

City of Midway
City Council Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Brenda Ford.

Those in attendance included Mayor Brenda Ford, City Secretary Debra Newkirk, Council members Steve Parrish, Gus Kangos, Angie Thornton, and John Whitmire, and Wes Savage. Council member Ed Faw and Water Operator Janet Boone were unable to attend. Guests present included Denny Wheeler and J.D. Hatton, from Piney Woods Sanitation; and Sabrina Glenn and Ms. Davidson from the USDA and Les Neal, resident of Midway.

Councilman Steve Parrish gave the Invocation and Mayor Brenda Ford led the Pledge.

John Whitmire made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Steve Parrish made the second and with all voting in favor the motion carried.

There were no public comments.

The Mayor chose to move to the first item under the Statutory Agenda, presentation, discussion and possible action to approve the proposal from Piney Woods Sanitation. City Secretary Debra Newkirk had been tasked with “crunching numbers” to determine how the City would do with changing sanitation companies. A side-by-side comparison of prices; a side-by-side comparison of charges; pricing, potential savings, and potential earnings had been prepared. References had been checked and all of this information was provided to Council. Motion was made by Gus Kangos to approve the proposal, Angie Thornton made the second and with all present voting in favor the motion carried. At this time, Denny Wheeler stated that he would be buy to pick up the contracts signed by the City and take them to the office and once they had been signed there, he would return one so that the City would have a copy with original signatures on it. Mr. Wheeler told the Council that they would be here in the morning to clean up the parking lot from the clean-up, and they are working on recycling for tires and electronics but if they paper or plastic it can be brought to Crockett. Denny Wheeler and J.D. Hatten left the meeting.

Sabrina Glenn was present to inform the Council on where we are the process. Sabrina stated that: the paperwork is being looked by the State Office; closing instructions have been requested and once those are in hand, then we will be ready to go forward. The State Office could take up to 60 days. Ms. Glenn is trying to get in touch with the Bond Attorney. But we are doing well. There is one question she has for the Bond Attorney, and it has to do with in one spot he has Water and Sewer Revenue. She also said that she would send a checklist of next steps to the City. At this time Sabrina and Ms. Davidson left the meeting.

The next item before the Council was to look at a budget for the Police Department. Debra explained to the Council that the application for the TCOLE number had not yet been set in because in the application, it asked for information pertinent to who would be the Chief Law Enforcement officer for the department and at this time we do not have one. Chief Gilbert had been helping to complete the application and one of the steps required is to have a budget in place. At the present time, the Court and Police department are a combined budget, but TCOLE requires a separate budget. The line item for police salary currently is set of \$33,600 and in the proposed budget this amount is raised to \$40,000. Discussion for this item centered on the need for a law enforcement officer versus a code enforcement officer and full time versus part time. Thoughts included the viability of going forward; possibly trying someone for 6 months in the position; do we go forward with police or code enforcement, remains the question. Can we have court

without the police, is the question for the Judge. This item was tabled until next month for more information.

Wes Savage made the Water and Sewer report. A pump for Lift Station C had gone down and Wes requested approval to repair and replace the pump and wanted an opinion on generator maintenance. The quote for generator maintenance was for a one-time visit and after discussion it was decided that since Wes checks the generators, when he decides it's time to change the oil that someone be hired to come change the oil. Wes asked if the meters would be bid separate from the filtration system and the answer is no, it will all be bid as one project. At this time Wes left the meeting.

Gus Kangos made the motion to approve moving the April City Council meeting from the 26th to the 19th and Steve Parrish made the second, with all present voting in agreement the motion carried.

Steve Parrish made the motion to approve the funds for Debra Newkirk to attend the virtual Budget Cycle seminar and to reimburse her for the webinars, Gus Kangos made the second and with all present voting in favor the motion carried.

Angie Thornton made the motion to adjourn, Gus Kangos made the second and with all voting in favor the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Brenda Ford, Mayor


Debra Newkirk, City Secretary