

MINUTES
MERIDIAN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 16, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Mayor Johnnie Hauerland called the meeting to order and Garland read the proof of posting notice. Council members present were Weldon Hamilton, Michael Sharp, Jeff Hicks, Darren Dunn and Johnnie Hauerland. Also present were David Duke, Mike Walker, Albert Biggs, Pat Harrington, Milton Williams, Madelyn Rieke, Dennis Phillips, Pam Knowles and Marie Garland.

Public Forum – Milton Williams complained about the neighbor's property filled with junk, the neighbor's dog barking and loud music.

Consent Agenda – A motion was made by Hicks, seconded by Hamilton and carried to approve the consent agenda including the minutes, financial reports and written staff reports.

Old Business

1. Dennis Phillips, Meridian Tribune, asked the Council to consider the possibility of restoring the Meridian Library Building to its former state with the rock on the walls going all the way up the sides. He stated that there were groups that would pay for the rock installation including the Meridian Improvement Group and the Meridian Economic Development Corporation. Garland reported that the engineers were developing the plans and cost estimates for the additional rock installation and as of 5:00 p.m. had not heard back from him. Phillips stated that it looked like that building would be \$80,000 short. He thought that those two groups could contribute \$40,000 each. Meridian Economic Development Corporation has not taken a position on the project at this time. No action was taken until we get the estimates.
2. David Duke, Meridian Economic Development Corporation Director, presented the city with a Community Development Plan process. He stated that there would be a leader group appointed by the City. They in turn would appoint all the members including those from MEDC, City Council, Chamber, business people and citizens. He also stated that Megan Henderson, HOTCOG, has indicated that she would serve as facilitator during the meetings of the group if needed. A motion was made by Sharp, seconded by Hicks and carried to approve the Community Development Plan process as presented. Mayor informed the group that the Mayor, Marie Garland and Weldon Hamilton would be meeting on the Survey results and would report back to the Council.
3. City Administrator reported that after a review of the budget figures, the city would be able to hire two summer positions for help in the Public Works Department. Mike Walker reported that they would be patching potholes, trimming trees and helping out where needed. A motion was made to hire two summer employees for help in the Public Works Department. Darren Dunn abstained.

New Business

4. Council Member Weldon Hamilton asked the council to consider changing the one way streets around the old elementary school back to two way streets since the Meridian ISD is no longer at this site. Several discussions followed concerning the use by Hill College and whether or not the

school will utilize the old elementary as a junior high. Garland stated that the school could not make a decision at this time due to the legislature changing the funding for the schools. A motion was made by Dunn, seconded by Hicks and carried to table this item until further information could be obtained.

5. Mayor Hauerland reported that he has three objectives that he wants the city to work on. They include fixing the potholes, picking up brush for the citizens, and code enforcement.
6. The Council moved into Executive Session, according to Texas Open Meetings Act, Section 551.074, to deliberate regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee.
 - Possible hiring and duties of public works employee.
 - Possible pay increases for certain public works employees.

After the council moved back into open session, a motion was made by Sharp, seconded by Dunn and carried to hire Jacob Webb to work for the public works department.

No action was taken on the pay increases for certain public works employees.

7. Adjourn – A motion was made by Sharp, seconded by Dunn and carried to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

Mayor

City Administrator