City of Appleby Texas

City Council Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2025

1. Meeting called to order by Greg Caldwell at 6:04 PM. Members Present: Greg Caldwell, Tim Freeman, Martin Wheeler, Stan Fischer, and Robbie Box. Quorum established.

2. Passed due to no minutes present for Council.

3. No Public Comments.

4. Monthly Operating Reports. Motion to accept by Tim Freeman, 2nd by Robbie Box, Passed Unanimously.

5. Magnum Gas presentation by Greg with Magnum Gas. Additional supply needed to maintain current customers on system. Discussed the property purchase agreement from Houston Pipeline for City Tap and Gate. Explained rate differences from Gulf South. Estimated increase in customer's bills is 4.1% due to gas prices. Paperwork should be ready by middle of August and new City Gate should be up and working by end of November.

   James Scott arrived at 6:18 PM

6. Auditor presented report to City for 2023-2024 audit. Motion to accept report by Tim Freeman, 2nd by Robbie Box, passed unanimously.

7. Combined items 7,11,12, and 13.

   Robbie Box: Justin Dupree has been doing road patching and replacing culverts for the City at a rate of $150.00 per hour plus material. Daniel has advised that he can rent equipment and the two City employees can do this work and save the City money. Equipment can be rented for $825.00 to $950.00 per week depending on equipment. Clay can be purchased for $140.00 per load.

   The area determined to start is Stoddard Dr from US Hwy 50 to FM 941. Daniel has marked 7-8 culverts that need replaced and ditches will be cleaned on entire road. Daniel said he can get a backhoe from Cory Smith at United Rentals for $950.00 per week. Greg wants him to check with WC Tractor for price also. City employees already rented tractor and mowed and sprayed Stoddard Dr in preparation for work.

   Motion by Robbie Box, 2nd by Martin Wheeler to rent equipment for 1 week to see how much can be completed. Passed Unanimously.

Daniel notified Council that 2J Construction completed pothole patching today and was requesting check. Discussion from council on why already had potholes on newly completed road. Payment in contract is 14 days from completion and council decided to allow members to look at road and decision would be made then.

8. Daniel notified Council he is now OQ certified and is alternating call duty with Bart.

   Commercial meter update. All but 10 meters are on radio reads and currently working properly. The final 10 will be swapped over after radio reads collected this month if no more issues found.

   Daniel brought up new Service charge for all new customers be raised to $24.50 per month. He also suggested raising rates on Commercial customers over residential customers. This was tabled after discussion.

   Tree fell on July 5th across Happy Land Road blocking road. Daniel called Tree Doctor to cut and remove. Cost was $1,000.00 due to being a Saturday and holiday weekend.

   Daniel advised Council he had inquiries on lots across street from City Hall/Fire Department.

   Optimum internet discussed as rates have gone up from last year. We are currently paying for TV service at the office that is not being used.

   Fire truck leaking in garage area causing algae near walls. Robbie Box suggested buoys to direct water outside and away from walls. Greg Caldwell will notify Fire Department to see what can be done.

9. Daniel presented 3 new City Ordinances to the City Council.

   2025-001: Regulation of weeds, grass, rubbish, and other offensive accumulations, unhealthy, or unsightly conditions and junked or abandoned vehicles. Discussion from Council on enforcement and penalties. Tim Freeman stated that the City has no way to enforce ordinances without a City Judge. Also need certified Code Enforcement officer to go around for violations and this has to be licensed person and three years experience required for license.

   2025-002: Prohibiting the establishment, development, or operation of mobile home parks within the City Limits. Discussion on wording of definition. Two or more mobile homes on any lot or parcel of land. Discussion of RV parks versus Mobile home parks.

   2025-003: Regulating Operation of Heavy Commercial Vehicles on City Streets and Establishing Permit Requirements. This was given as information only for future meeting.

Motion by Robbie Box, 2nd by Martin Wheeler to accept Ordinances 2005-001 and 2005-002 as written. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Hazard Mitigation Plan. City does not have one. It is required to apply for and receive any FEMA grants for the City. Grant Works will get one. Total cost is $70,000.00 and has to be paid in three payments (25%, 50%, and 25%) but City will be reimbursed money back for plan. It is good for 5 years. Motion to proceed with Hazard Mitigation Plan by Martin Wheeler, 2nd by Robbie Box, passed unanimously.

12. Tabled for Daniel to write and present ordinance.

14. Items 14 to 16. City Gate Payments. Daniel said we need to move $107,000.00 to Money Market Account to avoid fees and be able to spend money. Motion made by Robbie Box to authorize Greg/Stan to move money to Money Market. 2nd by James Scott, passed unanimously.

    Land purchase drawn up by City Attorney presented to purchase land on Happy Land Road for new City Gate from Ethan Lott for $76,200.00.

    Daniel presented estimated costs from Energy Transfer for City Gate of $407,000.00 and Branch Energy pipeline purchase of $50,000.00.

    These are all needed to move forward with Gas System upgrade to keep on schedule for November completion. Motion by Robbie Box to authorize Greg and Stan to move forward with Land Purchase Agreement, Energy Transfer, and Branch Energy Agreements. 2nd by Martin Wheeler, Passed Unanimously.

17. Passed due to City of Nacogdoches putting equipment up for auction.

18. Motion by Robbie Box, 2nd by Tim Freeman to pay bills. Passed Unanimously.

2. minutes provided. Motion by Robbie Box and 2nd by Martin Wheeler to accept minutes as written. Passed unanimously.

Executive Session called to order at 08:31 by Greg Caldwell.

Executive Session ended at 08:40. No Action taken. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes taken by Tim Freeman in Stan Fischer's absence.

Submitted by Stan Fischer, City Secretary

Stan Fischer

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