

City of Eden
Regular Session

The city council of the City of Eden met in regular session on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 in the council chambers of City Hall.

Mayor & City Council Members

Mayor Eugene Spann
Councilmember Eddy Markham
Councilmember Butch Williams
Councilmember Jenifer Gierisch
Councilmember Shelley Hyles **Absent**
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 - Tommy Wright **Absent**
Court Clerk Lisa Evans
Utilities Clerk Esther Grynowicz

Mayor Spann, Kathy Keane, Russell Roberts, Glenda Miller, Dorothy Barnett and a representative from Menard attended the Texas Midwest Conference in Abilene. The City of Eden received Community Achievement Award, All Star Community Award and a check for \$2,500.00. Celina Hemmeter and Kathy Keane worked on this project, along with community involvement.

WORKSHOP

Public Works Supervisor Rodney Castleberry reported several water leaks, since Thursday they have had one 8 inch and six 6 inch line breaks. Sixty two inches of 8 inch pipe split on Hwy 83 next to the Flower Shop, we lost a lot of water on that one.

Parks and Recreation Manager Mike Turner provided Council with a written report. First of November Mike Turner will be receiving a certified Swimming Pool Operator's License. The rain was good for the Course and Parks.

Councilperson Butch Williams reported that The Texas Department of Transportation will be starting the Hardin Creek Bridge Project in January. There is nothing in the next two years for Highway 83. They may be putting in curbing and gutters on 83 coming into Eden. Most of the monies are dedicated to Highway 277.

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

Celina Hemmeter, City Administrator read the report she and Kathy Keane submitted for the awards that the City received at the Texas Midwest Conference.

Mayor Spann called the Council Meeting to order, Jerry McDonald gave the Invocation.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Daniel Lange wants to hear what the City Council has to say about possible annexation.

REPORTS OF AGENCIES, COMMISSIONS & STAFF

Joshua Berryhill with Enprotec, Hibbs & Todd gave a written report to Council regarding the status of the TWDB-EDAP. The new cooling tower is in place, this may have been the cause of some of the water breaks as a result of the major temperature change. They will be putting in the new transducers in the deep wells, since Rodney said we are down to only using one deep well at a time. With regard to setting up utility connections in the ETJ there are limitations about increasing rates to new connections, if you are edap eligible.

David Mueller with West Texas Gas, WTG has put in a request to the state to raise rates. The last few years there have been several Federal and State Laws that have affected their business, employee training is a lot more extensive and go in and replace all steel pipe that is unprotected. We are asking for the Cities to deny our rate increase and form a coalition of cities. This is a more efficient means by which to evaluate the merits of WTG's request and aids in reducing rate case expenses. The City will be able to participate in the steering committee for the coalition in selecting experts and in setting goals and objectives for the case.

Sheriff Doane-**Absent**

Fire Chief Jason Medders- **Absent**

CONSENT ITEMS

Councilperson Williams made a motion to approve consent items A thru D seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried.

- A. Approval of September 13, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes.
- B. Approval of September 26, 2011 Special Called Meeting Minutes.
- C. Approval of Financial Statement Month Ending September 2011.
- D. Approval of City of Eden Investment Report Month Ending September 2011

BUSINESS

Councilperson Gierisch made a motion to approve business item A. Deny West Texas Gas rate increase, seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried.

Councilperson Williams made a motion to approve business item B. Joining coalition of Cities for representation regarding West TX Gas rate increase, seconded by Councilperson Roberts, motion carried.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve business item C. Resolution Denying West TX Gas request to increase rates, seconded by Councilperson Williams, motion carried.

Councilperson Williams made a motion to approve business item D. September 2011 Bills, seconded by Councilperson Roberts, motion carried.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve business item E. Authorizing an annual payment to TML for insurance and work comp

coverage vs. quarterly payment for a 3% savings, seconded by Councilperson Williams, motion carried.

Councilperson Roberts made a motion to approve business item F. Approval of Global Fleet agreement as issuer for fuel fleet card, seconded by Councilperson Williams, motion carried.

Councilperson Gierisch made a motion to approve business item G. Nominate Larry White, Ben E. McCulloch, II, Barbara Hoffman, Paulina Ruiz and Ricky Thomas to the Concho County Appraisal District Board of Directors, seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried.

Councilperson Williams made a motion to approve business item H. Resolution in support for HR 2131 which would extend the certification of Concho County as a HUBZone, seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried.

Councilperson Williams made a motion to defer business item I. Scheduling procedures and fees for utilizing amenities at Lee Pfluger Park, until December 2011, seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried.

Business Item J. Discussion regarding pros and cons of annexation, alternatives to annexation and water rate restrictions for ETJ as well as other relevant issues related to possible annexation. Celina Hemmeter conducted a study to find out based on the tax rate that the council set currently how much additional revenues that would bring if we did annex the people we currently provide water to and it would be around \$13,000.00. It was about 25 properties. Mayor Spann said we should do a comparison of what it would cost the City to maintain the water lines, replacing the water lines, and putting in new meters against what we would be bringing in money wise from annexation before we go any further. Councilperson Roberts also brought up the streets that the City would have to maintain also. Mr. Woods said that law requires the City can only annex 1 acre of unoccupied land per owner, so a survey would have to be done. Celina suggested that a task force be formed to do research on this matter.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Eugene Spann

Celina Hemmeter, City Administrator