

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF RUNNELS §
CITY OF BALLINGER §

On the 29th day of April 2024, the Ballinger City Council meet in regular session at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall located at 700 Railroad Avenue with the following members present:

Dawni Seymore
Richard "Rick" Morrish
Ken Manley

Ryan Lange
Steve Gray

Mayor
Mayor Pro-Tem
Councilmember Place #1 arrived at 5:40 PM
and participated in item 6c and after.
Councilmember Place #3
Councilmember Place #4 arrived at 6:27 PM
Participated in executive session only.

Staff Present:

Marty Akins
Lindsey Byler
Sharon Hicks
Cord Bowman
David Brem
Ray Cornutt

Interim City Manager
Assistant City Secretary
City Attorney
Public Works Director
Public Utilities Director
Chief of Police

1. **Call meeting to Order:** Mayor Seymore called the meeting to order at 5:34p.m.
2. **Prayer and Pledges:** Councilmember Rick Morrish gave the invocation and lead the pledges.
3. **Citizen Presentations for Items not on the Agenda: None**
4. **Public Comment on Agenda Items other than a Public Hearing:**
Elaine Paske presented 3 questions, (a) when did the stop sign go up on 8th street? Chief Cornutt and Public Works Director Bowman stated that it went back up this week, (b) inquired about Gore Park and to improve it for use; Councilman Lange stated it needed more shade and (3) the park sign on Crosson and Broadway is gone, Public Works Director Bowman commented that is TXDOT and he will notify them.
5. **Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Approve Minutes from the April 8, 2024, City Council Meeting. Councilmember Morrish made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
6. **Regular Agenda Items for Discussion, Consideration and/or Action:**

- a. Receive Chamber of Commerce Tourism Report, from Mary Adcock. 1st quarter beginning balance as of 12/31/2023 was \$12,133.17. Expenses include advertising, payroll, regular operations in the amount of \$5,353.81. A deposit of HOT tax in the amount of \$10,475.01 was made on 02/07/2024 brings the account to a balance of \$17,254.37 for the end of the 1st Quarter.
- b. Authorize City Manager to issue an RFP for audit services for FY22 and beyond. Interim City Manager Akins requested approval to go out for bids for audit services. Council member Lange made a motion to approve the request. Council member Morrish seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- c. Ordinance prohibiting glass containers at all city parks and authorizing a penalty for same. Assistant City Secretary Byler and City Attorney Hicks discussed that this will be brought back for discussion to add all city property prohibiting glass containers. Council member Lange made a motion to approve this ordinance. Council member Manley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- d. Authorize RAMP Grant Purchase for Aviation Fuel System. Asst. City Secretary Byler-Gayoso discussed the upfront cost as well as notification from Airport Manager McKinnon that the grant was approved. Interim City Manager Akins informed of the issues with the fueling system. Council member Lange made a motion to authorize the RAMP Grant. Council member Morrish seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- e. Ordinance amending FY2024 budget for:
 - i. Fire Department Roof Repair Budget Adjustment
 - ii. Bruce Field Manager Salary Budget Adjustment
 - iii. Texas Water and Soil Budget Adjustment
 - iv. Court Administrator Budget Adjustment
 - v. Ladder truck repairs.

City Attorney Hicks, updated on all the budget amendments. Council member Lange questioned the fire department roof shape after the fire, Police Chief Cornutt replied he was waiting to hear from Steve Adams. Council member Morrish made a motion to approve the ordinance for amending FY2024 budgets. Council member Manley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. City Manager's Report:

- a. **Airport-** Marty informed the council that new airport manager has been hard at work with making improvements, Potholes repaired, glass picked up, old car removed, RAMP grant.
- b. **Municipal Court-** City Attorney Hicks reported total amount assessed \$172,663.30. \$104,900.30 has been collected and \$67,763.00 is still outstanding. It does include about \$2000 in dismissals. Discussed payment plans and reporting to omni for delinquency of payments.
- c. **Utility Customer-** Asst. City Secretary Byler-Gayoso reported over 40 accounts were on the cut off list. Cutoffs were over 200 that has gone down tremendously, several are still past due and have 18 accounts active on tank water. 1,877 active customer accounts.
- d. **Public Works-** Public Works Director Bowman reported still getting roads prepped for paving. Repairs out at the airport as well as city work orders. Council

member Morrish asked what roads are to be paved this summer. Mr. Bowman didn't have the list but has 4 blocks of 5th street between Broad Ave and East Ave. Portions of 12th, Largent, 13th. 13 total blocks that have been identified for this summer and will try to get these streets paved as well as having the county help. S 8th between Strong and Sealy will stay dirt road for time being, but it is passable.

- e. **Public Utilities-** Public Utilities Director Brem reported leaks on Phillips and 3rd, as well as on Blum. Chandler field had baseballs in sewer the city guys replaced the sewer. Chemicals and parts are going up in price. 55% of water mains still need replacing.
- f. **Public Safety-** Police Chief Cornutt reported a good parade on Saturday, Officer Gehrett in training for K-9.
- g. **Code Enforcement and Board of Building Standards-** Interim City Manager Akins Noted the Board of Building Standards meeting meeting scheduled for May 15, 2024, at 5:30pm, was cancelled. He discussed the motive behind code enforcement is keeping our city safe, pleasant. Keeping the standards of our community set.
- h. **Update on fire at 102 N 9th street-** Police Chief Cornutt reported building has been cleaned, fire burned too hot for too long and there is no evidence of how the fire started. Monday the State Fire Marshal came in to investigate. Tuesday the power and phones, internet was back up. No insurance was on the building, cars had smoke damage, but they are all operable. City Manager will communicate with the owner to see what public safety vs owner side responsibilities was. City Manager reported on the thank you meal for the 1st responders.
- i. **Opioid Settlement-** City Attorney reported about \$500 received that goes to help with awareness with the police department.
- j. **Budget Calendar-** City Manager has already met with department heads, plans on having a first draft by next Monday and have updates every two weeks, next 30-45 days to finalize the budget.

8. Future Agenda Items – Discuss and Consider:

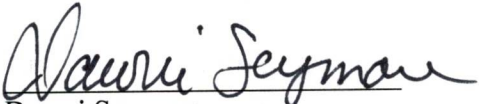
Discussion on next meeting, all agreed to have the meeting on the 3rd Monday of May 2024.

9. Executive Session: Council Adjourned into Executive Session at 6:07 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code.

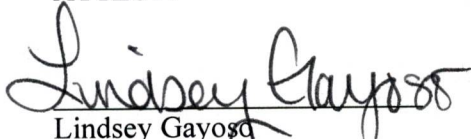
- a. **Section 551.071 Consultation with the City Attorney.**
Animal Control Complaint
- b. **Section 551.072 Deliberations about Real Property.**
Lake Property Purchase vs Lease
- a. **Section 551.074 Personnel Matters.**
City Manager Job Posting

2. Reconvene and take Action if needed from Executive Session: The City Council reconvened in open session at 6:54 p.m. Mayor Seymore stated that no action was taken.

3. **Adjourn:** Councilmember Gray made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Lange seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.


Dawni Seymore
Mayor

ATTEST:


Lindsey Gayoso
Asst City Secretary