

**Town Council Minutes  
October 10, 2011**

**STATE OF TEXAS §**

**COUNTY OF TARRANT §**

**TOWN OF PANTEGO §**

The Town Council of the Town of Pantego, Texas, met in regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of Town Hall, 1614 South Bowen Road, Pantego, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2011 with the following members present:

**Melody Paradise  
Don Surratt  
Russell Brewster  
Duane Smith**

**Mayor  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Council Members**

constituting a quorum. Councilmember Jane Barrettt, Police Chief Joel McKinney, Fire Chief Tom Griffith, and Finance Director Robert Newsome were excused from tonight's meeting. The following staff members were present:

**Sean Fox  
Lindsay Wells  
Jim Jeffrey  
Ron Edwards  
Chad Joyce**

**City Manager  
City Secretary  
City Attorney  
Public Works Director  
Building Inspector**

**WORK SESSION 6:30 P.M.**

Mayor Paradise called the work session into order at 6:39 p.m.

**1. City Manager Report**

- New Administrative Assistant-Katy Sutton has been hired as the new administrative assistant for Town Hall and began work today. She is a recent graduate of St. Edwards University in Austin, TX.
- Arrest of Elderly Arlington Woman-A 76 year-old woman who suffers from Alzheimers was reported to the police for driving the wrong way down Bowen Road and appeared under the influence of a substance. The woman was arrested and detained. The police department followed procedure and handled the situation professionally.
- Proposal for Tarrant County-Commissioner Andy Nguyen's office informed the Town that the County was seeking proposals for transportation projects that can be accomplished within the year and that can utilize County road workers. A proposal was submitted which included six previously identified projects.
- Park Row Bid Status-On the City Attorney's recommendation, the Park Row development project has been reposted to receive bids itemizing each portion of the project at no additional cost to the Town. The bidding process opened today and will close October 24, 2011.
- Handitran & Arlington Library fees-Arlington Deputy City Manager Gilbert Perales met with Sean Fox and confirmed that Arlington is considering passing on the cost to consumers of Handitran service. No decisions have been made or alternatives proposed at this time.

**2. City Secretary Report**

- TML Conference-City Manager Sean Fox, City Secretary Lindsay Wells, Public Works Director Ron Edwards, Mayor Melody Paradise, Mayor Pro Tem Don Surratt, and Councilmember Duane Smith have confirmed their registration for the TML Conference

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scheduled for October 11-14 in Houston, TX. The entire party will be staying at the Club Quarters Hotel and will be leaving for Houston Tuesday evening.

- Printing Overage Costs-Imagetek bills the Town on a quarterly basis for any printing overages as required by the printer contract. Council began using iPads in the middle of the previous billing quarter. Previously, the Town had been billed at least \$1,200 a quarter and the most recent bill will be an estimated \$600.

**3. Monthly Staff Reports**

**4. Approval of Bills Payable and Purchase Orders in Excess of \$1,000**

**5. Minutes: PEDC-August 24, 2011  
Town Council-September 26, 2011**

Council discussed the issues raised in the City Manager report including how to properly handle elderly and special needs individuals and working with the City of Arlington in regards to the Handitran service and library fees.

Council next discussed information presented in the monthly financial report as well as receivables and changes to the Town Council minutes from September 26, 2011.

Mayor Paradise adjourned the work session at 7:30 p.m.

**REGULAR SESSION 7:30 P.M.**  
**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME**

Mayor Paradise called the regular session to order at 7:34 p.m.

**INVOCATION BY:**

Dennis Smith, Arlington Community Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS OF COMMUNITY INTERESTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Surratt thanked Police Chief Joel McKinney and Fire Chief Tom Griffith for informing Council of events within their departments that go above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Surratt also mentioned National Night Out, which took place on October 4, 2011, and thanked Corporal Marissa McCann for her hard work in ensuring a successful event. Finally, Mr. Surratt thanked Public Works Director Ron Edwards and the Public Works department for a successful Clean Up Day.

Councilmember Smith apologized for not knowing about his town email account and thanked staff for helping him in getting the account set up. Mr. Smith acknowledged that he had 140 unanswered emails, 123 emails having come from the same person, in this account and apologized to the citizens who had contacted him and hadn't received a response.

Councilmember Brewster reiterated Mayor Pro Tem Surratt's statements regarding the Police Department and the Fire Department and thanked Town staff.

Mayor Paradise welcomed Katy Sutton, new administrative assistant, and agreed with previous statements that National Night Out was a successful and fun event. Mayor Paradise reminded those in attendance that Pantego Christian Academy is holding their annual fundraiser with an online auction and Pantego Mayor for the Day will be an auction item. She also stated that Council will be leaving for the TML Conference in Houston tomorrow night as well as thanked Public Works for their hard work on Clean Up Day.

**COUNCIL LIAISON TO BOARD REPORT**

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- **Community Relations Board**

Mayor Paradise stated that the Community Relations Board will meet tomorrow night, Tuesday, October 11, 2011 and is preparing for the Halloween event. Mayor Pro Tem Surratt mentioned that he would not be in attendance at the meeting tomorrow night but will be available in case of any questions and is eager to see a copy of the meeting's minutes.

**PEDC REPORTS**

City Manager Sean Fox informed Council that PEDC has concerns about the Park Row budgeting process and agreed with Council's direction to demolish the wading pool at Bicentennial Park. Pam Mundo of Mundo and Associates briefed PEDC on the research she has conducted on the Town as well as the Texas Dealmaking Conference in November.

Public Works Director Ron Edwards clarified a point made by Mr. Fox that PEDC directed that a timeline be established in replacing the wading pool with some type of water feature.

**CITIZENS OPEN FORUM**

No open forum discussion.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Councilmember Brewster moved to approve Consent Agenda Items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 with changes to the minutes as discussed. Mayor Pro Tem Surratt seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Surratt, Brewster, and Smith

Nays:

Abstentions:

Mayor Paradise declared the motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION, REVIEW, APPROVAL AND / OR DIRECT STAFF**

**6. Discuss and consider the vacancy of Councilmember, Place 2 on the Pantego Town Council.**

Mayor Paradise mentioned that Donna Arlington resigned her position and stated that the two options available to Council include leaving the position vacant until the election in May 2012 or appointing someone to fill the vacancy until the election.

Mayor Paradise stated that nothing would be done tonight out of deference to Councilmember Barrett. Mayor Pro Tem Surratt shared his thoughts on the topic and discussed a possible appointee, Don Funderlic. Councilmember Smith recommended Mr. Funderlic and felt that someone should be appointed rather than leaving the position vacant. Councilmember Brewster did not have an opinion on Mr. Funderlic as he does not know him well but would like the opportunity to learn more about him.

Council discussed the options available as well as the logistics of an appointment and directed staff to invite Mr. Funderlic to meet with Council during work session of the next Council meeting.

**7. Discuss, review and consider any action on Town street projects.**

Public Works Director Ron Edwards made a presentation to Council on the history of street projects in the Town. In 2003, a study was done by the City Engineer at the time and made recommendations for project priorities. Mr. Edwards stated that the main problem found on many roads were drainage issues and set out to repair and replace curbs and gutters followed by road repairs.

Mr. Edwards next discussed the conclusions reached by the Ad Hoc Water Committee and projects listed as a priority as a result of these findings.

Council discussed the information presented including timelines, and repairs the Public Works Department could begin in the near future.

**John Shanks, 3315 Peachtree Lane Pantego, TX 76013** - Mr. Shanks suggested digging a trench to create a drain line down Arrowhead.

Mr. Edwards confirmed with Mr. Shanks that he understood what was being suggested and informed him that at the present time, there is no underground infrastructure to move water from the area but appreciates that there is a need for a solution. Mr. Edwards thanked Mr. Shanks for his input.

**Dave Cobb, 3310 Peachtree Lane Pantego, TX 76013** - Mr. Cobb brought Google Images to show Council standing water along Peachtree Ln. Mr. Cobb informed Council that the water accumulated from nine houses drain down to his house.

Mr. Edwards detailed his ideas for improving drainage along Peachtree Lane to Mr. Cobb.

Council discussed the issue presented including prioritizing projects, recent repairs and engineering challenges.

**ORDINANCES**

**8. Discuss and consider any action on the first and final reading of an that recognizes the available Freeport tax exemption established by the Texas Legislature by repealing Ordinance No. 07-575 which previously established an ad valorem tax on goods in transit.**

City manager Sean Fox informed Council that House Bill 612 has been revised several times in the last few years regarding Freeport exemptions. At the time ordinance 07-575 was passed, Council decided to allow these exemptions. Mr. Fox stated that if Council decides to take no action on the ordinance presented, the issue would remedy itself, however, officially repealing the ordinance would help clean up the Code of Ordinances and present the Town as business friendly.

Mayor Pro Tem Surratt moved to repeal Ordinance No. 07-575 which previously established an ad valorem tax on goods in transit via the new ordinance presented with a number to be determined that recognizes the available Freeport tax exemption established by the Texas Legislature. Councilmember Smith seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Surratt, Brewster, and Smith

Nays:

Abstentions:

Mayor Paradise declared the motion passed unanimously.

**COUNCIL INQUIRY**

None at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

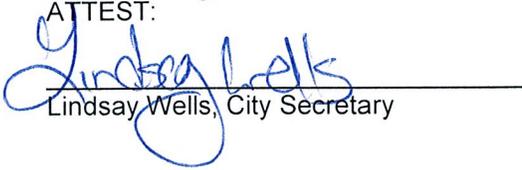
Mayor Paradise adjourned the regular session at 8:32 p.m.

APPROVED:



Meiody Paradise, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lindsay Wells, City Secretary