

**CITY OF TATUM
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING
February 14, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Tatum met in regular session on **February 14, 2022**, at **5:31 p.m.** in the City Hall Meeting Room with the following members present:

Mayor - Clay Lassen

City Secretary – Kay Dyer

City Council

Jeff Keller

Kim R. Smith

Tate R. Smith

Jack York

Dana Buddecke – Mayor Pro-Tem

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS:

None

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. **Last month’s minutes and checks written** – Mr. Jeff Keller made a motion to approve the last month’s minutes and checks written. Mr. Tate Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.
2. **Updates from Mayor Clay Lassen**
 - New Police Department truck is here and should be operational next week.
 - 2021-2022 Texas Community Development Block Grant – Per Ray Vann project should be approved and work expected to start in February 2023.
 - Rusk County Sheriff’s Department received approval for the dual band, with analog and digital radios. Mayor Lassen and Chief April Rains amended the radio grant and go with less radios due to the cost.
 - Internet – had meeting with TEDCO, they were willing to donate \$3500.00 for engineering but they are holding the funds due to the interference with the USDA funds. Mayor Lassen reached out to USDA to get information on what Hilliary Communications is doing with the grant funds.
 - Body Armor Grant – is completed and closed.
 - Chief April Rains has contacted Texas Eastern 911 in regards to new radios for patrol trucks.
3. **Establishing fine amount for No Thru Semi Truck Ordinance** – Mr. Tate Smith made a motion to mirror Carthage Municipal Court’s fine schedule for this violation. Mr. Jack York seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.
4. **Tatum Volunteer Fire Department bid offer** – Mr. Kim Smith wanted to know why the city would charge the fire department for these radios. Mayor Clay Lassen explained that by selling the radios to the Tatum VFD this would help cover the cost for an additional police radio. Mr. Jeff Keller made a motion to accept the bid offer of \$5,000.00 for the used radios. Mr. Jack York seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.
5. **American Rescue Plan Act Grant Project List** – Mayor Clay Lassen took the list of projects and divided them into sections. The council agreed to pass on the back-up RO system due to having to get engineers involved and the cost. Mr. Jeff Keller thinks the city should go with the projects on the water delivery/supplies projects. Mr. Tate Smith made a motion to submit and get started on the water delivery and supplies projects. Mr. Kim Smith second the motion and the

motion passed with none opposed.

6. **Seized assets accounts for Tatum Police Department** – Chief April Rains talked with Verabank employee Kendra, Kendra said the initial account would need to be set up under the case number and name. Once the case is closed out then the funds would be moved to a different account. Each seized account would have to be listed separately. The accounts would need two signatures. Mr. Kim Smith asked what the funds could be used for, Chief April Rains said it has to be spent on specific things such as technology and equipment. Mr. Jeff Keller made a motion to approve setting up the two accounts as discussed. Mr. Tate Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.
7. **Proposed mail outs for trash pickup service** – Mayor Clay Lassen explained and went over the proposed mail out. Mrs. Dana Buddecke said she thinks the mail out should include a price, that it will be billed on the water bills and that it needs to say that it will be mandatory for all Tatum residents. Mayor Lassen will revise the mail out to add these items. Mr. Jack York made a motion to send out the information/questionnaire to all Tatum residents. Mr. Tate Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.
8. **Waterworks unit water pricing for apartments and hotels** – Mayor Clay Lassen discussed the unit pricing for apartments, per Ordinance 2012-01, apartment buildings being metered with one meter shall be billed the same rates as a single unit on a per unit basis. Mr. Kim Smith made a motion to correct water accounts that are not being bill correctly. Mr. Jeff Keller seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.
9. **Speed Limits, truck parking, engine braking and enforcement** – Mr. J. R. Smith said at CEFCO there are 2 no parking signs, trucks are parking between the signs and the police department is not enforcing it. He stated that vehicles are unable to view oncoming traffic when entering Hwy 149 from FM 1797. Speed limits from the Hwy 149 and Hwy 43 intersection toward Marshall are not being enforced. Vehicles are making detours off Hwy 149 onto Sterling Price to N. Jefferson Street, they are running the stop signs and speeding. Semi-trucks are engine braking when they enter the city limit and one semi-truck ran the Hwy 149 and Hwy 43 intersection going 50-60 miles per hour. He told city council this needs to be addressed with the police department.
10. **Sherman R. Smith Community Center usage policy** – 2015, 2016 and the 2021 policies were reviewed by city council. Mrs. Janie Lassen stated the ice maker was making noises when she held a job fair there last month. Mayor Lassen and Mrs. Lassen turned the ice maker off and they cleaned it. Mr. Kim Smith stated that if kitchen and dining room will be rented then the lease agreement needs to be updated. City would need a rental agreement for kitchen and dining room area only, and another rental agreement if renter wants to rent entire building. The deposit would need to be raised. Mr. Jeff Keller stated that one of urinal in restroom is in need of repairs and also trash cans in restrooms need to be replaced with larger ones. Mayor Lassen will prepare new policies and fees and present at March 14th council meeting.
11. **Texas Housing Developers, LLC project at 125 Elders Drive** – Mayor Clay Lassen talk with Mr. Mike Fogel from Texas Housing Developers, LLC. Mr. Fogel said they will be renovating the apartment complex. Mayor Lassen offered a \$250.00 reduction of the building permit pending council approval. Mr. Jeff Keller made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-01 with the \$250.00 reduction of the building permit. Mrs. Dana Buddecke seconded the motion and the motion passed with none opposed.
12. **Adjourn** - Mr. Kim Smith made a motion to adjourn @ 6:35 p.m. p.m. Mr. Jeff Keller seconded the motion and the motion passed, all in favor.

APPROVED:

Dana Buddecke
Dana Buddecke, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:

Kay Dyer
Kay Dyer, City Secretary

