Stanford City Council Regular Council Meeting Lincoln County Public Library Meeting Room 6:30 pm, May 9th, 2024

I. Call to Order, Welcome, Pledge and Prayer

Mayor Miller called to order the Regular Council Meeting of the Stanford City Council at 6:30pm on Thursday, May 9th, 2024. All recited the pledge to the U.S. Flag after which Councilman Jerry Wilkinson opened the meeting with prayer.

II. Roll Call

A roll call was conducted with the following members present: Eddie Carter, Ronnie Deatherage, Jason Hignite, Joe Tackett and Jerry Wilkinson. Absent was Bill Miracle. A quorum was declared by the Mayor.

Also present were: Police Chief Zach Middleton, Fire Chief Scott Maples, Sergeant Greg Hill, City Attorney John Hackley, and citizen's Susan Miller, Linda Denham, Lucille Sudduth and Ruth Spaw.

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Councilman Carter (2nd by Councilman Tackett) to approve the minutes from the April 11th, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

IV. Citizen's Comments

Citizens Linda Denham and Ruth Spaw inquired about when the new medical facility will be opening. Mayor Miller shared that the furniture is in and it is still slated to open in June of 2024. They also asked if the new laundromat is open, and Mayor Miller stated that it is. Ms. Sudduth inquired about the emergency shelters available during storms. Chief Scott Maples shared that Emergency Management puts out that information. You can go to their website and sign up for the emergency online call service.

V. Council Comments

Councilman Wilkinson shared that the sidewalk on Foster Lane has reached the last resident house and is coming along nicely. Work will begin soon on the sidewalk from the school down to the drainage area. Councilman Deatherage asked if there was any word on Main Street. Mayor Miller stated that he has talked to Secretary Gray concerning the experimental things planned and the district office in Somerset called him that afternoon, stating that they will be going back to the Allen Company to revamp what will be done.

VI. Mayor's Presentation of 2024/2025 Budget (Message to Council)

Mayor Miller shared that work is still being done to fine tune the budget for the 2024/2025 proposal, but the basic figures are included in the spreadsheet presented to council. Two more departments remain to be met with to go over the proposals for next year. KLEFPF increase for the coming year was discussed, as well as the addition of incentive pay for part time officers. This budget includes a 8.2% cost of living adjustment, but actually translates to a little under 5% when you factor in the current rate of inflation. Our hourly rates are still trending in the lower portion of the 25 percentile of the wage and salary survey numbers. Mayor Miller also pointed out that we have increased the contingency fund to \$150,000. Also, in an attempt to be more competitive with other area departments, we will be offering full family, employee spouse, or employee child health insurance coverage.

VII. Possible 1st Reading of Ordinance 2024-0509 City of Stanford Budget Ordinance 2024/2025 Fiscal Year A motion was made by Councilman Carter (2nd by Councilman Wilkinson) to have the 1st reading of Ordinance 2024-0509 City of Stanford Budget Ordinance 2024/2025 Fiscal Year. All in favor, motion carried. City Attorney John Hackley made the first reading.

VIII. Presentation of MRA 2024/2025 Coop Program Contract Amount and Resolution

The total amount proposed for the 2024/2025 MRA to be received from the State Transportation Cabinet is \$79,471.81 in Municipal Road Aid. This includes us participating in the 3% emergency fund. Mayor Miller Read the resolution.

Motion was made by Councilman Deatherage (2nd by Councilman Tackett) to accept the 2024/2025 MRA Resolution authorizing Mayor to execute the MRA Coop Program Contract as written. A roll call vote was taken with all voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller also shared that the state will be resurfacing Helm Street and turning the street back over to the city.

IX. Announcement of Proclamation

Mayor Miller signed a Proclamation recognizing May 5-11, 2024, as Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week. Councilman Tackett read the proclamation.

X. Mayor Information to Council

- -Thank you for everyone's support and willingness to help, not only the council, but individual citizens.
- -There is an open inspection period, May 17-June 3 to inspect the tax roll. This can be done by contacting the PVA's office.
- -He will be requesting a letter from each council member in support of a Veteran Outreach Outpost to be located in Stanford, that would service all the surrounding counties that touch Lincoln County. We are seeking congressional approval and funding to have that built here to service all our area veterans. We are averaging 85 veterans a month at the breakfast. We also have the Suicide Coalition that has had a direct hand in saving the life of at least 3 local veterans. Our area director has also been recognized in Washington DC for the incredible work she is doing.

XI.	Adjourn
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