

BE IT REMEMBERED that on Tuesday, **DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**, the Riesel City Council met in a REGULAR called meeting, at 6:30 p.m. in the Riesel City Hall Meeting Room, at 104 Hwy. 6 North in Riesel, Texas, with notice of said meeting having been posted at least 72 hours in advance in accordance with Section 551, Texas Government Code.

**Call to Order:** Mayor, Marshall Shaw, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

**Council Members Present:** Jennifer Hogg, Dustin Keller, Paul Winkler, Ralph May & Bobby Dieterich

**Employees Present:** Alisha Flanary, Walter Lloyd, Matthew Cospers, Jared Bonner, Randy Ehlers, Chelsea Brooks & Cristen Conner

**Visitors Present:** Rosalee Schraeder, Glyn Schraeder, Kevin Hogg, Phyllis Koester, Leigh Ann Holloway, Roger Fitzpatrick, Linda Hogg, Jeanne Lehrmann, Becky Kinder, Robert Bailey, Brian Fleming, Mike Car, Billy Heaton, Keith Pace, Dori Dieterich, Rodney Dieterich, Gary Bennett, Courtney Cormier, Dustin Keller, William Barker, Carl Vallee, Katelyn Vallee, Amanda Lueck, Tony Lueck, Teresa Grote, Steven Grote, Mike Dixon & Gary Cunha

**Consent Items:** Jennifer Hogg made a motion to approve the consent items: Minutes from 11/14/23; monthly financial reports and the payment of bills. With a second by Paul Winkler the motion carried unanimously.

**Visitor's Comments:**

1. Leigh Ann Holloway addressed council members with her concerns regarding a traffic accident that occurred during the morning rush hour. She stated that she informed Chief Cospers about a 3 car accident at the stop light and that someone was trapped in their vehicle. She said that he didn't respond to the scene of the wreck until 7-10 minutes later. She expressed her concerns about his lack of urgency.
2. Linda Hogg commented regarding pot holes on N. Jena and on Wiebusch.
3. Becky Kinder asked council members to follow up on the previous comments she had made at other meetings regarding alleged unprofessional behavior by Sergeant Walter Lloyd and asked why no action was taken by the Chief. She asked new council members to review the video footage of the two incidents.
4. Billy Heaton stated that if there wasn't a spending or purchasing policy that one be implemented as soon as possible.

5. Dustin Keller made comments in response to comments made by Kevin Hogg at the previous council meeting. Keller stated that the financial reports that were used as a comparison between Chief Cosper and Chief Krumnow were not based on an equal period of time. He stated that the 2022 report where Krumnow served as Chief was based on 12 months of financial records compared to the 2023 report of Chief Cosper's records which was based on only 10 months of records.

**Sewer Odors:** Discussion was held regarding continued complaints about sewer gas odor in the Charles Street area. Letters were sent to all residents with visible smoke coming from their homes. Some residents are in the process of completing repairs, which may mitigate some of the problem. Engineers are also working on a proposal to monitor the sewer gases in the manholes and other possible actions to improve the situation.

**City Issued Clothing/Equipment:** Discussion was held regarding recent uniform, gear and equipment purchases made by the police department. Questions were addressed to Chief Cosper regarding the number of shirts, pants, badges, and hats, etc. There is currently no policy or guideline regarding the issuance of clothing or gear.

**GPS:** Discussion was held regarding hard wired GPS devices being installed on city vehicles to monitor speed, location and have real time viewing software. Bobby Dieterich made a motion to seek proposals for cost, installation, and monitoring services. Jennifer Hogg seconded the motion and it carried with four (4) Ayes and one (1) Nay by Dustin Keller.

**Expenditure Policy:** Discussion was held about implementing a purchasing policy and setting up a work session to discuss the matter in further detail.

**Comp Time:** Discussion was held pertaining to compensatory time received by Chief Cosper and Sergeant Lloyd. Jennifer Hogg stated that Chief Cosper had cashed in comp time twice resulting in over 100 hours of additional unbudgeted pay and that Sergeant Lloyd had cashed in 65 hours as well. Questions were addressed to the Chief as to whether overtime was still being scheduled to the new officers. Jennifer Hogg stated that they needed to get better control of the overtime.

**Citation Practices:** City Attorney, Mike Dixon stated that he was leery of discussing the citation practices of the police department because Council does not have the authority to control Law Enforcement practices. City Prosecutor, Gary Cunha, stated that he would meet privately with

Chief Cosper to discuss certain violations that are being issued that have resulted in the drastic increase in requests for trial.

**Solid Waste Contract:** Jennifer Hogg made a motion to approve an amendment to the Solid Waste Collection contract with Frontier Waste Solutions, renewing the contract for an additional five years, approving a proposed price increase and removing exclusive rights for temporary roll-off services. Ralph May seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Executive Session:** An executive session with Walter Lloyd was removed from the agenda and not held at this time.

**Executive Session:** An executive session was held pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Government Code (V.C.T.A.) regarding the annual evaluations of Randy Ehlers, Alisha Flanary and Justin Carpenter. Jennifer Hogg made a motion to increase Randy and Alisha's pay by 2.5% and to increase Justin's pay to \$22.00 per hour. Ralph May seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**Monthly reports** were submitted to council from the City Secretary, Utility Superintendent, and the Police Chief.

**Directives/Research:** Bobby Dieterich stated that the Council needed to follow up on citizen comments and questions regarding alleged unprofessional behavior and policy violations of Sergeant Lloyd related to an incident that occurred at an off-duty security job. He recommended that all council members watch the body cam videos of the incidents.

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, Mayor Shaw adjourned the meeting at 9:53 PM.

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Mayor, Marshall Shaw

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Attest: Alisha Flanary, City Secretary