

**MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 25, 2016**

Mayor Domingo Montalvo, Jr. declared a Regular Meeting duly open for the transaction of business at 7:00 P.M at City Hall 120 E. Caney Street Wharton, TX. Mayor Montalvo led the opening devotion and the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmember's present were: Mayor Domingo Montalvo, Jr. and Councilmembers Tim Barker, Al Bryant, Vincent Huerta, Don Mueller and Steven Schneider.

Councilmember absent was: Russell Machann.

Staff members present were: Finance Director Joan Anandel, City Secretary Paula Favors, TRMC, Assistant to the City Manager Brandi Jimenez, Public Works Director Wade Wendt, Police Chief Terry David Lynch and City Attorney Paul Webb.

Visitors present were: David Schroeder, Executive Director with Wharton Economic Development Corporation (WEDCo), Rachel Rust, Tina Herrington, Steven Van Mannen with Harrison, Waldrop, Uherek, L.L.P. and Keith McGee with the Wharton Journal Spectator.

The second item on the agenda was Roll Call and Excused Absences. After some discussion, Councilmember Al Bryant moved to excuse Councilmember Russell Machann. Councilmember Tim Barker seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was Public Comments. Councilmember Don Mueller thanked Police, Fire and EMS along with the City Employees for all their hard work and long hours during the April Flood.

The fourth item on the agenda was the Wharton Moment. Councilmember Tim Barker stated he was amazed with the number of people who volunteered and helped victims of the April Flood. Councilmember Al Bryant stated that help continued to come after the flood and there had been an outpouring from the community of support. Councilmember Vincent Huerta stated that he was grateful to be from a community that worked so well together. Mayor Domingo Montalvo, Jr. thanked Emergency Management Coordinator Steve Johnson for his hard work and staying ahead of the curve which helped the community come together. He thanked Stephanie Konvicka for her impact on the community with helping flood victims clean out their homes and going above and beyond for the community. Mayor Montalvo thanked Police Chief Terry David Lynch and his staff

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for their hard work and stated that he was proud of the staff of the City of Wharton. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. thanked City department heads and personnel for their hard work and dedication to the City.

The fifth item on the agenda was the reading of the minutes from the regular meeting held March 5, 2016. After some discussion, Councilmember Tim Barker moved to approve the reading of the minutes from the regular meeting held March 5, 2016. Councilmember Al Bryant seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The sixth item on the agenda was to review and consider City of Wharton Financial Report for the month of March 2016. Finance Director Joan Andel presented the financial report for the month of March 2016. Mrs. Andel stated that the TexPool balance for March as \$131,544.74 with an average monthly yield of .33%. She said the Prosperity Bank balance for March 2016 was \$9,602,828.41 with an average monthly yield of .15%. After some discussion, Councilmember Al Bryant moved to approve the City of Wharton Financial Report for the month of March 2016. Councilmember Don Mueller seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The seventh item on the agenda was to review and consider City of Wharton Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 by Harrison, Waldrop & Uherek, L.L.P. Mr. Steve Van Manen of Harrison, Waldrop & Uherek, LLP, the City Auditors, presented the City of Wharton Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. Mr. Van Manen stated that the City received the highest opinion which was the best that could be given. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated that the City Council Finance Committee had met and reviewed the report with Mr. Van Manen and were recommending City Council approval. After some discussion, Councilmember Don Mueller moved to approve the City of Wharton Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 by Harrison, Waldrop & Uherek, L.L.P. Councilmember Tim Barker seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The eighth item on the agenda was Executive Session: City Council may adjourn into an Executive Session in accordance with Section 551.072, 551.074 and 551.087 of the Local Government Code, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas. Final action, decision or vote, if any with regard to any matter considered in Executive Session shall be made in Open Meeting.

- A. **Discussion:** The evaluation of City Manager and Finance Director regarding the City financial matters.
- B. **Discussion:** To deliberate the exchange of real estate in Mayfair Addition.
- C. **Discussion:** To deliberate economic development negotiations with a business regarding the local Hospital.

Mayor Domingo Montalvo, Jr. moved the meeting into closed session at 7:24 p.m.

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The ninth item on the agenda was to Return to Open Meeting: Action on items discussed in Executive Session:

- A. **Review & Consider:** The evaluation of City Manager and Finance Director regarding the City financial matters.
- B. **Review & Consider:** The exchange of real estate in Mayfair Addition.
- C. **Review & Consider:** Economic development negotiations with a business regarding the local Hospital.

Mayor Domingo Montalvo, Jr. returned the meeting to open session at 7:53 p.m. Mayor Montalvo stated that information only was received on item A. After some discussion, Councilmember Al Bryant moved to authorize the City Staff to pursue the exchange of City property. Councilmember Tim Barker seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Councilmember Tim Barker moved to approve the City Staff to proceed with a business regarding the local hospital. Councilmember Vincent Huerta seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The tenth item on the agenda was to review and consider City of Wharton Public Works Department:

- A. **Resolution:** A resolution of the Wharton City Council authorizing the purchase of a new 15' shredder for use by the City of Wharton Public Works Department

City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a memo from Public Works Director Wade Wendt regarding the purchase of a new 15' shredder. Mr. Wendt stated that quotes were received from three different companies and it was his recommendation to purchase the shredder from Wharton Tractor Supply in the amount of \$14,595. After some discussion, Councilmember Tim Barker moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2016-22, which read as follows:

**CITY OF WHARTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-22**

A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A NEW 15' SHREDDER FOR USE BY THE CITY OF WHARTON PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID PURCHASE.

WHEREAS, proposals were received for a new shredder for the Public Works Department;
and,

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WHEREAS, Wharton Tractor Supply, was deemed the best lowest qualified bidder in the amount of \$14,595.00; and,

WHEREAS, the Wharton City Council wishes to award an agreement to Wharton Tractor Supply for a new shredder for the Public Works Department; in the amount of \$14,595.00; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Wharton and Wharton Tractor Supply wish to be bound by the conditions as set forth in the agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the Wharton City Council wishes to authorize the City Manager of the City of Wharton to execute the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS as follows:

Section I. The Wharton City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager of the City of Wharton, Texas, to execute a contract for a new shredder for the Public Works Department; to Wharton Tractor Supply in the amount of \$14,595.00.

Section II. The City of Wharton and Wharton Tractor Supply are hereby bound by the conditions as set forth in the agreement.

Section III. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 25th day of April 2016.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____
DOMINGO MONTALVO
Mayor

ATTEST:

PAULA FAVORS
City Secretary

Councilmember Al Bryant seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

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The eleventh item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council authorizing the purchase of network switches for use by City Hall, Wharton Fire Department, Public Works, Civic Center/EMS and Police Department and authorizing the City Manager to make said purchase. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a memo from City Secretary Paula Favors regarding the need for the purchase of five network switches for the City Hall, Wharton Fire Department, Public Works, Civic Center/EMS and Police Department. Mrs. Favors stated the switches were needed to insure protection of the networks of City Hall, Wharton Fire Department, Public Works, Civic Center/EMS and the Police Department. After some discussion, Councilmember Al Bryant moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2016-23, which read as follows:

**CITY OF WHARTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-23**

A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF NETWORK SWITCHES FOR USE BY CITY HALL, WHARTON FIRE DEPARTMENT, PUBLIC WORKS, CIVIC CENTER/EMS AND POLICE DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO MAKE SAID PURCHASE.

WHEREAS, proposals were received for network switches for use by City Hall, Wharton Fire Department, Public Works, Civic Center/EMS and Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, CDW-G, was deemed to have the best price and product, in the amount of \$13,858.58; and,

WHEREAS, the Wharton City Council wishes to purchase from CDW-G for five network switches for use by City Hall, Wharton Fire Department, Public Works, Civic Center/EMS and Police Department for in the amount of \$13,858.58; and,

WHEREAS, the Wharton City Council wishes to authorize the City Manager of the City of Wharton to make said purchase.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS as follows:

Section I. The Wharton City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager of the City of Wharton, Texas, to purchase network switches; from CDW-G in the amount of \$13,858.58.

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Section II. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 25th day of April 2016.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____
DOMINGO MONTALVO
Mayor

ATTEST:

PAULA FAVORS
City Secretary

Councilmember Steven Schneider seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The twelfth item on the agenda was to review and consider United Way National Day of Caring. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated that the United Way had designated Friday, May 6, 2016 as the Wharton County Day of Caring. City Manager Garza said that the community-wide effort was a day spent by volunteers working in teams to make minor repairs to the homes of elderly or disabled members of the community. City Manager Garza presented a letter from Executive Director of United Way, Di Ann Sneed, informing him of how the City can help. After some discussion, Councilmember Tim Barker moved to approve the United Way National Day to be held in Wharton on May 6, 2016 and allow the City Manager to provide any assistance for the United Way. Councilmember Al Bryant seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The thirteenth item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution by the City of Wharton, Texas ("City") denying the distribution cost recovery factor rate increase of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC made on or about April 4, 2016; authorizing participation in a coalition of similarly situated cities; authorizing participation in related rate proceedings; requiring the reimbursement of municipal rate case expenses; authorizing the retention of special counsel; finding that the meeting complies with the Open Meeting Act; making other findings and provisions related to the subject; and declaring an effective date. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated that on April 4, 2016, CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC ("CenterPoint") submitted an Application for Approval of a Distribution Cost Recovery Factor ("DCRF") to increase its annual revenues by approximately \$61 million and proposes to implement this increase on September 1, 2016. City Manager Garza said that CenterPoint's application affects all retail electric providers ("REPs") serving end-use retail electric customers in CenterPoint's service-area and would affect the retail electric customers of those REPS to the extent the REPs choose to pass

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along these charges to their customers, which the City expected REPs to attempt to do. City Attorney Paul Webb stated that the law firm of Herrera & Boyle, PLLC (through Mr. Alfred R. Herrera) had previously represented the Texas Coast Utilities Coalition (“TCUC”) in rate matters involving CenterPoint Energy and the firm of Herrera & Boyle had represented other Texas cities dealing with rate case matters, therefore providing a depth of experience in dealings with CenterPoint and the Public Utility Commission of Texas (“Commission”). After some discussion, Councilmember Don Mueller moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2016-24, which read as follows:

**CITY OF WHARTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-24**

RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS (“CITY”) DENYING THE DISTRIBUTION COST RECOVERY FACTOR RATE INCREASE OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC MADE ON OR ABOUT APRIL 4, 2016; AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN A COALITION OF SIMILARLY SITUATED CITIES; AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN RELATED RATE PROCEEDINGS; REQUIRING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF MUNICIPAL RATE CASE EXPENSES; AUTHORIZING THE RETENTION OF SPECIAL COUNSEL; FINDING THAT THE MEETING COMPLIES WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on about April 4, 2016, CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC (“CenterPoint”) filed an application for authority to implement a Distribution Cost Recovery Factor with the City to increase rates effective September 1, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City is a regulatory authority under the Public Utility Regulatory Act (“PURA”) and under Chapter 33, §33.001 et seq. of PURA has exclusive original jurisdiction over CenterPoint’s rates, operations, and services within the municipality; and

WHEREAS, CenterPoint plans to increase its revenue requirement by about \$61 million per year; and

WHEREAS, the jurisdictional deadline for the City to act in this rate matter is 60 days from the application date or June 3, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City will require the assistance of specialized legal counsel and rate experts to review the merits of CenterPoint’s application to increase rates; and

WHEREAS, in order to maximize the efficient use of resources and expertise in reviewing, analyzing and investigating CenterPoint’s rate request it is prudent to coordinate the City’s efforts with a coalition of similarly situated municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the City, in matters regarding applications by CenterPoint to change rates, has in the past joined with other local regulatory authorities to form the Texas Coast Utilities Coalition (“TCUC”) of cities and hereby continues its participation in TCUC; and

WHEREAS, CenterPoint simultaneously filed its statement of intent to increase rates with the Public Utility Commission of Texas, therefore the decision of the Public Utility Commission of Texas could have an impact on the rates paid by the City and its citizens who are customers in CenterPoint’s service territory and in order for the City’s participation to be meaningful it is important that the City promptly intervene in such proceeding at the Public Utility Commission of Texas; and

WHEREAS, CenterPoint failed to show that its proposed rate increase is reasonable and therefore the City has concluded that CenterPoint’s proposed rate increase is unreasonable.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS THAT:

- Section 1.** The findings set out in the preamble are in all things approved and incorporated herein as if fully set forth.
- Section 2.** The City **DENIES** the rate increase CenterPoint filed on or about April 4, 2016.
- Section 3.** The City authorizes intervention in proceedings related to CenterPoint’s application for approval of a DCRF before the Public Utility Commission of Texas and related proceedings in courts of law as part of the coalition of cities known as Texas Coast Utilities Coalition (“TCUC”).

- Section 4.** The City hereby orders CenterPoint to reimburse the City's rate case expenses as provided in the Public Utility Regulatory Act and that CenterPoint shall do so on a monthly basis and within 30 days after submission of the City's invoices for the City's reasonable costs associated with the City's activities related to this rate review or to related proceedings involving CenterPoint before the City, the Public Utility Commission of Texas, or any court of law.
- Section 5.** Subject to the right to terminate employment at any time, the City retains and authorizes the law firm of Herrera & Boyle, PLLC to act as Special Counsel with regard to rate proceedings involving CenterPoint before the City, the Public Utility Commission of Texas, or any court of law and to retain such experts as may be reasonably necessary for review of CenterPoint's rate application subject to approval by the City.
- Section 6.** The City shall review the invoices of the lawyers and rate experts for reasonableness before submitting the invoices to CenterPoint for reimbursement.
- Section 7.** A copy of this resolution shall be sent to CenterPoint Energy, care of Mr. Keith Wall, CenterPoint Energy Service Company, LLC, 1111 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002-5231; and to Mr. Alfred R. Herrera, Herrera & Boyle, PLLC, 816 Congress Ave., Suite 1250, Austin, Texas 78701.
- Section 8.** The meeting at which this resolution was approved was in all things conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.
- Section 9.** This resolution shall become effective from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of April, 2016.

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Domingo Montalvo, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Paula Favors
City Secretary

Councilmember Al Bryant seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fourteenth item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution by the City of Wharton, Texas (“City”) responding to the application of Centerpoint Energy Resources Corp., Texas Coast Division, to increase rates under the gas reliability infrastructure program; suspending the effective date of this rate application for forty-five days; authorizing the City to continue to participate in a coalition of cities known as the “Texas Coast Utilities Coalition” of cities; determining that the meeting at which the resolution was adopted complied with the Texas Open Meetings Act; making such other findings and provisions related to the subject; and declaring an effective date. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated that the City was a member of the Texas Coast Utilities Coalition (“TCUC”) of cities and TCUC was organized by a number of municipalities served by CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., Texas Coast Division (“CenterPoint”) and had been represented by the law firm of Herrera & Boyle, PLLC (through Mr. Alfred R. Herrera) to assist in reviewing applications to change rates submitted by CenterPoint. City Manager Garza said that under section 104.301 of the Gas Utility Regulatory Act (GURA), a gas utility was allowed to request increases in its rates to recover a return on investments it makes between rate cases and this section of GURA was commonly referred to as the “GRIP” statute, that is, the “Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program.” He said that under a recent decision by the Supreme Court of Texas, the Court concluded that a filing made under the GRIP statute permitted gas utilities the opportunity to recover return on capital expenditures made during the interim period between rate cases by applying for interim rate adjustment and that proceedings under the GRIP statute did not contemplate either adjudicative hearings or substantive review of utilities' filings for interim rate adjustments but the Court concluded, the GRIP statute provides for a ministerial review of the utility's filings to ensure compliance with the GRIP statute and the Railroad Commission's rules, and that it was within the Railroad Commission's authority to preclude cities from intervening and obtaining a hearing before the Railroad Commission. After some discussion, Councilmember Tim Barker moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2016-25, which read as follows:

**CITY OF WHARTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-25**

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A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS, ("CITY") RESPONDING TO THE APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY RESOURCES CORP., TEXAS COAST DIVISION, TO INCREASE RATES UNDER THE GAS RELIABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM; SUSPENDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RATE APPLICATION FOR FORTY-FIVE DAYS; AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN A COALITION OF CITIES KNOWN AS THE "TEXAS COAST UTILITIES COALITION" OF CITIES; DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED COMPLIED WITH THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING SUCH OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS: on or about March 31, 2016 CenterPoint Energy Resources Corp., Texas Coast Division ("CenterPoint") filed for an increase in gas utility rates under the Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program ("GRIP"), resulting in a requested increase in the monthly customer charge for a residential customer from \$15.00 to \$16.17, an increase of approximately 8% in the monthly fixed customer charge; and

WHEREAS: the City has a special responsibility to exercise due diligence with regard to rate increases of monopoly utilities who operate within its boundaries; and

WHEREAS: the application to increase rates by CenterPoint is complex; and

WHEREAS: it is necessary to suspend the effective date for the increase in rates for forty-five days, so that the City can assure itself that the data and calculations in CenterPoint's rate application are correctly done; and

WHEREAS: the effective date proposed by CenterPoint is May 30, 2016 but a suspension by the City will mean that the rate increase cannot go into effect prior to July 14, 2016.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1. That the statements and findings set out in the preamble to this resolution are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

Section 2. The City suspends the requested effective date by CenterPoint for forty-five days pursuant to the authority granted the City under

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Section 104.301 of the Texas Utilities Code. The City finds that additional time is needed in order to review the data and calculations that provide the basis for the rate increase application.

Section 3. The City shall continue to act jointly with other cities that are part of a coalition of cities known as the Texas Coast Utilities Coalition (“TCUC”) of cities.

Section 4. The City authorizes the law firm of Herrera & Boyle, PLLC, to act on its behalf in connection with CenterPoint’s application to increase rates.

Section 5. To the extent allowed by law, CenterPoint is ordered to pay the City's reasonable rate case expenses incurred in response to CenterPoint’s rate increase application within 30 days of receipt of invoices for such expenses to the extent allowed by law.

Section 6. The meeting at which this resolution was approved was in all things conducted in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

Section 7. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25th day of April 2016.

DOMINGO MONTALVO, JR.
MAYOR

ATTEST:

PAULA FAVORS
CITY SECRETARY

Councilmember Vincent Huerta seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

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The fifteenth item on the agenda was to review and consider update of City of Wharton on-going projects. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a copy of the memorandum dated April 15, 2016 providing an update on the City of Wharton current projects.

FLOOD REDUCTION (LEVEE) PROJECT

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Lower Colorado River Phase I Report - City of Wharton Flood Prevention Project and Recommended report is located at the Wharton County Library and the office of the City of Wharton City Secretary for viewing or the report may be viewed on line at <http://www.cityofwharton.com/information-a-notices/lcrb-feasibility-study>.

On December 14, 2015, the City Council authorized the Wharton Levee Sump Study with Halff and Associates to determine what components of the Wharton Flood Reduction Project (Levee Project) could be undertaken to move this project forward. The City Staff met with Mr. Levi Hein P.E. of Halff and Associates Fort Worth Office to kick-off the study. The firm has begun the study and the City Staff will be working with them to formulate a plan for funding consideration by the U.S. Corp of Engineers and other funding agencies. Once developed it will be presented to the City Council Public Works Committee for a formulation of a recommendation to the City Council. Also, the City Council authorized the submission of a Clean Water Project Information Form (CWPIF) to the Texas Water Development Board for some possible funding.

DRAINAGE:

1. Santa Fe Outfall Channel.

The Public Works Department has finished excavation of the channel. During the month of January, routine maintenance was done on the Channel. The channel is slowly increasing in grass cover which is allowing several eroded areas to heal themselves over time. The Public Works Department has installed grade stabilization structures to eliminate erosion thereby reducing or eliminating the need to reshape the channel areas with active erosion. The Public Works Department will be installing additional grade stabilization structures or pipe drops along the channel. These structures are part of the original engineering design and not only control erosion but are helping to improve drainage in the city by serving as the outfall for water that has been redirected to the Santa Fe Channel. Work on property owners land is now complete.

2. Stavena Addition Drainage Project.

The design and construction plans are complete. The challenge on this project is to find locations to place approximately 35,000 cubic yards of soil.

3. Ahldag Ditch Improvement.

The project was approved in the 2013 Bond Program. Public Works Director is currently working out the details.

4. On-going Drainage and Maintenance Program.

The Public Works Department has continued working on cleaning residential draining ditches that have experienced poor drainage.

5. Pecan Acres (Mahann, Kinkaid, Delmas) Drainage Project.

The project area is currently being surveyed for the necessary improvements.

WATER/SEWER IMPROVEMENTS:

1. On-going Water and Sewer Maintenance Program.

Water leaks and sewer failures are still being seen in the month of March.

2. Alabama Street Sewer Line Project.

After the bid was rejected as a combined project, the City Staff proposed to submit to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the 2015-2016 Texas Community Development Block Grant for funding of the Rust 2, 3 and 4 Addition sewer lines along with lateral lines.

The application was submitted prior to the application deadline. The City Staff is waiting for a decision on this application. An announcement is expected by early summer.

3. Wastewater Treatment Plant No. 1 Improvement Project.

The project is moving forward. Updates are being provided by Jones & Carter on a monthly basis when pay request are sent.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

1. FM 1301 Extension and Overpass Project Progress Report.

IDC Inc. has submitted to TxDOT Yoakum District Office all required plans for the project. The City Staff continues to coordinate with TxDOT to ensure the project continues to move forward.

2. I-69 Project.

TxDOT will hold a public hearing in the next few weeks regarding the environmental requirements for the project in Wharton County.

3. NanYa Exit Ramp Project.

The City has submitted its request to TxDOT on proceeding with the changes to the NanYa exit ramp that would accommodate the turn around that Buc-ees has agreed

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in principle to contribute to see the project materialize. The City is awaiting TxDOT's response.

4. 2016 City Street Improvements.

The City staff is preparing a list of the streets to present to the City Council for approval.

5. Wharton Sidewalk Accessibility and Historic Streetscape Project.

At the March 28, 2016 City Council meeting an agreement with Fonseca Construction was approved pending concurrence with TxDOT. All information was submitted to TxDOT, the City is awaiting their response to complete the execution of the construction contract.

WHARTON REGIONAL AIRPORT

1. Hangar Construction Project.

BLS Construction was awarded the construction contract by TxDOT Aviation Division and the project has been completed. The City Staff is working with Strand Engineering on the construction program of new hangar project.

After some discussion, no action was taken.

The sixteenth item on the agenda was to review and consider appointments to the City of Wharton Boards, Commissions and Committees:

A. Building Standards Commission.

After some discussion, no action was taken.

The seventeenth item on the agenda was City Manager's Reports:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| A. City Secretary/Personnel. | H. Fire Marshall. |
| B. Code Enforcement. | I. Legal Department. |
| C. Community Services Department /
Civic Center. | J. Municipal Court. |
| D. Emergency Management. | K. Police Department. |
| E. E.M.S. Department. | L. Public Works Department. |
| F. Facilities Maintenance Department /
Wharton Municipal Pool. | M. Water / Sewer Department. |
| G. Fire Department. | N. Weedy Lots / Sign Ordinance. |
| | O. Wharton Regional Airport. |

After some discussion, no action was taken.

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The eighteenth item on the agenda was adjournment. There being no further discussion, Councilmember Don Mueller moved to adjourn. Councilmember Vincent Huerta seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____

Domingo Montalvo, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Paula Favors
City Secretary