

THE CITY OF WOODBRANCH VILLAGE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 23, 2020

The City of Woodbranch Village council met, via teleconference, in a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, April 23, 2020, in the City Hall Building at 58A Woodbranch Drive, New Caney, Texas, 77357. The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Mike Tyson. Roll call showed as being present on the call Councilman Jim Beaird, Jr., Councilwoman Trisha Marie Cranney, Councilwoman Nancy Mulhern, Mayor Mike Tyson, Councilman Brent Purser and Councilman Clay Dean. City Attorney Leonard Schneider was not in attendance. City Secretary Charlotte Smith was present to take the minutes of the meeting. Councilman Clay Dean led the meeting with a prayer. This meeting was closed for public attendance and was not held at city hall.

The Governor of Texas has issued an Executive Order with guidelines for the temporary suspension of certain portions of the Texas Open Meetings Act in order to avoid social gatherings of more than ten (10) people during the COVID-19 virus pandemic. This allows cities to have council meetings via teleconference and to conduct execution sessions via teleconference. These actions are being taken to mitigate the spread of the virus by avoiding meetings that bring people into a group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code.

REGULAR MEETING (7:00 P.M.)

#5. Sign in Sheet

Teresa Barrett – resident requested council deny the request submitted by the developer of Lilliput Farms, item# 15, for permission to replat Section 2 to allow for the construction of townhomes and apartments. She expressed concerns the development would add more concrete in the area and affect the drainage, it would increase the amount of traffic, crime, drugs and vandalism. She stated she also believes it would decrease the property values. Additionally, she requested an update to the proposed drainage project that was approved in 2018, reported standing water in the ditches and in closing thanked council for allowing her to speak.

Becky Martin – resident requested council deny the request of the developer of Lilliput Farms, item# 15, for permission to replat Section 2 to allow for the construction of townhomes and apartments. She stated she was told the construction was going to continue with the plan of single-family dwellings throughout the development. She stated she is concerned the development would add more concrete in the area and affect the drainage, it would increase the amount of traffic to the area and bring in more crime, potentially drugs and vandalism. Additionally, she believes it would decrease the property values and she completely opposed to changing the original plan to develop single-family dwellings. She thanked council for allowing her to speak.

Delores Morgan - resident requested council deny the request of the developer of Lilliput Farms, item# 15, for permission to replat Section 2 to allow for the construction of townhomes and apartments. She stated she is concerned the development would add more concrete in the area and affect the drainage. She expressed the same concerns from increased traffic, crime and would reduce property values. Additionally, she requested assistance with standing water in the ditches as well as the drainage ditch that runs by her home.

Rick Wisely – resident requested council deny the request of the developer of Lilliput Farms, item# 15, for permission to replat Section 2 to allow for the construction of townhomes and apartments. He stated he is concerned the development would add more concrete in the area and affect the drainage, it would increase the amount of traffic, crime, drugs and vandalism. He also believes it would decrease property values and further stated he is vehemently against the approval of item #15.

Nolan Wilson – resident requested council deny the request of the developer of Lilliput Farms, item# 15, for permission to replat Section 2 to allow for the construction of townhomes and apartments. He stated he prefers to keep it single family dwellings.

#6. CONSENT AGENDA

#a. Approve Minutes from the February 27, 2020 – Regular Meeting

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

#b. Approve Financial Statement General Fund – February & March 2020

Copies of these statements are on file in the City Secretary's office.

#c. Approve Financial Statement Water & Sewer Fund – February & March 2020

Copies of these statements are on file in the City Secretary's office.

#d. Approve Financial Statement Debt Service – February & March 2020

Copies of these statements are on file in the City Secretary's office.

#e. Approve Bills for the General Fund – March & April 2020

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

#f. Approve Bills for the Water & Sewer Fund – March & April 2020

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

#g. Approve Bills for the Debt Service Fund – March & April 2020

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

#h. Approve the Ground Storage Progress Report – February & March 2020

Copies of these report are on file in the City Secretary's office.

#i. Approve the Court Activity Report – February & March 2020

Copies of these report are on file in the City Secretary's office.

#j. Approve the Police Activity Report – February & March 2020

Copies of these report are on file in the City Secretary's office.

#k. Approve the Road & Ditch, Bureau Veritas & Storm Water Management Report – February & March 2020

Copies of these reports are on file in the City Secretary's office. Council approved items a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j and k with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#7. Operator's Report February & March 2020

Copies of these reports are on file in the City Secretary's office. Council approved the Operator's reports with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

Councilman Dean asked for Inframark to provide a subcontractors list for residents/contractor's that need to bore under the street in order to make a long tap connection. He made reference to a recent situation on Maple Lane where the contractor did not have the proper equipment so they cut through the street in order to lay the sewer line.

Jonathan Dawson stated that it would be possible for future connections and what Inframark did to secure the damage until the repair could be made and that they were seeking bids from their contractor list.

Councilman Dean instructed Inframark not to turn on service to the residence until the cost of repairing the street was paid and the work was complete.

#8. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action for the request for forgiveness of, or a payment plan for, an excessive water usage bill due to a water leak at 328 Linnwood

Council approved a payment plan with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#9. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action for the request for forgiveness of, or a payment plan for, an excessive water usage bill due to a water leak at 132 White Oak

Council approved a payment plan, based on the recommendations of Jonathan Dawson, with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#10. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the adoption of Ordinance 288-2020 – an ordinance by the city council for the City of Woodbranch Village, Texas establishing a policy on storm drainage ditches and other drainage areas in the City; providing definitions; providing rules and regulations for maintaining free and unobstructed drainage ditches and other drainage areas; describing acceptable water discharges and prohibited water discharges; providing penalties for violations; providing repealing and severability clauses; providing a Texas Open Meetings Act clause; and providing an effective date after publication

Council approved the ordinance with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#11. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the adoption of Ordinance 289-2020 – an ordinance by the City of Woodbranch Village, Texas, designating the placement of “stop signs” at locations within the city limits of the City of Woodbranch Village; providing the locations of the aforementioned signs; containing other provisions relating to the subject; providing penalties for violations of the signs; and providing for repeal of conflicting ordinances or parts thereof (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

Councilman Dean made a motion to table this item. Council tabled this item with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Nay to table

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay to table

Councilwoman Mulhern – Nay to table

Councilman Purser – Yay to table

Councilman Dean – Yay to table

#12. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the adoption of Ordinance 290-2020 – an ordinance by the City of Woodbranch Village, Texas, creating the office of the municipal court alternate judge; providing for the appointment of the municipal court judge and alternate judge by the city council; and defining the responsibilities and duties of the municipal court alternate judge; and other matters (Mike Tyson, Mayor)

Council approved the ordinance with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#13. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the appointment of a municipal court alternate judge

Council approved the appointment of Robert Rosenquist with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#14. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the adoption of Ordinance 291-2020 – an ordinance by the City of Woodbranch Village, Texas, extending the disaster declaration issued by Mayoral proclamation on March 19, 2020 in response to the Novel Corona Virus, now designated as Covid-19

Council approved the ordinance with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#15. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the request to replat Lilliput Farms Section 2 to allow for the construction of townhomes or apartments

Mayor Mike Tyson requested developer Mark Martin read aloud his written request to the City. After reading his request council tabled the approval of the request with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay to table

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay to table

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay to table

Councilman Purser – Yay to table

Councilman Dean – Yay to table

Council will allow Mr. Martin to meet with the city engineers to review his plans.

#16. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the Venus ditch drainage project and discuss the concrete flume in Woodway Forest (Clay Dean, Councilman)

Councilman Dean made a motion to table this item with the request that an Open Records request be sent to the City of Roman Forest and a Special meeting be scheduled within the next 2 weeks.

Council tabled this item with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay to table

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay to table

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay to table

Councilman Purser – Yay to table

Councilman Dean – Yay to table

#17. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the Watch Guard bid submitted for body cameras for the police department

Council approved the bid with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#18. Consider, discuss and/or take possible action on the 2019 Racial Profiling Report

Council approved the report submitted with the following votes being recorded;

Councilman Beaird – Yay

Councilwoman Cranney – Yay

Councilwoman Mulhern – Yay

Councilman Purser – Yay

Councilman Dean – Yay

#19. Item 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.)

No announcements were made.

#20. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. was made by Councilman Jim Beaird, Jr. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Trisha Marie Cranney, motion carried.