

NITRO CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Rusty Casto called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in Council Chamber. In attendance with Mayor Casto were Recorder Rita Cox, Ward 1 Councilman A. A. "Joe" Savilla, Ward 3 Councilman Craig Matthews, Ward 4 Councilman Bill Javins, Councilman at Large Dave Casebolt, Councilman at Large Bob Fields and Councilman at Large Jim McKay, City Treasurer John Young and City Attorney Richie Robb.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Invocation was given by Rev. H. B. White and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by NDA President Herchel Facemyre.

FUTURE DATES OF COUNCIL: Mayor Casto said the next meeting of Council will be Tuesday, November 16 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: Recorder Rita Cox said she was made aware of a mistake in the minutes naming Council meeting on Tuesday, November 8 rather than Monday, November 8. Recorder Cox said she would make that correction. **RECORDER RITA COX MOVED THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2010 BE APPROVED WITH THE CORRECTION BEING MADE ON THE DAY, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN CRAIG MATTHEWS AND VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION TO CARRY.**

CITIZEN OF THE MONTH: Mayor Rusty Casto introduced Eileen Morgan as the November Citizen of the Month. She was accompanied by her daughter and her husband, Jaci and H. B. White, as well as other members of her extended family.

OLD BUSINESS:

CONTINGENCY FUND: Recorder Rita Cox reported that the City of Nitro currently has \$350,000.00 in two funds at People's Federal Credit Union in interest-bearing accounts. Treasurer John Young said that \$60,000.00 has been committed by Council for the Streetscape plan.

STREETSCAPE/PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT: Councilman Dave Casebolt said the city did not receive the grant that was applied for to develop the comprehensive plan, master plan and streetscape design. He said he Baker Engineering recommending putting the comprehensive plan on the back burner, concentrating the streetscape plan on 20th Street to 22nd Street, the gateways and Ridenour Lake, and they renegotiated the contract for the streetscape master plan and streetscape design. **COUNCILMAN CASEBOLT MOVED THE STREETSCAPE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN BY BAKER ENGINEERING BE APPROVED FOR \$38,200.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MCKAY.** Councilman Javins said this was a great opportunity and Councilman McKay said that \$57,000.00 has already been approved. Councilman Matthews said the \$57,000.00 was to come out of the \$60,000.00 that had been set aside and not out of OPED. Councilman Savilla said the money should come out of the \$350,000.00 contingency fund and not out of OPED. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION TO PASS.**

COUNCILMAN CASEBOLT MOVED THAT STREETSCAPE DESIGN BE FUNDED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$34,500.00 TO BAKER ENGINEERING WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN MCKAY. Recorder Cox asked if this was to be paid in a lump sum and Councilman Casebolt said it would be done in payments, not in a lump sum. He said he thought it would come from the contingency fund. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION TO CARRY.**

Mayor Casto said that he thought the city would benefit from the use of a good sidewalk sweeper. **COUNCILMAN MCKAY MOVED BID BE PUT OUT FOR A NEW AND/OR A USED SIDEWALK SWEEPER WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN FIELDS. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION TO PASS.**

NEW BUSINESS:

CHRISTMAS PARADE/SHOW CHOIR PARTICIPATION: Councilman Matthews said the plan was to have a parade on Dec. 4 at 6:00 pm with a tree lighting and cookies and cider afterwards sponsored by the Nitro Antique Mall. The tree will be donated by Kenny Painter at Nitro Flower Shop. The Nitro Show Choir will have Santa and decorations at Children's Park. **COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS MOVED THE HOLIDAY PARADE BE HELD DECEMBER 4 AT 6:00 PM WITH A TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY FOLLOWING AND THE NITRO HIGH SHOW CHOIR DECORATE AND USE CHILDREN'S PARK FOR SANTA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN SAVILLA. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.**

ATTORNEY REPORT: Richie Robb reported that the City of Nitro Civil Service Commission consisting of Judy Hudson, Jay Long, and Frank Gibeaut met earlier today along with Mayor Casto, Richie Robb, Recorder Cox, and John Young. One issue was the \$500.00 raise given to all employees except part time during the current fiscal year. That issue has been resolved with the parks and recreation employee being declared fulltime and therefore entitled to the raise. Another issue was the job of executive administrative assistant and if a new job had been created and therefore needed to be posted for other employees to apply for. The ruling of the Nitro Civil Service Commission was that due to the new duties comprising approximately 75% of the job and the old duties out of property maintenance comprising approximately 25% of the job, a new job was in fact created and needed to be posted for competitive bidding within the existing city employees. The Commission also determined this was a necessary position. **COUNCILMAN CASEBOLT MOVED THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT BE ESTABLISHED AS A POSITION WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS.** Councilman Matthews asked if this opens a new job in the Building Department. Richie Robb said no, but that the Commission felt that duties added meant that it should be classified as a new job a ratified by Council, and then posted. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION TO CARRY.**

Richie Robb said that \$500.00 raise was to be just that amount even though it might be given in different amounts at pay time, ultimately the person would receive \$500.00 by the end of the fiscal year.

Another issue was a full time person who did not get the raise. The Commission determined the job was full time, the person had been let go and then brought back due to the financial situation of the city. The recommendation of the Commission in this case was the person should receive the \$500.00 increase and the individual be given specific job duties and accountability for the entire fiscal year. The position had been called seasonal but the job has sufficient duties to define it as full time. **COUNCILMAN CASEBOLT MOVED THE JOB OF PARKS AND RECREATION EMPLOYEE BE GIVEN A DESCRIPTION, MADE FULL TIME AND ADVERTISED WITHIN THE CITY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MCKAY. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.** Debra Jordan identified herself as the person being discussed. She said her job included the city calendar, pool manager, festivals. She said she has been laid off twice by Mr. Young. Councilman Savilla said the Mayor runs City Hall, not the Treasurer. **COUNCILMAN CASEBOLT MOVED THE MAYOR RETURN TO COUNCIL WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE DUTIES OF PARKS AND RECREATION JOB. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS AND VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.**

COUNCILMAN MATTHEWS MOVED THE THREE FIREMEN WHO DID NOT RECEIVE THE \$250.00 PAY INCREASE BE GIVEN THE INCREASE WITH A SECOND BY RECORDER COX. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mayor Rusty Casto said the DOH would hold a public meeting Nov.18 at 2:00 pm in Council Chambers about the Nitro Bridge replacement. He said the Cub Scouts were holding a coat drive.

Councilman Bill Javins said he had some pictures of the boat launch. **COUNCILMAN JAVINS MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6 MEETING OF THE CVB BE MADE A PART OF THE MINUTES OF THIS COUNCIL MEETING WITH A SECOND BY RECORDER RITA COX. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.** He said the CVB had voted at tonight's meeting to reimburse the city for candy purchased for the Hoedown.

Councilman Craig Matthews thanked the workers for the Hoedown. He said the trashcans on 21st Street

had been purchased with grants from RC & D and DEP, nine in all.

Councilman A. A. "Joe" Savilla said he had missed the Hoedown because he was with Senator elect Manchin.

Councilman Bob Fields thanked A. J. Hill, Debra Jordan and the crew for the work on the Hoedown.

Mayor Casto said he would like to go into Executive session to discuss a purchase with Leonard Womble, Herchel Facemyre and John Montgomery joining Council. COUNCILMAN SAVILLA MOVED COUNCIL GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN JAVINS. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION

Executive Session 8:14 pm.

Resumed Council 8:35 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: COUNCILMAN MCKAY MOVED COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED WITH A SECOND BY COUNCILMAN SAVILLA. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS FOR THE MOTION.

RUSTY CASTO, MAYOR

RITA COX, RECORDER