

**CITY OF HOLLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL - 104 WEST TRAVIS
Monday, June 14, 2004 7:00 PM**

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Curt Murray @ 7:03 P.M, on June 14, 2004. All council members were present, Sharon Simmons, Barbara Cockrum, Mae Smith, Eddie Bookman.

1. Citizens' Comments.

- A. Jerry Decker, who lives on Sumbera, spoke regarding the flooding situation which is getting worse on his street., and stated that he had wanted to be put on the Council Agenda for this meeting and said that he was told only today that he would be put on the P & Z Agenda instead by Peggy Tracy, Interim City Secretary. He wanted to know how either group can address the situation and get it resolved. The Mayor responded that he and the council are all well aware of the flooding situation in several places in the City, and that the City Engineer has been consulted and the city crews are working on the overall situation. Ms. Tracy apologized to Mr. Decker for the misunderstanding and confirmed that Mr. Decker is still on the P & Z Agenda for 6/28/04 to utilize their resources. The Mayor stated that the flooding situation in the city is something that will have to be worked out with the city engineer and funds.
- B. Rosemary Bookman stated that the brush that had been cleared and stacked on Front Street for the last Trash Pickup the city held was never picked up and wanted to know what the city was doing about it. The Mayor responded that he does not know how that got skipped, but that he knows that the city will probably have to have another Trash Pickup Day soon.

2. Old Business

- A. Sharon Simmons motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes of May 10, and May 24, 2004, and motion was seconded by Mae Smith. All were in favor and motion carried.

3. New Business

- A. Eddie Bookman made the motion to appoint Mae Smith as Mayor Pro-tem, seconded by Barbara Cockrum. All were in favor and motion carried.
- B. Barbara Cockrum motioned to appoint Judge G. W. Ivey as Municipal Judge, seconded by Mae Smith. All were in favor and motion carried

- C. Consider/act on hiring of reserve officer Dean Rebel. There was discussion regarding the equipment of additional reserve officer, which Chief Green stated would consist of a holster and shirt and pants (uniform). Chief was asked about the first Reserve Officer and advised that tonight would be Officer Bassett's official start date. Councilwoman, Sharon Simmons told Dean Rebel that it was nothing against him, but she knew that Bartlett has had problems and had fired the whole police department and asked if there was anything the council needed to know. At this time, Former Police Chief Robert Franklin spoke up and said that having been the previous Police Chief of the City of Bartlett, and having resigned prior to the termination of the two officers who are present, he stated, that that was a political move by Mr. Hill, and it had nothing to do with the performance of the two officers. He added, That's all it was. The Chief reminded the council that it had approved three positions for unpaid reserve officers and that he had been trying to get reserves here for over two years and that we do not have to do anything on him other than to submit and L180 to place another commissioned officer on the street. He stated that he is the Chief of Police and the council expects him to make sure that this person is qualified. Terry Crum, who is involved with the schools in Holland reminded the council that there is a growing vandalism at the school and additional policeman are needed in the city. The mayor added that we now have access to an officer who is going to be very inexpensive to the city and since we only have one police car, its not like we would have two on at one time, anyway. Also, that the Chief would schedule the officers so that it is a good reflection of what is needed in the city. A Citizen added that Dean had come over and helped the city before on other occasions and that Bartlett has come over and assisted Jeff other times, so it is not like we have somebody brand new that we do not know. Chief reminded the council that when hiring reserve officers, that they have full time jobs and have to schedule duty to fit their work schedule since they are working for free as a reserve officer. Mae Smith asked Dean how long he would be willing to stay in Holland, and he replied indefinitely for the moment. She added that he is used to having a pay check and if he would be looking for a full time job, and he responded that he would not be looking for a full time job in law enforcement. Mayor reminded that the cost is minimal and that this hiring falls within our budget at this time, but recognizes that the need for additional full time police officers. He said that budgeting is the problem and that there may have to be an increase in property taxes, because sales tax had recently increased, effective Oct 1, 2004 @ 8%.
- D. Barbara Cockrum made the motion to accept Dean Rebel as reserve officer for the City of Holland, seconded by Eddie Bookman. Council woman, Sharon Smith was in favor. Mae Smith abstained. Motion passed.
- E. Consider/Act on Resolution regarding closeout of Project TCDP Contract # 721351. Mae Smith motioned to pass the Resolution, for the closeout the project, seconded by Barbara Cockrum. All were in favor and motion passed. Mayor executed the Resolution document.

- F. Consider/Act on Resolution initiating TCDP Water/Wastewater Project 2004, Contract # 723391. Mae Smith motioned to make the Resolution, seconded by Barbara Cockrum. All were in favor, and motion carried.
- G. Consider/Act on payment of matching city funds of TCDP Project 2004, Contract # 723391, to administrator, Leo Wood. Motion to pay matching funds in the amount by Mae Smith, seconded by Sharon Simmons, all were in favor and motion passed.
- H. Consider/Act on amending/adopting fireworks ordinance. City Secretary informed citizens that Fire Chief Coleman Benner was consulted and assisted in the the writing of the ordinance. Chief Benner thanked the council for consulting with him on this important ordinance that was written for the protection of the citizens and property of Holland. He further added that all the volunteer firemen will also appreciate this ordinance, Mae Smith noted that the ordinance itself give authority to an officer in the police department, or Fire Chief Coleman to issued a citation and or a fine and confiscation of any and all fireworks. Coleman stated that we need to publicize this ordinance in the paper and post in the windows around town so that the public will be informed of the ordinance and that warnings will probably be given in the beginning. The mayor reminded everyone that we are going to try to educate the public and that the enforcement of the ordinance is at the discretion of the police department and the Fire Chief. Eddie Bookman motioned to adopt fireworks ordinance, seconded by Barbara Cockrum, all in favor and motion passed.

4. **Committee Reports:**

- A. Planning and Zoning Committee – **Renay Johnson** reported that the committee did not meet last month and that the agenda is full on the 28th, with a number of mobile home issues . It was added that Jerry Decker will also be on the Agenda, as well as Mr. Mewhinney, and others.
- B. Beautification Committee – **Rosemary Bookman** is planning to get additional pots and noted that the flowers look really good. Mowing around town was discussed.

5. **Council and Staff Reports:**

- A. Mayor's Report: reported that Home Grant – by end of the month signing letters of congratulations to those who will receive the grant.
- B. Council Members' Reports:
 - 1) Central Texas Water Supply Meeting – **Mae Smith** reported that monthly meeting of CTWS will be next Tuesday night at KCC at 7:00 P.M. She noted that Kempner has filed another law suit. Kempner does not pay what the other members of the group pay for water and that is what the law suit is about. Noted is that Kempner does use the controlling 52% of water from CTWS. They have been able to intimidate others in the group for a long time.

C. Utility Director:

- 1) Utility Director's Monthly Report. The utility director discussed efforts to repair and resolve problems as result of recent floods – manhole cover problems on Old Vilas and preventing water from coming into the sewer system, and other areas including the south end and Front Street. Mr. Decker thinks that additional culverts will help alleviate the problem near Sumbera on 2268. He stated that he was willing to donate \$500 to help. Mae Smith reported that a berm had been built 5 years ago in that area adjacent to 2268, and now was not stopping the flooding, Eddie reported that he sympathized with mr. Decker cause his house too has flooded more than once recently. Richard agreed with Mae that all these drainage ditches were done years ago and need to be done again cause they have silted up. Motion to accept the report by Barbara, seconded by Sharon Simmons, all were in favor and motion carried.

D. Police Chief:

- A. Monthly Report and statistic report- May 2004. With Bartlett Police closing down, we are going to be sadly short of any assistance. Academy Police are not allowed to leave the city limits, and the only assistance can now be from either Salado or Rogers. Bartlett had been a safety valve when assistance was needed and he in turn has assisted Bartlett. Mae Smith asked about damage to the fence at library this last week. In addition marquee was damaged at the school and broken windows and a door at high school. The Chief was out of town at the time. Sharon motioned to accept report, seconded by Mae, all were in favor and motion carried.

E. Court Clerk

- 1) Municipal Court Monthly Report – Judge G. W. Ivey was present and noted that there would be a trial this month. Mae Smith motioned to accept monthly report, seconded by Barbara, all were favor and motion carried.

F. City Secretary

- 1) Financial Report – Month of May. Discussion regarding the special audit and Mr. Thiele would be making his first report tomorrow. ATT Wireless for the mayor – does not want the phone, but noting that there is a two year contract – suggestion that phone may be used for the on call – person in the water department. It was agreed by the council that the phone would be used for call on weekends. Mae motioned at accept the financial report for the month of May as presented, seconded by Barbara, all were in favor, motion passed.

G. Consider/Act on hiring/appointment of city secretary, assistant city secretary/court clerk.

*The City Council went into Executive Session at 8:28 PM, pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to discuss personnel matters as listed on the meeting agenda.

The council reconvened from Executive Session at 9:15 PM.

Mae Smith made the motion to appoint Peggy Tracy the City Secretary, and Paula Kreinheder as Assistant City Secretary/Court Clerk, to be reviewed in 6 months. Pay raises will go into effect next payroll as discussed in executive session. Motion was seconded by Barbara, all were in favor and motion carried.

Mae Smith motioned to adjourn, Eddie seconded the motion, all were in favor, and motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.