

Minutes September 12, 2024, Regular meeting of the Buckholts City Council. In attendance were Mayor Terri Eaton, Council member Keith Janicek, Council member Tony Villanueva, Chief of Police Shawn Newsom, Bookkeeper/accountant Kristi Stegall, Bill Lawson and Dwaine Barton, with LWWS and City Secretary Linda Hauk. Also in attendance was Sarah Weller

CALL TO ORDER – 5:45p.m.

- 1. INVOCATION – Given by Council member Villanueva**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - said by all**
- 3. CITIZEN COMMENTS – None**
- 4. ACTION ITEMS**
 - a. Discuss/Review/Approve Minutes from both the August 8, 2024, Regular meeting** – motion to approve was made by Council member Janicek and seconded by Council member Villanueva.
 - b. Discuss/Review/Approve August Financial statements and other expenditures** – With no comments or concerns a motion was made by Council member Janicek to approve and was seconded by Council member Villanueva
 - c. Approve resolution to adopt tax rate of .3681 / \$100 evaluation (.2154 M&O and .1527 I&S rate) for fiscal year 2024-2025 – Mayor made the motion to adopt the new tax rate which was approved by both council member Janicek and Villanueva**
 - d. Discuss/Review/Approve quote for camera equipment for patrol cars and body cameras** – Chief Newsom reported that we got a quote last month, got it approved and then the man he had been dealing with unexpectedly died. The man who called back informed that the quote was missing a bunch of stuff. He was informed that without the additional items the system would not work. In any event the quote went up, about \$1200. Got a quote from AXON and to go with would be \$5400 a year to lease the equipment for 5 years. He just wanted something to compare. Mayor Eaton made the motion to approve the new quote from the original company, Dana Safety Supply for \$8,167, which was seconded by Council member Villanueva
 - e. Discuss/Review/Approve maintenance, repairs sale or purchase of patrol vehicles for the police** –Shawn reported that the 2010 Black and White Charger had finally died and would cost more to fix than it is worth. He will strip everything off that needs to be to save some money. He has a line on a 2017 Chevy Tahoe. The cost is \$12,638.25. Shwan said if the city purchases it, he will have \$250 taken out of each paycheck of his and it will be paid off in a year. He is going to pick up the Tahoe next week. So it will need to be added to the insurance. Mayor Eaton made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by council member Janicek
 - f. Discuss/Review/Approve Inter-governmental agreement with Milam Conty Precinct 1** – Nothing has changed from the previous agreement. Motion to approve was made by Council member Janicek and Seconded by Council member Villanueva

5. STAFF REPORTS –

WATER/SEWER – Mayor started by saying we had a few things we needed to discuss. Have gotten a couple letters from TCEQ. Bill stated that they are trying to figure out what's going on. He says what he shows as being posted, they are saying that the CCR that was put in for 2023 is lacking data. Need to correct once we find out what data is missing. He doesn't show anything, missing on his data. Waiting to hear what they say is missing. Speaking with Sally Paramo, she says if we can get that corrected. The issues that they had with 2022 which they say is missing data. Says she believes they can clear 22's with the data from 23's. The lead/coppers we got notified about, they have sampled three times. Each time they get something sent back to us and he talks to three different people. They have to pull 20 samples between July and December this year and that will supposedly correct any other

issues we have on the water side of things. One helpful thing is they have finished the inventory for lead/copper that the EPA has put out. Need to do paperwork and send in. That should take us back into compliance. Mayor Eaton asked about the points. He said if we get everything into them on time, that will subtract those 10 points down to a smaller number.

The second issue is the Notice of Violation and penalties. That one is wastewater. Mayor Eaton asked why we are getting penalized. Dwaine said our samples were bad, out of states compliance. Mayor Eaton asked why we didn't know that. Bill said we turn in our samples, and on E-Coli's it takes them 7 to 8 days to get those reports back to us. While they are taking the numbers down, they are not a reportable one on our monthly DMR's. Any time that we have had the rain it causes issues and washes out the plant. We try to take care of what we can by hauling the sludge off. The biggest problem is bacteria in the sludge. We've spent \$3,200 on sludge removal this year. Bill said that it says "proposed fines" and that leaves it open for discussion and we can see what we can do to bring that down by talking to TCEQ. If we can prove what improvements, we are trying to make and those may bring down some of those fines. Council member Janicek asked how we could keep this from happening in the first place. What do we do to fix it. Dwaine said with the next grant the Town goes out for needs to be for improvements on that wastewater plant. This little plant we have can't push through 170 to 180 thousand gallons through a day which it has when we get heavy rain. Part of the grant we are working on now, which is stopping the INI. If we can slow the flow down the plant can handle what's coming into it. When the plant gets overloaded, that's exactly what it is, it is overloaded. So, we can show them what we are trying to get done and it may offset through the SEP's. By showing them what we've already spent working on these issues it could offset the cost. Mayor Eaton said we need to see what we can do to show it is a hardship situation as well. Bill said he would talk to someone, next week, about it and see what can be done.

ADMINISTRATION- *nothing to add*

POLICE DEPARTMENT – *nothing to add*

COUNCIL – *nothing to add*

MAYOR – *nothing to add*

6. ADJOURN – *With nothing further the meeting was adjourned at 6:47p.m.*

Signed this 10th day of October 2024.

Terri Eaton, Mayor

Linda R. Hauk, City Secretary