

**VILLAGE OF VOLENTE, TEXAS**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
City Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, November 17, 6:30 P.M.



Meeting was held via Zoom

**I. ITEMS OPENING THE MEETING**

**A. Call to Order:** Mayor Pro Tem Ed Racht called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**B. Call Roll and Establish Quorum:** Interim City Secretary Debbie Gold calls roll. Officers Present are: Mayor Pro Tem Racht, Councilmember Barrick, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Metro, Councilmember Wilson. Absent was Mayor Nace. Quorum is established.

Others Present: Judge Denice Thrash, City Attorney, Cristian Rosas-Grillet, City Engineer, Marc Dickey, Mayor Elect Dan Thost, Councilmember Elect Ruff, Councilmember Elect Hopkins, and Thomas Pharr, Design Engineer, Binkley & Barfield, Inc. representing Holly Smith for variance application for 7304 Reed Drive.

**II. CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

David Gordon: Comment on COVID in Volente.

Jan Yenawine: Village did not send out a message that there were cases of COVID in the Village.

**III. GENERAL BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS**

A. Recognition and presentation to outgoing Council Members and Mayor. Plaques were presented to Councilmember Barrick and Councilmember Metro. The council thanked Judy and Cindy for their service to the community. The outgoing Mayor Nace, not present, was recognized for her service and will receive her plaque.

B. Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution 2020-R-08, canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the November 3, 2020 Election of City Officers of the Village of Volente.

Motion made to accept the canvassing as presented by Evans, and Seconded by Wilson

**Affirmative:** Racht, Barrick, Evans, Metro, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

C. Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution 2020-R-09 canvassing the returns and declaring the result of the Special Election held on November 3 2020 for the reauthorization of the local sales and use tax for the maintenance of municipal Streets.

Motion made to accept the canvassing by Evans, and Seconded by Wilson

**Affirmative:** Racht, Barrick, Evans, Metro, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

- D. Issue certificate of election and administer oaths of office to newly elected officials: Dan Thost, Mayor, Kit Hopkins, Council Member and Kristin Ruff, Council Member.

The Oath of Office was administered to each newly elected official by Judge Denise Thrash.

**\*Please note that once the oath of office was administered by Judge Trash the newly elected Council Members took the council dais.**

- E. Discussion and possible action regarding a Variance Request:

Request by Holly K. Smith for a variance in accordance with the Village of Volente Code of Ordinances, Sec. 4.03.071 (b)(1), (Flood Hazard Reduction Standards), Specific Standards, Residential construction), Ordinance 2003-0-05 & Ordinance 2008-O-96. A substantial improvement of a residential structure having the lowest floor (including basement) below the base flood elevation at the location 7304 Reed Drive.

Thomas Pharr (Binkley & Barfield) presented on behalf of the Smiths: renovation only to the interior of the building causing no increase in volume in the flood plain. This is a substantial improvement the existing 1997 single-family residence. The conditions the applicant will be consistent with the General standards of sec. 4.03.071 (a) (1-5). No Rise Letter has been provided.

Marc Dickey this is a Building Code variance request allowing for the substantial improvement to inhabitable space in the floodplain. The plan as laid out by Mr. Pharr will be in compliance with the Village code of ordinances.

Motion made by Hopkins to approve the variance request for the substantial improvement of the residence in the floodplain at 7304 Reed Dr. under sec. 4.03.071 b.1. of the Village code of ordinances with the requirement the improvements be made in accordance with sec. 4.03.71 (a) (1-5) and that these items be listed as conditions on the site development and building permits. Seconded by **Wilson**

**Affirmative:** Hopkins, Ruff, Wilson, Evans, Ruff, motion carried unanimously.

- F. Presentation of Lakeview and Jackson PEC options, with possible action.

Reviewed and discussed the potential PEC options for electrical lines on Jackson and Lakeview Street.

No action taken.

- G. Discussion and possible action to vote on members of the Board of Directors of the Travis Central Appraisal District.

Motion by Hopkins to authorizing Mayor Thost to cast a vote for Tom Buckle for the Appraisal District Board of Travis County. Seconded by Ed Racht

Affirmative: Racht, Evans, Hopkins, Ruff, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

- H. Discussion and possible action to approve **Resolution 2020-R-10**: A resolution Establishing Bank Signature Authorization.

Motion made by Ruff to grant Dan Thost, Kit Hopkins, and Ed Racht Bank Signature authorization with CapOne bank accounts, with the conditions Mayor Thost can sign as sole approver for amounts up to \$1000, and for amounts over \$1000 require two signatures. Seconded by Evans

**Affirmative:** Racht, Evans, Hopkins, Ruff, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

I. Update on City/Fire Hall option.

The council had approved \$10,000 for architect fees but has not committed to building. Jan Yenawine suggested that the Council discuss this in a workshop setting. Nancy Carufel suggested that there are other options available and these should be reviewed with an eye to ownership.

J. Approval of Bojorquez legal services invoice #9416 for \$3804.00 and Invoice #9411 for \$7330.25.

Motion made by Hopkins to approve the invoices and that all further invoicing provide a summary of all BCRUA related charges and that we begin managing the attendance of the City Attorney in Council Meetings. Seconded by Evans.

**Affirmative:** Racht, Evans, Hopkins, Ruff, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

K. Update of BCRUA/ILA

Marc Dickey met with Aaron Archer and Jarod on site at Bernard and Sherman.

Citizens Tom Blauvet, Tony Ruff, Tim McMillian, were concerned and thought that they would to be included in the meeting based upon the conversations during the Townhall. Another meeting with the BCRUA will be held and arranged by Marc Dickey and would include the concerned citizens from the impacted neighborhood adjacent to BCRUA Site 4.

L. Presentation by newly appointed Mayor Thost.

Presentation of Next 90 Days priorities by newly elected Mayor Thost was postponed. due to time limitations.

### III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council convenes into Executive Session at 10:20 pm.

A. In accordance with Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters) of the Government Code to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline and/or dismissal of the Village Secretary, and

B. In accordance with Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) to receive legal advice regarding BCRUA and the ILA.

Council adjourns from the Executive Session at 11:35 pm and reconvened into the open session at 11:42 pm.

### ACTIONS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Regarding Personnel Matters considered in Executive Session;

1. Motion made by Evans to approve a 30 day extension, with 30 day renewal for temporary help with Debbie Gold as Administrative Assistant until 12/31/2020, ;and Seconded by Wilson.

**Affirmative:** Racht, Evans, Hopkins, Ruff, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion made by Racht to authorize the Mayor to engage the service of a City Secretary Consultant from Bojorquez as necessary, and Seconded by **Wilson**.

**Affirmative:** Racht, Evans, Hopkins, Ruff, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

3. Motion made by Evans to direct Councilmember Ruff to move forward with City Secretary search by posting on Village Website and third party sites. Seconded by **Wilson**.

**Affirmative:** Racht, Evans, Hopkins, Ruff, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

#### **IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of the minutes – postponed to next meeting after council has a chance to review.

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made to adjourn the Council meeting by Hopkins. Seconded by Wilson.

**Affirmative:** Racht, Evans, Hopkins, Ruff, Wilson, motion carried unanimously.

**Meeting Adjourned @ 11:47pm**