

**MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 26, 2007**

Mayor Bryce D. Kocian declared a Regular Meeting duly open for the transaction of business at 7:00 P.M. Councilmember Don Mueller led the opening devotion and then Mayor Bryce D. Kocian led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmembers present were: Mayor Bryce D. Kocian, Councilmembers V. L. Wiley, Jr., David Samuelson, Ken Freese, Don Mueller, and Domingo Montalvo, Jr..

Councilmember absent was: Ray Linseisen.

Staff members present were: City Manager Andres Garza, Jr., Finance Director Joyce Vasut, City Secretary Lisa Stavena, Assistant to City Manager Jackie Jansky, Planning Director Prudencio Arriaga, Sr., Fire Chief Anthony Abbott, and Assistant City Attorney Amy Rod.

Visitors present were: Benjamin Sharp with Wharton Journal Spectator, David Schroeder with Wharton Economic Development Corporation, Lewis Fortenberry, Carlos Cotton, Lee Allen, Thelma Hayes, Jack Moses, Louis Edwards, Steve Van Manen, Nancy Matlock, Elizabeth Ann White, and Yesenia Sanchez.

The second item on the agenda was Roll Call and Excused Absences. Councilmember David Samuelson made a motion to approve the absence of Councilmember Ray Linseisen from the Regular City Council Meeting held March 26, 2007. Councilmember V. L. Wiley, Jr. seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was Public Comments. Ms. Thelma Hayes addressed the City Council and stated that Waste Management had not picked up heavy trash on the west side of town for three weeks. She stated that she had contacted Waste Management and was advised that the heavy trash would be picked up on Friday; however, the heavy debris had not been removed. She stated that the heavy debris was in the ditches and with the anticipation of rain, drainage problems would occur. Mayor Bryce D. Kocian requested Ms. Thelma Hayes contact City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. No action was taken.

The fourth item on the agenda was Wharton Moment. Mayor Bryce D. Kocian presented a Certificate of Recognition to Lee Allen. He stated that Mr. Allen had worked for the City of Wharton since June 1991 and retired on February 28, 2007.

Mayor Bryce D. Kocian presented the proclamation to Nancy Matlock, which read as follows:
WHEREAS, Jemima Menefee Heard came to Texas in 1830 with her family and received a land grant from Stephen F. Austin; and

WHEREAS, Jemima Menefee Heard served the Republic of Texas as a loyal citizen by establishing a residence, raising her family to be good citizens and supporting her family and fellow Texans that fought to free Texas and establish a new Republic; and

WHEREAS, Jemima Menefee Heard is recognized by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas for her contributions to the Republic with the dedication of a medallion honoring her as a Citizen of the Republic of Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bryce D. Kocian, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Wharton, Texas, do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 31, 2007 as "*Jemima Menefee Heard Day*" and urge all citizens to be properly cognizant of this occasion, and the importance of the preservation of Texas history.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Wharton to be affixed this 26th day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven A.D.

Mayor Bryce D. Kocian then presented a proclamation to Jack Moses, which read as follows:
WHEREAS, February has been designated as Black History Month, and will be observed in our community with a series of special presentations; and,

WHEREAS, this observance affords the special opportunity to become more knowledgeable about the black heritage, and to honor the many black leaders who have contributed to the progress of our nation; and,

WHEREAS, such knowledge can strengthen the insight of all our citizens regarding the issues of human rights, the great strides that have been made in the crusade to eliminate the barriers of equality for minority groups, and the continuing struggle against racial discrimination and poverty; and,

WHEREAS, Special Recognition should be extended to Mr. Jack Moses of the Wharton County Junior College, who has dedicated his time and effort to promote Black History Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bryce D. Kocian, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Wharton, Texas, do hereby proclaim February 2006 as Black History Month and extend special recognition to Mr. Jack Moses and urge all residents to join together in making this a period of rededication to the principles of justice and equality for all people.

