City of Eden
Regular Session

The city council of the City of Eden met in regular session on Tuesday October 12, 2010 in the council chambers of City Hall.

Mayor & City Council Members
Mayor Eugene Spann
Councilmember Eddy Markham
Councilmember Butch Williams
Councilmember Sylvia West -***ABSENT***
Councilmember Ray Torres
Councilmember Russell Roberts

City Staff/Appointed Officials
City Administrator Celina Hemmeter
Police Chief Ricky Thomas -***ABSENT***
Parks & Recreation Manager Mike Turner
Public Works Supervisor Rodney Castleberry
Economic Development Coordinator Kathy Keane
Sewer Plant Supervisor Tommy Wright
Court Clerk Lisa Evans
Utilities Clerk Esther Gryniewicz

Mayor Spann called Council Meeting to order, and explained that the Council had the new format for conducted the meetings in front of them.

WORKSHOP
Public Works Supervisor Rodney Castleberry reported that the street department has received two loads of the patching material for the roads and have used one load already. They have been cleaning up around the sewer plant. One customer, Concho Oil has paid the $1000.00 to have a meter put in at the loading rack. Rodney said they are going to try to get all the patching done and then start putting caliche down. They have repaired a water line break in front of the prison twice now. The first time they fixed it and covered it back up a cement truck ran over it and broke it again. They repaired it a second time and left it uncovered with cones around it until CCA is done with their remodeling. Rodney said the good thing was about the break is that they found a 6 inch cutoff valve that they did not know was there. Councilperson Ray Torres brought up the large pot hole at the end of Taft Street and U.S. Hwy 83. Rodney said they have tried to fill it in but there is no place for the water to go, no drainage system. Rodney said that on Smith Street were that huge pot hole is they are planning to dig out that ditch along the side of the road and fill in that pot hole, this will create a drainage system.

Parks & Recreation Manager Mike Turner reported that things are slowing down at the golf course. They have been working on getting ready for the winter, putting some height on the greens, also working on equipment. Mike reported that play was down last month, but that they had 250 members in the Players Club. Mike said several of his employees including he and Debra had vacation time they needed to take and would be taking before the end of December. They have three major winter projects they will be working on; one is working on the tee tops and the sides of the tees where they have washed out. Mike said he would like fill in some of the sand traps, like San Saba has done. He would replace them with common Bermuda and grow them about 3inches tall, so golfers would recognize that it is a trap.

Scott Hay with Enprotec, Hibbs & Todd, reported on the status of the Texas Water Development Board and USDA RD Grant applications. The TWDB EDAP funding application for the water system needs for the city, for water treatment and new water well is in the feasibility phase right now. TWDB has the City's project to be scheduled on the November agenda in Austin for consideration for the EDAP funding. It is a significant grant, 3.675 million in grant and 1 million of that being loan. The second funding application is the USDA RD Grant which stands for U. S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development. This project is about a four and half million dollar project; it covers the water and sewer line replacement in the City. This project also covers some new first time sewer for the edges of the City, primarily the eastern and North Western part of the City. It replaces a significant amount of water lines about 34,000.00 feet. The new well is also covered under this Grant (USDA RD) and the TWDB EDAP Grant. Enprotec, Hibbs & Todd just finished up the preliminary engineering report for the Rural Development Application it was submitted last week on October 7, 2010. We are putting the final touches on the environmental information document for that project and we did get the responses back from all the state and federal agencies that we have to coordinate with for the environmental clearance for that project. We are taking their comments in to consideration and incorporating those into the environmental information document and then that should follow for submission to Rural Development by the end of the month. We will not get a decision on this application nearly as quickly as we will on the Water Development Board. If things go as planned on the Water Development Board Project they will act on it in November, you will probably be given some guidance right before Christmas on what they are going to do and offer you a funding package on that project. The Rural Development Project is going to be a little slower, once they get the environmental clearance; it has to go through EPA it is probably going to be 8 to 10 months before we would hear what kind of funding package their going to offer you. Scott Hays said in talking with our regional rural development representative, Randy Verner, he has given an indication that the city will qualify somewhere between a 50 to 75% grant depending on how the package is received. The last funding application that was just submitted last Friday, October 8, 2010 is the TDRA TCDP, is the block grant $200,000.00 maximum. It is 100% grant to replace some water lines. It will probably be late spring before we hear an answer.

Economic Development Coordinator Kathy Keane provided Council with a written report.

Sewer Plant Supervisor Tommy Wright has put together a preventative maintenance book which contains the daily and weekly tasks that have to be performed. TCEQ will be performing an inspection on Tuesday. The construction that was going on put us behind on pumping the sludge. We were supposed to only be at 3 foot of sludge and we were at 10 foot of sludge. There was nothing we could do about it because it was during the construction phase. Since that time we are now down to 6 foot of sludge, and by the end of November, first part of December we should be were we are supposed to be. We have put up an 8 foot barbed wire fence around the SBR, Chlorine contact, and the sludge thickener area. Hopefully this will satisfy TCEQ and we will not have to put an 8 foot fence around the building. TEEKS will have a class here in Eden, which Dustin Croft and Larry Pedraza will attend, after they attend this class they will be able to take water samples.

City Administrator Celina Hemmeter has been busy gathering up information for the Grants.

Mayor Spann called a recess

Mayor Spann called the meeting back to order, Alberta Trejo gave the invocation.

Mayor Spann read a proclamation, declaring October 2010 as Chamber of Commerce month in Eden, Texas and applauds its members for working to make our city the best place to live, work, learn and play.

Citizens Participation; no public comment

REPORTS OF AGENCIES, COMMISSIONS & STAFF

Judge Amos, on behalf of the Lion's Club requested the council's blessing to put a metal sign that says "Concho County War Memorial Park" and plant a Crape Myrtle bush at the Memorial (Flag) Park. Councilperson Williams said the City will need to write a letter to TX DOT for a permit to put up the sign.

Fire Chief Jason Medders said that they have the tanker is up and running and painted. The Forestry has to come down and put it into service. The Fire Convention went well, ten towns attended, 150 people. The next state meeting will be in Sonora in April. They are trying to find a safer way to put the stage down, possible using wenches. Right now they are using come alongs to bring it down. They are going to leave it down until after the camouflage cotillion. Jason is working with Kathy on a grant for new tanker trucks through the USDA.

CONSENT ITEMS

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve the following consent items:
Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes, September 14, 2010
Approval of Special Meeting Minutes, September 21, 2010
Approval of Financial Statement Month ending September 30, 2010
Approval of City of Eden Investment Report Month Ending September 30, 2010
Resolution-A Resolution of the City of Eden, Texas, authorizing submittal of FY2011 Solid Waste Pass-Through Grant
Approval of City of Eden Affirmative Action Plan
Resolution-A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Eden, Texas, Establishing an Affirmative Action Plan for Texas Community Development Block Grant Program from the Texas Department of Rural Affairs
Approval of Section 504 Grievance Procedure
Approval of Designation Form for Section 504 Equal Opportunity/Fair Housing Officer
Resolution-A Resolution of the City Council of Eden, Texas, Authorizing Celina Hemmeter, Kathy Keane and Eugene Spann, to sign the State of Texas Purchase Voucher and the request for Advance or Reimbursement, Financial Forms for processing Request for Contract Funds under the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program, Administered by the Texas Department of Rural Affairs
Approval of form A202 Depository/Authorized Signatories Designation Form
Seconded by Councilperson Roberts, motion passed.

BUSINESS

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve September 2010 bills, seconded by Councilperson Williams, motion passed.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve Tower Lease Option Renewal with Texas Communications in the Industrial Park and authorization for the Mayor to execute such renewal ($1,500.00 a year), seconded by Councilperson Williams, motion passed.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve proposed agreement with Andrews Kurth LLP, for Bond Council Services, seconded by Councilperson Williams, motion passed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Mayor Eugene Spann

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Celina Hemmeter, City Administrator