

REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011
6:00 P.M.

A Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of the Anahuac City Council were held in the Council Chambers of Anahuac City Hall located at 501 Miller Street, Anahuac, Texas on Monday, May 9, 2011 at the above noted time.

There were present:

Sue Hawthorne	Mayor
Cheryl Sanders	Mayor Pro Tem
Linda Palmer	Councilwoman
Dana Evans	Councilwoman
Danny Thompson	Councilman
Kimberly Upston	City Secretary
Richard Baker	City Attorney
Dan Irby	Public Works Director

Those not present:

None

Guests:

Chris Hill	Citizen
Monroe Kreuzer	Citizen
Bruce Corner	Citizen
Judge Jim Riley	Municipal Judge
Constable Langford	Guest
Dayna Haynes	The Progress
Francis Len Hughes	Administrator Candidate
Lance Nauman	Administrator Candidate
Scott Wible	Employee/Administrator Candidate
Robbie Hood	Administrator Candidate
Sharon Brown	Administrator Candidate

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Hawthorne called the regular meeting to order. She led the invocation and Councilman Thompson led the pledges to the American and Texas Flags.

Monroe Kreuzer spoke about the hydrant system, the water system and water storage.

Chris Hill also signed up to speak but, chose to wait until later agenda items.

Mayor Hawthorne took the Closed Session portion of the agenda out of turn. There was a motion made by Councilwoman Sanders to move into closed session under Texas Government Code Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code "Personnel Matters, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employees" including but not limited to interviews for the prospective employment of the following persons for the City Administrator position:

- a) Sharon Brown
- b) Robbie Hood
- c) Francis Len Hughes
- d) Lance Nauman
- e) Scott Wible

Councilwoman Palmer seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried.

Adjourned in to Closed Session at 6:04 p.m.

Council returned to Open Session at 8:41 p.m.

Councilwoman Evans made a motion to offer the position of City Administrator to Robbie Hood. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. Councilwoman Palmer and Councilwoman Sanders opposed. Mayor Hawthorne broke the tie by voting nay and the motion died.

Councilwoman Sanders made a motion to offer the position of City Administrator to Lance Nauman. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried with one nay vote from Councilwoman Evans.

The next item discussed was the Munro's Uniform contract. David Simmons, a representative from Munro's Uniform Service, was not present at this meeting. Richard Baker stated he had questions about the buy back portion of the contract. Council stated they would like Mr. Baker to follow up and bring more information back for the next meeting. There was no action on this item.

Discussion was held on the Municipal Court of the City of Anahuac starting traffic citations. Kimberly Upston explained the reports that were given to Council. She also explained about the time it would take to process the tickets. She referred Council to information received from another City as to how much money was collected from tickets. The Council discussed not pursuing this item and no action was taken.

The next item discussed was the previous tank inspections of the City of Anahuac water storage tanks. Councilman Thompson stated he had placed this item on the agenda because of a request from Chris Hill, citizen. Mr. Hill spoke about how the tank inspection was conducted. Mayor Hawthorne said the Council was aware of the circumstances and the issue will be dealt with internally.

Mayor Hawthorne asked if Mr. Hill had any information regarding the inspection. Mr. Hill said he had information that stated City employees could do inspections on the tanks.

Councilwoman Sanders asked if there was any special certification that an employee needs to have in order to be qualified to do the inspections. Councilman Thompson said that TCEQ does not require special certifications. He said they provide a form and they require it be done once a year.

Councilwoman Sanders asked if in the past, the City had had a company do the inspections. Dan Irby said yes, the City has always had a company do the inspections.

After more discussion, there was no action taken on this item.

Discussion moved to the existing water tower located on Beaumont Street. Councilman Thompson again stated he had placed this item on the agenda because of a request from Chris Hill, citizen. Mr. Hill spoke about the water tower and how it was taken out of service. He said he had spoken with TCEQ and they said they did not tell the City to take the tower out of service.

Councilwoman Sanders said Council at the time was told by the former Mayor the tower had to be taken out of service because of lead. Mr. Hill stated that the lead was on the outside of the tower and could be painted over to correct the issue. Scott Wible said the City does not have the money in the budget and the tower was taken out of service for a failure to maintain. He said TCEQ gave the City the option of fixing it or taking it offline due to failure to maintain according to TAC Code 30.290 Reference M(1).

Mr. Wible also stated the operators were obligated to take the tower offline because their licenses could be revoked. Monroe Kreuzer stated he believed the tank had been painted 10 to 12 years ago.

After more discussion, there was no action taken on this item.

Mayor Hawthorne moved the discussion to the ground storage tank located on North Main Street. Councilman Thompson said he had contacted a company that would pressure wash the tank for \$4400. He also said the tank will be needed in the future.

Councilwoman Sanders asked if there was anything wrong with the storage tank. Dan Irby said there was rust inside the tank. There was no action taken on this item.

Council then discussed the hiring of summer help for the Public Works department. Dan Irby explained that he would like to hire two people instead of four because starting June 1st the City will have up to 30 probationers a week. Mayor Hawthorne asked if Mr. Irby had budgeted for the two employees. Mr. Irby said he had.

Councilwoman Sanders asked if the Worksource program that was used last summer was still available. Mr. Irby said it is. Councilwoman Sanders asked who paid the employees. Scott Wible said the state paid the employees. Mr. Irby said his reason for not wanting to use the program was that there are two former employees that he would like to hire instead.

Mayor Hawthorne asked if the two persons could apply for the jobs thought the Worksource program. Mr. Irby said they could but, they may not be placed with the City. Councilwoman Evans asked once we got an employee from Worksource if we would be obligated to keep them. Mr. Irby said we wouldn't be. Councilwoman Evans said she would rather use Worksource than hire anyone.

Councilwoman Evans made a motion to contract with Worksource for summer help in the Public Works department. Councilwoman Sanders seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried.

The next item discussed was repairing the HSI blower. Dan Irby said it was the number two blower out at the sewer plant. Councilwoman Evans asked if the City was required to go out for bids on the repairs. Mr. Irby said he would like to talk to Council about that. Councilwoman Palmer asked if the blower was part of the sewer plant project. Mr. Irby said it was not.

Mayor Hawthorne asked if Mr. Irby had gotten any other quotes besides what was provided to Council. Mr. Irby said he looked online and found four companies that supply blowers for plants. He said that National Tribune Company was the same as HSI and they were located in Houston.

Mayor Hawthorne asked if he had gotten quotes from the other companies. He said he didn't but, he could. He said the other companies were located out of state. Councilwoman Sanders asked if any of the blowers had been replaced before. Mr. Irby said none had been replaced; they had been rebuilt.

Mr. Irby said the blower in question had been rebuilt in May 2010. Councilwoman Evans asked which company rebuilt it. Mr. Irby said HSI did the work. Councilwoman Evans asked why the repairs only lasted a year. Mr. Irby said at the time the repairs were done, they couldn't take the blower all the way down. He said the bearings were going bad and they would have had to take the blower completely out to redo the bearings, shaft and housing. Mr. Irby said they only replaced the bearings at the time.

Councilwoman Evans asked what the costs of the repairs were in May. Dan Irby said at the time the air lines at the plant were bad and they had to run the blower constantly. He also said he did not know what the costs of the repairs were.

Councilwoman Sanders asked if the quote was for a rebuild or a new blower. Mr. Irby said it was for a rebuild but, the price for a new blower was included in the information.

Councilwoman Palmer asked how many blowers were at the plant and how many need to be running at the same time. Mr. Irby said they are alternating them now because there is only one plant that is running but, typically when both plants are running they use two.

Councilwoman Sanders asked what shape the other blowers are in. Mr. Irby said they aren't in bad shape because they were redone after Ike. Councilwoman Evans asked what the long term solution to the problem was. Mr. Irby said it was to redo the blower or purchase a new one.

Richard Baker asked if there was any warranty claims and if everything did what it was expected to do. Scott Wible said yes. Councilwoman Sanders asked if we received a warranty on the bearing repairs. Mr. Wible said the company said it was a temporary fix when the repair was done.

Councilman Thompson asked why the blower was not included in the sewer plant overhaul. Mr. Wible said it was due to lack of money in the budget.

It was decided that more information was needed and for the item to be brought back to Council. There was no action taken on this item.

Discussion moved to the City Administrator contract. Lance Nauman was asked when effective date would be. He stated he would like to start the following day. Kimberly Upston explained the leave policy and the insurance. Councilman Thompson made a motion to offer the contract Lance Nauman for the position of City Administrator. Councilwoman Evans seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried.

The minutes of the Workshop meeting held on April 4, 2011. Councilwoman Evans asked that she and Councilman Thompson be included on the not present list. Councilwoman Sanders made a motion to accept the minutes of the Workshop held on April 4, 2011 with the corrections. Councilwoman Palmer seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried.


Council then discussed the Bookkeepers Report from March 2011. Councilwoman Palmer said she had spoken to one of the accountants about the report and she had asked for a few changes to be made to how the numbers were reported. Discussion was had on the bank service charges and Centerpoint Energy. Councilwoman Sanders made a motion to approve the Bookkeepers Report from March 2011. All in favor and motion carried.

Accounts payable was discussed. There was discussion held on the two invoices from Bayside Hospital. Council would like more detail about what the invoices were for and if it was a work related injuries. Councilwoman Evans made a motion to approve accounts payable with the exception of the two invoices from Bayside Hospital. Councilwoman Sanders seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried.

Councilwoman Evans made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Sanders seconded the motion. At 9:51 p.m. the Regular Meeting of the City of Anahuac City Council was adjourned.



Kimberly Upston, City Secretary



**Sue Hawthorne, Mayor
City of Anahuac**