

THE CITY OF WOODBRANCH VILLAGE  
REGULAR MEETING  
July 25,2024

The City of Woodbranch Village council met in a regular meeting at 6:00 P.M., Thursday, July 25, 2024, in the City Hall Building at 58A Woodbranch Drive, New Caney, Texas, 77357. The regular meeting was called to order at 6:01 P.M. by Mayor Mike Tyson. City Administrator Charlotte Smith was present to take roll call. Roll call showed as being present Councilman Scottie Garner, Councilman Kevin Johnson, Mayor Mike Tyson, City Attorney Leonard Schneider, and Councilwoman Carey Porter. Councilwoman Trisha Marie Cranney arrived at 6:06 P.M., Councilwoman Nancy Mulhern was not in attendance. City Secretary Debra Wildblood was present to take the minutes of the meeting. Mayor Tyson led the meeting with a prayer, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

REGULAR MEETING (6:00 P.M.)

The regular meeting was opened at 6:01 P.M.

#5. Sign In Sheet

Jim Beard – resident wanting to address Mayor and Council on the topic of Hurricane Beryl Burn Ban

Jim Beard came before council to voice his concerns on the recent burn ban. Mr. Beard stated the following:

Mr. Beard – “Good afternoon, Mayor, Council. Got a question on our just current burn ban. Montgomery County was not in a burn ban, the whole County was not in a burn ban. So why was Woodbranch in a burn ban for?”

Mayor Tyson explained the reason for the burn ban.

Mr. Beard – “Ok, I totally agree, but we just went how many days after power was back and, no let me finish.....”

Charlotte Smith stated that not everyone had power restored at the same time.

Mr. Beard – “Ok, but we were down to 15-20 people maybe max with no power afterwards., I mean it was decided by Woodbranch itself to make a burn ban. Is that correct?”

Mayor Tyson – “Yes, Roman Forest did the same thing.”

Mr. Beard – “After you did it. Ok, but what I need to know on a legal stance. Did a Fire Chief or someone give you the right to put the burn ban there?”

Mayor Tyson – “They don’t have to.”

Mr. Beard – “They don’t have to? In the State of Texas you can make a burn ban happen?”

Mayor Tyson – “I can for the City”

Mr. Beard – “Ok, but after the power come back on, 3 days afterward. You still didn’t lift it.”

Mayor Tyson – “Correct- we still had people with no power.”

Mr. Beard – “Ok, I understand what you’re saying. It’s a courtesy of people’s windows open. Stuff like that, but I think....”

Leonard Schneider – Asked and answered, we can’t discuss an item not on the agenda.

Mr. Beard – “He explained it and that parts over. I’m through with that. My second thing is last Saturday. I tried to flag you down. You were going out of the City and you just blew past me. It wasn’t for me, it was a widow lady down the street. She is next door to a vacant house and the grass is 4-5 feet high in the back yard. She wants to know what the City can do about that.”

Mayor Tyson – “We are doing Nuisance and Abatement.”

Mr. Beaird – “And I understand, but for you.....”

Mayor Tyson apologized for not seeing him or stopping

Mr. Beaird – “Well I got news for ya. I’ve said all I need to say but, next time get your authority right. Is the only thing I got to tell you.”

#### CONSENT AGENDA

#6. Approve Minutes from the June 27, 2024 – Regular Meeting

Copies of the minutes are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#7. Approve Financial Statement for General Fund – June 2024

Copies of the statement are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#8. Approve Financial Statement for Water & Sewer Fund – June 2024

Copies of the statement are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#9. Approve Financial Statement for Debt Service Fund – June 2024

Copies of the statement are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#10. Approve Bills General Fund – July 2024

Copies of the bills are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#11. Approve Bills Water & Sewer Fund – July 2024

Copies of the bills are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#12. Approve Bills Debt Service Fund – July 2024

Copies of the bills are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#13. Approve the Court Activity Report – June 2024

Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#14. Approve Road & Ditch Report and Storm Water Management Report – June 2024

Copies of these reports are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#15. Approve the Building Permit Activity Report – June 2024

Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

#16. Approve the Nuisance & Abatement Activity Report – June 2024

Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

The motion to approve items 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Porter, motion carried.

#### **COUNCIL TO CONSIDER, DISCUSS, AMEND, ACTION, AND/OR APPROVE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE FOLLOWING;**

Approve the Police Activity Report – June 2024

Chief Singleton gave the report. Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary’s office.

The motion to approve the report was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by

Councilwoman Porter, motion carried.

Operator's Report – June 2024

Terra Williams gave the report. Copies of this report are on file in the City Secretary's office.

The motion to approve the report was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Porter, motion carried.

#17. Consider and accept excess collections for 2023 Debt Service & Certification for Debt Service Collection Rate for 2024/2025. (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

The motion to approve the Collections for 2023 Debt Service & Certification for Debt Service Collection Rate for 2024/2025 was made by Councilwoman Cranney. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion carried.

#18. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on Ordinance 325-2024 – an ordinance calling for an election to be held Tuesday, November 5, 2024 for the following positions to be open: Council Positions 2, 4 & 5. (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

The motion to approve Ordinance 325-2024 was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion carried.

#19. Consider and approve the Joint Election Agreement for the November 5, 2024 Election (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

The motion to approve the Joint Election Agreement for the November 5, 2024 Election was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Porter, motion carried.

#20. Consider and approve the Election Services Agreement for the November 5, 2024 Election (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

The motion to approve the Election Services Agreement for the November 5, 2024 Election was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Porter, motion carried.

#21. Consider and approve Resolution 0725-2024 – a resolution approving the 2025 Montgomery County Emergency Communication District Operating Budget (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

The motion to approve Resolution 0725-2024 was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cranney, motion carried.

#22. Consider and approve the submission of a nominee to the Montgomery County Emergency Communication District Board of Managers (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

The motion to approve the submission of Kathie Reyer to the Montgomery County Emergency Communication District Board of Managers was made by Councilwoman Cranney. The motion was seconded by Councilman Garner, motion carried.

#23. Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meetings Act TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.074 – to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline and or dismissal of a public officer or employee: Chief Andre Singleton, Officer Joseph Shriver and Officer Randall Blackketter and in accordance with TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.071 to receive legal advice on executive session meetings and open meetings act.

Council went in to closed session at 6:24 P.M.

#24. Reconvene and take possible action.

Reconvened at 6:32 P.M. No action was taken.

#25. Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meetings Act TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.074 – to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline and or dismissal of a public officer or employee: Chief Andre Singleton, Officer Joseph Shriver and Officer Randall Blackketter and in accordance with TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.071 to receive legal advice on executive session meetings and open meetings act.

Council went into closed session at 6:33 P.M.

#26. Reconvene and take possible action.

Reconvened at 6:48 P.M. A motion to seek legal advice on personnel matters was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cranney, motion carried.

#27. Closed Executive Session in Accordance with the Open Meetings Act TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.074 – to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline and or dismissal of a public officer or employee: Chief Andre Singleton, Officer Joseph Shriver and Officer Randall Blackketter and in accordance with TEX. GOV'T CODE 551.071 to receive legal advice on executive session meetings and open meetings act.  
Council went into closed session at 6:49 P.M.

#28. Reconvene and take possible action.

Reconvened at 6:56 P.M.

A motion to reprimand Officer Shriver and Officer Blackketter was made by Councilman Garner. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Porter, motion carried.

#29. Mayor's comments on infrastructure, city budget and grant opportunities (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

The Mayor thanked City Administrator Smith, City Secretary Debra Wildblood and Court Clerk Cassandra Stewart for the work they did after Hurricane Beryl to help the residents of the City.

City Administrator Smith stated that the Salvation Army donated over 500 hot meals, Office of Emergency Management donated 4 pallets of water, The Red Cross donated 3 pallets of ice, a resident of Woodbranch donated Patriot Meals and Councilman Garner donated fresh fruit for the residents.

Councilman Johnson commented on the huge community effort to clear debris throughout the City.

#30. Items of Community Interest – (Hear announcements concerning items of community interest from the Mayor, Councilmembers, and City staff for which no action will be discussed or taken.)

City Administrator Smith stated that a letter from the San Jacinto River Authority stated the Pumpage Fee will decrease September 1, 2024 from \$3.26 to \$2.67

#31. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Garner at 7:01 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion carried.