

710 EAST SAN AUGUSTINE STREET

DEER PARK, TEXAS 77536

Minutes

of

A WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS HELD AT CITY HALL, 710 EAST SAN AUGUSTINE STREET, DEER PARK, TEXAS ON JANUARY 02, 2018, BEGINNING AT 6:45 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

JERRY MOUTON
SHERRY GARRISON
TOMMY GINN
BILL PATTERSON
RAE SINOR

MAYOR
COUNCILWOMAN
COUNCILMAN
COUNCILMAN
COUNCILWOMAN

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

JAY STOKES
GARY JACKSON
SHANNON BENNETT
JIM FOX

CITY MANAGER
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
CITY SECRETARY
CITY ATTORNEY

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – Mayor Mouton called the workshop to order at 6:45 p.m.
2. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 FOURTH QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 – Finance Director, Donna Todd gave an overview of the budget funds for the quarter, highlighting the preliminary and unaudited reports. Ms. Todd also spoke of benefits of the investment partnership with Valley View.

City Manager Jay Stokes commented, “A couple of years ago, Donna had the idea that we do this. We had a lot of money in the bank three to four years ago and we were getting \$30,000 to \$50,000 of investment revenue when TexPool was our entire investment. It was only paying a tenth of a point. This is phenomenal and a real credit to Donna.”
3. EXECUTIVE SESSION- CONSULTATION WITH CITY ATTORNEY – POTENTIAL LITIGATION – Mayor Mouton recessed the meeting at 6:55 p.m. for an Executive Session.
4. RECONVENED – Mayor Mouton reconvened the workshop meeting at 7:21 p.m.

5. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO AN ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CITY'S EMS BILLING COMPANY – Robert Hemminger, Emergency Services Director, gave an overview of the report exhibiting the first full fiscal year of collections and services from the billing company Emergicon. The report showed the numbers have doubled from the in-house collection totals of about \$400,000 to \$850,000 with Emergicon.

Councilman Patterson asked, “Is this the amount of money people or insurance companies have paid for their services and the rest is what has not been paid?”

Mr. Hemminger responded, “That is correct.”

Councilman Patterson asked, “Why hasn’t the rest been paid?”

Mr. Hemminger responded, “There are a number of reasons why you would see unpaid balances. Half of the transports are Medicare patients.”

Councilman Patterson asked, “The report shows collections of \$848,000, is this broken down by how it was paid?”

Mr. Hemminger responded, “Correct. The 47.5 payers were Medicare, about a quarter are private pay, meaning they have no insurance and the patient themselves are paying out of pocket.”

Councilman Patterson asked, “If the insurance doesn’t pay all the cost for the use of the ambulance, does it go into collections?”

Mr. Hemminger responded, “Yes.”

Mr. Hemminger also spoke of the recommendations made by Emergicon that were included in the report. The recommendations consist of increasing the fee schedule and offering a prompt payer discount for those private pay situations. Additional information has been requested from Emergicon for further discussion.

6. ADJOURN – Mayor Mouton adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Shannon Bennett, TRMC
City Secretary

Jerry Mouton
Mayor