

CITY OF ENNIS COMMISSION WORKSHOP

JULY 1, 2013

6:00 P.M.

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. on July 1, 2013, in the City Commission Chambers of the City of Ennis Municipal Building, 115 W. Brown Street, Ennis, Texas 75119.

PRESENT: Mayor Thomas, Commissioners Walker and Holley, City Manager Howerton, City Attorney Wilson, Lieutenant Anthony, and City Secretary Batchler. Commissioners Frazier, Salik, Haupt, and Searcy were not in attendance.

PRESENTATION REGARDING US HIGHWAY 287 ENNIS BY-PASS PHASE II. Jeremy McGhan and Mike Craig representing Halff Associates, Inc. presented a project briefing on the US Highway 287 Ennis By-Pass Phase II Project for the proposed reconstruction and widening of US 287 from a two-lane to a four-lane divided roadway from SH34 to IH45, a distance of approximately 4 miles. The proposed project would also provide continuous frontage roads along the roadway. Grade-separated intersections would be provided at Ensign Road, FM 1183 (Oak Grove Road), and Sterilite Drive. Scott Morrow with the Texas Department of Transportation was present to answer questions. Additional right-of-way is anticipated to be required along both the east and west side of the roadway. The city of Ennis' participation in the right-of-way acquisition will be by owner contact and providing a percentage of the cost of the ROW property to be funded by the city's existing Street Construction Fund. The fund currently has a balance of \$235,000.00 from excess proceeds of past street projects.

LAKE BARDWELL REPORT Lake Bardwell is 9 inches above 417 Mean Sea Level - Stage 1 Voluntary Conservation. If the lake drops to 414 Mean Sea Level - Stage 1 Mandatory Conservation will be implemented with restricted watering. Public notice will be provided should the drop occur.

WEST NILE VIRUS REPORT On June 20th the city of Ennis was advised of a preliminary diagnosis of West Nile Fever in an individual that lives just outside the city limits. Later that day the Texas State Department of Health Services informed the city that they will not confirm the West Nile Case. The West Nile antibodies are present but the second confirmatory test did not show active West Nile. The city began spraying for mosquito control on Tuesday, June 25th on the north side and on Thursday, June 27th on the south side, covering the majority of the city. No mosquitos have been identified as a carrier. The spraying will continue as a precaution.

REPORT OF THE CITY MANAGER FOR THE PERIOD MAY 28, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 24, 2013. The report was routine in nature. During June, the Water Treatment Plant treated

approximately 111.340 million gallons of water and the Wastewater Treatment Plant treated approximately 49.285 million gallons of wastewater.

DEVELOPMENT/CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORT JULY 1, 2013. Fifty-five projects have been completed with a \$40,736,224.06 permitting value.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE FY 2013-2014 TAX RATE ADOPTION FY 2013-2014 BUDGET ADOPTION. The Budget Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, July 16, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

2014 STREET BOND PROGRAM The City Manager asked the Commission if they have identified the areas they would like to address and on what streets a traffic count should be conducted. He reemphasized the need to plan for the city's portion of the cost of the right-a-way on the 287 Bypass Project to be fund by the street bond program.

NEW BUSINESS

RECOVERY EFFORTS RELATING TO THE MAY 16, 2013 ENNIS TORNADO. City Manager Howerton presented the application that will be submitted to the Texas Department of Agriculture Disaster Relief Fund under the Texas Community Development Block Grant for reimbursement of \$130,062.20 for expenditures made by the City of Ennis for vegetative debris collection, removal, reduction and disposal associated with the May 16, 2013 Ennis tornado. The expenditures are eligible for reimbursement as a result of the Governor's Disaster Declaration issued May 20, 2013. A public hearing is required prior to submission of the application to the state.

OLD BUSINESS

APPOINTMENTS TO CITY OF ENNIS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: There are several board and commission member positions expiring. The Mayor asked staff to contact the reappontees.

Mayor Thomas adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Donna Batchler, City Secretary

