

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ODEM, TEXAS
July 02, 2024**

On this day, Tuesday July 02, 2024, the City Council of the City of Odem met at the Odem Public Library, 516 Voss Avenue, Odem, Texas at 7:00PM. The meeting was called to order by Mayor David Bargas Maldonado with the following members present to wit:

David Bargas Maldonado	Mayor
Billy Huerta	Alderman Place 1
Yolanda Robles-Alvaro	Alderman Place 2
Isaac Dominguez	Alderman Place 3
Jesse Falcon	Alderman Place 4
Elizabeth Candela	Alderman Place 5
Epimenio Ysassi	City Attorney
Salome Hernandez III	City Administrator

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

- A. Declare a Quorum
All members of the Council were present.
- B. Pledge the Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and the Texas Flag
- C. Announcement on Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest
- D. Public Comments – Citizens to be heard. - **NONE**

II. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED:

- A. Discuss, consider and take action to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 04, 2024.
Councilmember Falcon made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Councilmember Dominguez. A vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.
- B. Discuss and ratify TX Health Benefits Renewal Plan.
Company representative Victor Diaz presented an oral view of benefit changes and introduced Surgery Plus, a 100% paid program. Dental benefits did not change and only a minor change to the vision and medical costs. Councilmember Candela made a motion to ratify the Health Benefits Renewal Plan. Seconded by Councilmember Falcon. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.
- C. Discuss, consider, and take action to add Becky Dearman to the authorized list of personnel that can pick up bank bags from the First State Bank of Odem.
Councilmember Huerta made a motion to add Becky Dearman to the list. Seconded by Councilmember Dominguez. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

- D. Discuss, consider and take action to remove Jesse Falcon and add Mayor Pro Tem Yolanda Roblez-Alvaro to First State Bank of Odem accounts.
Clarification and confirmation were made that Councilmember Falcon would remain on EDC accounts. Councilmember Falcon made a motion to make the changes to the City of Odem accounts at the bank. Seconded by Councilmember Dominguez. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.
- E. Discuss consider and take action to accept the donation of 13 tires, with the approximate value of \$15,000 from Bay LTD to the Odem Fire Department to be used for the city brush trucks.
Councilmember Candela made a motion to accept the donation of 15 tires. Seconded by Councilmember Alvaro. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.
- F. Discuss, consider and take action to surplus the following Odem Maintenance Department vehicles and equipment:
1. 1982 Ford F350 1 ton P/U 2WD VIN#2FDJF37GOCCA50333
 2. 2005 Dodge Ram 1500 1/2ton 2WD VIN#1D7HA16K45J595666
 3. 2011 Ford F-150 XL 2WD VIN#1FTMF1CM9BFA74666
 4. 2004 Kenworth T300 VIN#2NKMHD6X14M051276
 5. 2002 Vermeer BC 1000 XL Brush Chipper
- Councilmember Dominguez made a motion to surplus the items. Seconded by Councilmember Candela. A vote was taken and passed unanimously.**
- G. Discuss, consider and give the City Administrator direction on setting up a rental agreement or purchasing generator(s) for the city's water pump system and sewer lift stations in the event that power is lost.
Discussion was held on the difference in price from guaranteed rental and chance rental. Councilmember Falcon made a motion to give the City Administrator direction to guarantee the rental. Seconded by Councilmember Candela.
- H. Discuss, consider and take action to set a fee to pick up heavy debris, brush and other similar items with the new 14ft Dump Tandem trailer with 4ft walls.
Fees were set at \$10 in city and \$20 out of city. Councilmember Falcon made the motion to set the fees for pick up by Dump Tandem trailer. Seconded by Councilmember Alvaro.
- I. Discuss, consider and take action to decide on how brush, metal and other debris is collected to avoid massive pile ups that disrupt drop off service in the future.
City continues the 1st Saturday drop off services. Mayor Maldonado gave direction to get a roll-off dumpster to collect future brush. Councilmember Falcon made the motion to take action on clearing the accumulated debris. Seconded by Councilmember Candela.

- J. Discuss, consider and authorize the City Administrator to initiate the preliminary steps to start working with the San Patricio Drainage District to address storm drain and culvert maintenance as well as flooding issues at the intersection of Willis and Front Street, Moss Avenue, Cook Avenue and Bullard Street along with any other areas of concern.
The City Administrator gave a summary of his interaction with the San Patricio Drainage District. Councilmembers gave their input, and the City Administrator will move forward with working with the SPDD's and the City of Odem's engineer to move forward the city's drainage issues.

III. NON-ACTION ITEMS

- A. Receive a presentation from R.E.A.L Transportation Services.
The non-profit organization is changing their service hours to 5am to 8pm. Fees in Odem are \$1 each way in Odem, \$6 to Portland and \$9 to Corpus Christi. This service is available without discrimination of age, disability or financial standing.
- B. Discuss a plan to interview selected applicants for the Police Chief position and the Part-time Municipal Judge position.
The City Administrator reported that applications have been received for both positions and interviews will be scheduled with for the Part-Time Judge first.
- C. Discuss July 20, 2024, and July 27, 2024, as potential dates for a workshop to discuss:
- 1) Organizational charts, standard operating procedures as well as the roles, expectations and authority of employees, the City Administrator, the Mayor and Councilmembers for the edification of all including the public.
July 20, 2024, was agreed upon to schedule this workshop.
 - 2) Potential budgetary needs for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.
July 20, 2024, was agreed upon to schedule this workshop.

IV: QUARTERLY DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Quarterly report from Odem Municipal Court – Sal Hernandez/Attorney Epi Ysassi.
The City Administrator clarified that the city is not paying Lineberger for their services rather the cost is passed on to the individual with the fine. The City Administrator reported on the oldest fine in collections and the total amount outstanding.
- B. Quarterly Financial Report and Administration Department Report – Sal Hernandez
City Administrator reported on current financial accounts.
- C. Quarterly report from Odem EMS – Stephenie Newsome
EMS answered 91 runs in the city limits with response time of 6 minutes and 83 county call with a response time of 11 minutes.

- D. Quarterly report from the Odem Maintenance Department – Jerry Sanchez and Jerry Mizer **104 work orders were completed. Water Quality is tested daily. Each lift station has working pumps.**
- E. Quarterly report from the Odem Fire Department – Chief Robert Beltram **Due to the absence of Chief Beltram there was no report.**

V. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF REPORTS:

A. Mayor's report regarding:


- 1) Report on meeting with the Governor's office.

The Mayor reported on the recent visit with the Texas Economic Development Corporation and senior staff of the Governor's office stating that the purpose was to let them know what Odem has to offer in terms of attracting business, industry and over all economic growth. Information was also gathered on what the city needs to do to market itself for growth.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

A. Adjourn

Councilmember Falcon made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Candela. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously to adjourn.



MAYOR



Attest: Salome Hernandez III

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

