

**MINUTES DECEMBER 05, 2017  
CITY OF HEARNE COUNCIL MEETING**

**The Hearne City Council meeting was called to order on December 05, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Ruben Gomez. Councilmembers present were LaShunda White, Emmett Aguirre, Martha Castilleja, and Margaret Salvaggio. Councilmember Rodrick Jackson was absent. A quorum was present. City Attorney Floyd Akers was also present. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:**

- a. To approve minutes from City Council Meeting of November 21, 2017**
- b. To approve accounts payable from November 15, 2017 through November 30, 2017**
- c. To approve the City of Hearne Tax Roll – Jurisdiction Summary from the Robertson County Tax Office**
- d. To accept the Annual Report from the City of Hearne Economic Development Corporation Type B**

**Councilmember Castilleja made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as listed above. Councilmember Salvaggio seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Motion can be found on the Audio for City Council Meeting of December 05, 2017 at 1:02 - 1 of 2.)**

**Councilmember White made the motion to appoint Cody Cunningham to the Hearne Economic Development Board Type A Board. Councilmember Castilleja seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Motion can be found on the Audio for City Council Meeting of December 05, 2017 at 3:14 - 1 of 2.)**

**Councilmember Aguirre made the motion to approve the proposed \$0.005 decrease to residential utility rates for the year 2018 to be followed by an ordinance. Councilmember White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Motion can be found on the Audio for City Council Meeting of December 05, 2017 at 14:24 - 1 of 2.)**

**At 6:13 p.m., Hearne City Councilmembers went into Executive Session for discussion regarding possible litigation between the City of Hearne and Waste Connections as authorized by the Texas Government Code Section 551.071.**

**At 6:54 p.m., Hearne City Councilmembers resumed into Open Session to discuss and/or take action regarding possible litigation between the City of Hearne and Waste Connections as authorized by the Texas Government Code Section 551.071.**

**Mayor Gomez stated he wants it on the record that a letter was sent out by the City Manager, a second by the City Attorney, and they have met twice. The Waste Connections letter seems very promising; and, because it does seem promising to the City and Council, they feel they can possible give them another sixty days--to see if it is possible to provide the service that they are saying they are going to provide for the City of Hearne. Again, for the record, and he thinks Waste Connections would agree with them, they have been more than lenient. The City of Hearne worries about the liability, and that is why this decision is being made. But again, he feels like it is one, two, and three. Gentlemen, you are being given your last chance here so do not fail the City of Hearne. Because after the sixty days, they will not postpone their decision on going out for bids or opening bids after the sixty days. The City of Hearne wants to see what service Waste Connections is going to give them. The citizens are requesting this. There have been too many complaints; and hopefully, within the next sixty days, all these complaints will go away. This decision is for the Hearne citizens and businesses. For the record, gentlemen, we are really trying to work with you, but in his opinion, if it does not work out in the next sixty days, they will not hesitate to ask that they terminate their agreement. Any judge would agree with them that they have breached their contract if you cannot provide good service as the contract states you will.**

**Councilmember Aguirre made the motion that they allow Waste Connections Management sixty days to demonstrate that they can provide the service agreement that they have contracted for, and on February 06, 2018, the Hearne City Council will made an evaluation of that service. Councilmember Castilleja seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Motion can be found on the Audio for City Council Meeting of December 05, 2017 at 3:06 - 2 of 2.)**

**City Manager John Naron gave an update on the December 16, 2017 Hearne parade being planned by the Hearne Chamber of Commerce. There will be an Official Lighting Ceremony of the Christmas tree. There will be vendors at the 204 and 206 W. 4<sup>th</sup> buildings owned by the City of Hearne.**

**No Public Comments**

**With no further business, Mayor Gomez adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.**