Tim Mager, and others not signed in.

Mayor John Whitsell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. noting all Council Persons were present.

Mayor Whitsell – Led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 3 Citizen comments concerning non-agenda items. Mayor Whitsell addressed the problem that the City of Troup was having with ETMC EMS service about the response times of the ambulance service and his concern with the citizens of Troup not receiving quick response times. The Mayor voiced citizen concerns of whether the EMS has an actual ambulance stationed in Troup like it is suppose to be. Mr. Joseph Orozco with ETMC EMS confirmed that Troup does have an ambulance that is stationed in Troup, but that the ambulance can be used as a floating ambulance if other surrounding areas need assistance. Mr. Orozco said that most delay response times were due to the flu season and that Troup was not the only outer lying town that was experiencing this problem. The Mayor and City Administrator Gene Cottle both voiced concern that the Upper Management of ETMC had not contacted them. Mr. Orozco explained that he was the Regional Manager and that he was addressing the concerns of Troup. Councilperson Joe Carlyle ask for this to be an agenda item for the next Troup City Council meeting.

Mayor Whitsell - Item 4 Comments, questions or input from the City Administrator's written report. Councilperson Tim Young ask about our General Reserve accounts, Mr. Cottle explained that funds were transferred from the city's General Fund account from tax money collected and that the funds should be in reserve unless needed. Councilperson Joe Carlyle ask what type of funds TexClass were, it was explained they are reserve accounts. Mr. Cottle also explained that the City Ordinances needed to be codified and had not been done since 2005.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 5 Discuss and consider reimbursement of expenses to David Blackmon. City Administrator Gene Cottle explained that Mr. Blackmon had produced receipts of expenses and that he and Mr. Blackmon had agreed to a reimbursement of \$2000.00 and the Mr. Blackmon would remove the snow cone stand within thirty days. Councilperson Tim Young made the motion to allow the City Administrator to reimbursement David Blackmon in the amount of \$2000.00. Councilperson Joe Carlyle seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 6 Discuss and consider exercising the City of Troup's option to extend the current depository contract with Austin Bank for two years until December 31, 2014 in accordance with the terms of the existing contract dated January 1, 2012. City Administrator explained this is a three year contract with a two year extension option and that he did not think it was in the best interest of the City of Troup to not extend the contract. Councilperson Carole Wilson made the motion to extend the existing depository contract with Austin Bank. Councilperson Jeff Hale seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 7 Discuss and consider requiring the signature of three persons, one of which is either the Mayor or the Mayor Pro-Tem on any check in the excess of \$20,000.00, excluding internal transfers between the City of Troup financial accounts. City Administrator explained this was suppose to say two signatures not three persons. Councilperson Joe Carlyle made the motion that all checks in the excess of \$20,000.00 must include the signature of the Mayor or the Mayor Pro-Tem excluding internal transfers. Councilperson Tim Young seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 8 Discuss and consider restricting the City Administrator to expending no more than \$7500.00 in current fiscal year on non-budgeted items with out City Council approval. City Administrator Gene Cottle explained that he could not find any controls that limited the spending of the City Administrator on emergencies and unbudgeted items. Councilperson Carole Wilson made the motion to restrict the City Administrator to expending no more that \$7500.00 in a current fiscal year on non-budgeted items without the approval of City Council. Councilperson Chip Richardson seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 9 Comments and input from Council, Mayor, or City Administrator concerning items of interest or items for a future agenda. Councilperson Jeff Hale voiced a concern about who pays the water at Bradford Cemetery because there has been a sprinkler leaking there for many weeks and that the sprinklers are on all the time. Mayor said he thought that the City did provide the water for the cemetery. Mr. Cottle said he would contact Brenda Klueppel about this situation. Councilperson Jeff Hale also ask about the color of the water, and Mr. Cottle confirmed that Well Two was back online and that the water should clear up. Councilperson Tim Young ask about the legality of one of the service stations in Troup having eight-liner machines in them, he stated he had discussed this with Chief Hendrix. City Administrator Gene Cottle said we would follow up with this with Chief Hendrix. Mr. Cottle also stated that the TCEQ fee that Councilperson Jeff Hale had asked about in a previous meeting was a fee for rural and privately owned water coops and that the City of Troup did not pay that fee.

Mayor Whitsell – Item 10 meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Buffie Deason". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Buffie Deason/City Secretary