CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CITY OF ODESSA, TEXAS
JUNE 14, 2011

On June 14, 2011, a regular meeting of the Odessa City Council was held at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 5th Floor, City Hall, 411 West 8th Street, Odessa, Texas.

Members present: Mayor Larry L. Melton; Council members; Bill Cleaver, District One; James B. Goates, District Two; Barbara Graff, District Three; and Dean Combs, District Four.

Others present: Richard Morton, City Manager; Larry Long, City Attorney; Norma Grimaldo, City Secretary; James Zentner, Assistant City Manager; Michael Marrero, Assistant City Manager, other members of City staff; and members of the news media.

A quorum being present, Mayor Melton called the meeting to order and the following proceedings were held:

The invocation was given by Mayor Melton, and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

Mayor Melton presented a proclamation for Odessa Pride Star to Academy.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

A. City Council Minutes, May 24, 2011;
B. Resolution No. 2011R-50 – Apply for Federal Government grant to provide partial payment for bulletproof vest;
C. Resolution No. 2011R-51 – Install traffic signals;
D. Ordinance No. 2011-18 – Renew a taxicab franchise for Midessa Transportation, LLC;
E. Ordinance No. 2011-19 – Prohibit the use of tobacco products in certain outdoor areas of the local hospitals and parks;
F. Renew contract for auctioneering services;
G. Ordinance No. 2011-20 – Settlement agreement with Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC.

Motion was made by Council member Combs and seconded by Council member Cleaver that the consent agenda items be approved. The motion was approved with Council member Goates abstaining on Item E.

OTHER COUNCIL ACTION

BID AWARD

Bid award for 2011 traffic signal improvements. Hal Feldman, Traffic Engineer, stated that the bid was below the engineer’s estimate. He recommended that the traffic signal improvements bid be awarded to Willis Electric in the amount of $368,000. Mr. Feldman stated that the light at the mall and the 42nd and Tanglewood light would be timed as one.
Motion was made by Council member Goates and seconded by Council member Graff that the bid award be approved. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARING

Open a public hearing to consider approval of the request of Elvis and Jessica Galindo, owners, to rezone from Planned Development-Retail (PD-R) to General Residential (GR) Lot 3, Block 42, Harrisdale Addition, 7th Filing (west of the intersection of W. 28th St. and Bookins Ave.) Marwan Khoury, Director of Planning, reviewed the location of the property. He stated it would allow for a mobile home or a single-family home. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended for approval. A replat would be needed if two houses were wanted on the lot. Council member Graff stated that one mobile home or home was fine but not more than one. No one came forward and the public hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Council member Cleaver and seconded by Council member Combs that the ordinance be approved on first approval. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Open a public hearing to amend Section 12-103-2 of the sign ordinance regarding the maximum area allowed for apartment or housing project informational signs from two (2) square feet to ten (10) square feet per building unit within the complex. Mr. Khoury recommended that an increase from two square feet to ten square feet of sign per building unit within the complex. This would help public safety personnel to easily identify the units in the case of an emergency. No one came forward and the public hearing was closed.

Motion was made by Council member Goates and seconded by Council member Graff that the ordinance be approved on first approval. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 2011-21 – Cancel the Special Municipal Election scheduled to be held on June 25, 2011 and declaring the unopposed candidate for Council Member District Five to be elected. Mrs. Grimaldo certified that Sandra Carrasco is the only candidate for District 5 seat. It is recommended to cancel the election and declare Sandra Carrasco as the elected Council member for District 5.

Motion was made by Council member Goates and seconded by Council member Cleaver that the ordinance be approved on first and final approval. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Ban certain weapons in any city-owned park, playground or the golf course. Steve Patton, Director of Parks and Recreation recommended banning certain weapons in the parks and golf course as described in the Texas Penal Code unless authorized to carry a gun. A person would not be able to carry air guns, bb guns or have any type of archery in the parks.

Motion was made by Council member Combs and seconded by Council member Graff that the ordinance be approved on first approval. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Abandonment and exchange of street right-of-way in Section 34, Block 42, T-1-S, T&P Ry. Company Survey, Odessa, Ector County, Texas. Matt Squyres, Director of Public Works, stated that the street right-of-way was moved over two lots. The current street right-of-way needed to be abandoned.

Motion was made by Council member Goates and seconded by Council member Combs that the ordinance be approved on first approval. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 2011R-52 – Advance funding agreement with TxDOT for the 5th Street Downtown Streetscape project. Mr. Squyres stated that the 5th St. project would cost $1.7 million and a $1,426,431 grant was received. The local match is $356,608. The design plans would begin immediately and the goal to start construction is late 2012.

Motion was made by Council member Goates and seconded by Council member Graff that the resolution be approved. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Appointment of Boards. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Midland Odessa Urban Transit District, Historical Preservation Commission, Odessa Development Corporation, Community Development Advisory Committee and Traffic Advisory Committee. Appointment of Officers. (551.074) Board of Survey and Permian Basin MH/MR Board of Trustees. Motion was made by Council member Cleaver and seconded by Council member Combs that the following be appointed:

Bernadine Spears be reappointed to the Community Development Advisory Committee
Eva Ramirez be appointed to the Board of Survey as full member

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Citizen comments on non-agenda items. Susie Brennan, 1628 E. 37th St., suggested that after washing the dishes, people can use the dish water to water their plants. The soap is not bad for the plants.

There was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

ATTEST:                              APPROVED:

Norma A. Grimaldo, TRMC, CMC          Larry L. Melton
City Secretary                        Mayor