

Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2018

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners of the City of Sweetwater met in their regular monthly meeting on Monday, August 6, 2018 at 5 p.m. Mayor Lowe called the meeting to order with Commissioners present being Lamar Hughes, Sam Moser, Edward Lee, and Bill W. Stockton. Billy G. West was absent due to a medical procedure. A quorum was present.

Mayor Lowe opened with an invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Parks Director Tim Crawford.

Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the minutes from the meetings of July 2, 2018; July 30, 2018, and August 2, 2018. Commissioner Moser seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Stockton moved to approve the distributions for the month of June, 2018, with Commissioner Moser seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the distributions for the month of July, 2018, with Commissioner Moser seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Marcella Cooper was present to request permission to hold the Rocky Top Run downtown on October 21, 2018 at 2 p.m. She thanked the board for their support through the years. Mayor Lowe thanked the organizers and for the many scholarships they gave to local students.

Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the application for the Main Street façade grant, with Commissioner Lee seconding the motion. Commissioner Moser recused himself from the vote, disclosing his personal business was one of the beneficiaries of the proposed grant. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Stockton moved to approve the hiring of Kelvin Franco to fill a vacancy in the police department, with Commissioner Hughes seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Lee moved to approve Ordinance No. 967 to amend the library board on first reading. Commissioner Moser seconded the motion. On Roll Call Voting, the Ayes were as follows: Commissioner Hughes, Moser, Lee, and Stockton. Nays being none. The motion was carried.

Commissioner Moser moved to approve the Blues, Bluegrass, & BBQ festival for May 3-4, 2019, with Commissioner Hughes seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

City Recorder Jessica Morgan reviewed the annual financial report for the year ending June 30, 2018. She noted that all department heads spent less than their approved budgets. She noted some debt proceeds were spent from the street department for equipment and a FEMA equipment grant was also added mid-year, resulting in \$42,000 in new revenue and expenditures in the fire department's budget. She noted that Sales tax was now consistently the primary revenue, at 46% and expected to continue to grow. Also, in the past 30 years, this was the longest period between the city voting to raise property taxes. She reviewed the current grants totaling \$1,774,000 in revenue with another \$125,000 being applied for this week. She noted the board did not spend any fund balance this year and she expected to be able to grow the fund balance to 1,400,000 by the end of next year. Commissioner Stockton noted the capital funds in the police department this year would help make Sweetwater Police one of the most advanced departments in the state with new equipment. Commissioner Stockton moved to approve the financial report, with Commissioner Moser seconding the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Mayor Lowe welcomed Kassie Kelley as the new Main Street director. She thanked the board for the opportunity.

Mayor Lowe congratulated Doug Watson on his election as county commissioner for first district. He congratulated Eddie Byrum on being voted Best Law Enforcement Official in the Advocate & Democrat's annual edition. He also welcomed Bill W. Stockton back to the table.

No further action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

This the 6th day of August, 2018.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

RECORDER