

CITY OF INGLESIDE ON THE BAY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 7, 2015

- I. City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Gillespie at 7:00 p.m.
- II. Alderman Ehmann gave the invocation.
- III. Mayor Gillespie led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Roll Call: Present were: Mayor Gillespie, Alderman Tucker, Merrick, Ehmann, Robbins and Gillespie.
- V. Minutes of Previous City Council Meeting of March 17, 2015 were approved as written.
- VI. Citizen Participation
Ann Hubby stated she is against having chickens in the city. The ordinance stats no chickens and quoted the ordinance. She also stated she reported the chickens a year ago, nothing was done about them, she can smell the chickens that are on Bayshore at her house. She went on to remind Council that they are elected officials and work for the citizens, if the citizens don't want something the Council should honor their request.
Charlie Kautz stated he has a problem with all the broken down boats and trailer throughout the city. He would like to see them cleaned up. Brush is also a problem and asked Council to revisit brush pick up.
Wayne Jewell stated in the past volunteers helped to clean up the brush, the city has spent up to \$17,000 to \$20,000 for brush pick up. The problem is people do not have anywhere to take their brush.
- VII. Reports from Standing Committees

Item A: Planning & Zoning had no report.

Item B: Parks & Recreation reported the Easter Party was very successful, 26 very well behaved children attended. Everyone who helped was thanked.

Item C: VFD reported no calls were responded to and they have another potential member.
- VIII. **New Business:** Discussion and Possible Action

Item A: Approve/Disapprove Interlocal Agreement with San Patricio County for road repairs
Alderman Gillespie stated this agreement is the same as in the past years. The cost would be approximately \$58,700. Discussion occurred concerning the agreement, road work on Sunset and what streets the volunteers plan to work on. Alderman Ehmann made the motion to accept the agreement with San Patricio County for road repairs. Alderman Merrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

April 7, 2015

Item B: Approve/Disapprove funds for road repairs

Alderman Gillespie made the motion to allocate \$58,700 for road repairs. Mayor Gillespie asked to amend the motion to allocate \$60,000. Alderman Gillespie withdrew the previous motion and made the motion to allocate \$60,000 for the 2015 road repairs. Alderman Tucker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item C: Approve/Disapprove Resolution 15-264 Accepting the Annual Audit

Mayor Gillespie went over the letter received with the audit report. Alderman Ehmann made the motion to approve Resolution 15-264 Accepting the Annual Audit. Alderman Gillespie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item D: Discuss/Take Action concerning CenterPoint Energy 2015 Annual Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program (GRIP) Interim Rate Adjustment for the South Texas Division

Tom Chanpagne from CenterPoint explained the process for rate increases. The Rail Road Commission will make the final decision on the increase. Alderman Ehmann made the motion to suspend the interim rate increase. Alderman Robbins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item E: Discuss allowing urban fowl in the City Limits

Mayor Gillespie stated chickens are already in the city for organic gardening purposes and asked Council's opinion if they felt chickens should be allowed by changing the ordinance or if steps should be taken to have them removed. Alderman Tucker asked if fowl included ducks. And is it a large problem? Charlie Kautz asked who was complaining and if it is the same people who always complain.

JD Warren stated his wife has chickens and he has looked into the State Laws concerning fowl, he feels under State mandate our type of City can have fowl, which includes all fowl, if there is enough property.

Judy Tucker stated the City has allowed pigs in the past and would like to see what other cities do and allow.

Alderman Robbins asked if the City had an ordinance that says no poultry. Mayor Gillespie stated yes that Ms. Hubby quoted the ordinance.

Al Robbins stated if everyone had chickens it would be messy. He tries to follow the deed restrictions. Horses and pigs have been removed from the city under previous Councils and so far chickens have been kept out.

Judy Orr stated she has been to other cities that allow chickens, they are domesticated with several benefits: eggs, meat and fertilizer. She feels we should allow them.

Mayor Gillespie stated the chickens he was aware of are used for organic gardening.

Tres Stork stated he lives next to the chickens on Bayshore and spends most of his time outside; there is no odor from those chickens. The garden is a neighborhood gathering, the garden and the chickens are not a problem.

Clay Zollars stated the ordinances need to be reviewed and updated as needed; the city has been doing that. He would like to see the process continue.

April 7, 2015

Ann Carlton stated she agreed with Tres there is no smell, you never hear or see the chickens. She is in support of allowing them.

Alderman Robbins stated the current conditions of the chickens are a nice and clean one. But that does not mean everyone who gets chickens will have the same.

Julie Nye explained that she got the chickens on Memorial Day, so they have not been there for a year. She uses the chickens for her organic garden and people all around the neighborhood benefit from the chickens and the garden.

Wayne Jewell stated they are great eggs.

Judy Orr stated she personally does not want to have chickens; she does not think everyone will go out and get chickens if they are allowed.

Mayor Gillespie asked Council to visit the places with chickens and see what is there.

Ann Hubby stated if passed it will be setting a precedence, maybe cows will be next, we are asking for trouble.

No action was taken on this item.

Item F: Discuss/Possible Action regarding Use Privilege Agreement for Block 111 Lots 21, 22, 23 and 24, 501 Sunset Drive

Mayor Gillespie went over the agreement and stated the brick wall was three feet into the City's right of way; the wall has been there about 50 years. The agreement allows them to keep the wall where it is unless destroyed or damaged and needs to be replaced it will then need to be moved back onto the property. Changes and corrections were made to the agreement. Alderman Ehmann made the motion to approve the agreement with the changes and corrections. Alderman Robbins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Announcements

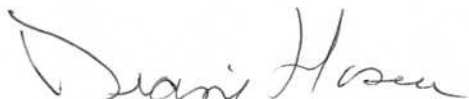
Volunteer Appreciation will be held at the next City Council meeting of April 21st.

Trini Marroquin stated she has reported months ago that the lights are out on the city's buildings and it is very dark.

X. Mayor Gillespie adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted & attested:

Approved:



Diane Hosea
City Secretary



Howard Gillespie
Mayor