



**OFFICIAL MINUTES
RINCON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
107 W. 17TH STREET
7:00 PM**

Councilmember Present:

Reese Browher
Patrick Kirkland – Present by phone
W. Frederick Long
Levi Scott, Jr.
Michelle Taylor – Present by phone
Jesse Blackwell, Jr.

Present:

Ken Lee, Mayor
John Klimm, City Manager
Raymond Dickey, City Attorney
Dulcia King, City Clerk
Pet Smith, Asst. Fire Chief
Jason Stewart, City Planner
Tim Bowles, Public Works Director

A physical quorum was present in Council Chambers.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. The Invocation was given by Councilmember Scott and the Pledge to the Flag was recited.

Approval of the agenda:

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Approval of the August 9, 2021 minutes:

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Blackwell
Vote by Council: Unanimous

New Business:

1. Request approval to purchase 300 meter registers from Delta Municipal Supply in the amount of \$56,700.00. LI #505.4440.522255

Mr. Bowles present by phone. He said the agenda states 30 meter registers and it is actually 300. They are replacement registers and to replace the registers on the meters that we have already changed out.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Long

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous

2. Request to renew a 12 month subscription with Spatial Engineering for RightSpot digital database in the amount of \$5,800.00. LI #505.4440.542519

Jason Stewart said this is the annual request to renew the contract with Spatial Engineering. It is the same terms that we have had in the past. Mr. Stewart said we are getting a good service for the price and they are really responsive.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Blackwell

Second: Councilmember Scott

Vote by Council: Unanimous

3. Request approval to accept a letter of credit in the amount of \$73,446.00 for the Cowan Family Tract Development.

Mr. Stewart said this has been reviewed by City engineers and attorney Dickey. Councilmember Scott said from previous experience a letter if credit is not worth the piece of paper it is printed on. He is not familiar with this bank, and has a problem with a letter of credit for a project like this. Attorney Dickey said he spoke with Councilmember Scott about this. He did look up Synovus, it is very large and he doesn't think they will be turned down. But it is not a local bank. Councilmember Scott said sometimes covering these letters of credit cost more than the bond itself. Councilmember Browner asked Mr. Stewart to run through the process, Mr. Stewart said that this is typical with subdivision. He has tried to collect when a developer has gone out of business and usually a sternly written letter to the bank from an attorney will get you the money. Councilmember Scott said he is strongly concerned about a letter of credit. Attorney Dickey asked Councilmember Scott would it be satisfactory if the bank provides a letter saying they have assets of the company available for it to be paid. Councilmember Scott said we need to have something on that deed that we can acquire the property or some of the property. Attorney Dickey he was talking about liquid assets, like an escrow account or something like that. He said if it makes him feel better the letter says it is irrevocable letter.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Long
Second: Councilmember Browher
Vote by Council: 5 yes votes Councilmember Scott voted no

4. Request approval of the Energov Permitting software contract renewal and software upgrade in the amount of \$15,159.00.

Mr. Stewart said Energov is the software that they use in the Planning Department. What they have found is the software that they have is out of date. It is based on Internet Explorer which will no longer be supported. They are being forced into an upgrade to keep what they are paying for, the first year it will be \$15,159.00, and then it settles down to \$9,384.00 for the next few years. The benefit is it will be moving to a cloud base. Unfortunately it is a slight price increase from what they are dealing with now. Councilmember Blackwell asked would this be able to be backed it up locally, Mr. Stewart said he believes we will have that opportunity it is more of an IT question.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Blackwell
Vote by Council: Unanimous

5. Administrative Reports:

City Manager – Mr. Klimm said first wanted to mention challenges that we are facing are dealing with COVID. He applauded the department heads and most recently our Fire Department has provided fogging machines. He will continue try to implement protocols to keep employees safe; Dulcia King is making sure our election is going to run without an issue, she has talked to the technician to make sure on election day our machines will run properly. As we talk about election it is never too soon to mention to citizens that there will be two elections taking place that day; we have done the midyear review and in September we usually begin the budgetary process. Some department heads have wanted to have workshops with Council but they were on issues of financial significance. Council approved policy changes that they will review financial issues once a year during budgetary process. Mr. Klimm said it is never too soon to think about priorities, we will be getting into those types of conversations very soon.

Chief of Police – Chief Murrell was on the phone. He said they have been hit hard with COVID this past week. We had three out with positive results and five total. They are trying to keep separated from each other and will possibly bring back COVID restrictions.

Building/Zoning Dept. – Mr. Stewart went over the Zoning Ordinance proposed changes. They include site design and architectural changes.

Water/Sewer/Public Works – Mr. Bowles gave an update on the Lockner Drive LMIG Project. The contractors had to do some mucking out of some bad sub base, refill and pack it to make sure the under drain works. They had to start putting back the base and should be wrapping up in the next week or so if the weather holds out.

Lost Plantation – Mr. Klimm said they had successful tournament and greens are finally back. Councilmember Browher asked about play, Mr. Klimm said play is up. Councilmember Browher asked about a financial update, Mr. Klimm said he will have Jimmy Powell come to a meeting.

Mayor and Council – Councilmember Taylor said the trees on the Fort Howard Road side of CVS are growing in the parking lot and it looks bad, Mr. Stewart said he will have David Mattos look into this.

6. Executive session to discuss personnel, pending litigation, attorney client privilege, and real estate.

Motion: Councilmember Long
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

Councilmember Taylor was not present during executive session.

Motion to return to meeting: Councilmember Scott
Second: Councilmember Blackwell
Vote by Council: Unanimous

7. Follow the statutes of executive session, to put on file an executive session affidavit and resolution.

Motion to approve: Councilmember Browher
Second: Councilmember Scott
Vote by Council: Unanimous

8. Take any action that is needed on the items from executive session.

No action taken.

Adjourn:

Motion: Councilmember Long
Second: Councilmember Blackwell
Vote by Council: Unanimous