

...RL City

Council minutes

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A motion was made by Tracy Grantham to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 pm and she was seconded by David Lewis. The motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

December 20, 2021

The Robert Lee City Council met in special session on Monday, December 20, 2021, at City Hall. Those in attendance included Mayor Jason Moran, Council Members Josh Tennison, David Lewis, Jonathan Torres, Tracy Grantham; and City Attorney Jeff Betty. Council Member Daniel Jasso was absent.

The first and final reading of Ordinance 1348 - Abandonment of Partial Alley and 9th Street was held. Allsup's attorney requested a change to some words to better describe the property. A motion was made by David Lewis to approve of the first and final reading of Ordinance 1348 and was seconded by Josh Tennison. The motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

Discussion was held regarding the bill of cost from the City of Robert Lee for the

impoundment of four dogs from the county at the Sheriff's Office request. All dogs will be going to rescues. The defendant has been directed to the Sheriff's Office to pay the impoundment costs. Mr. Betty recommends that there needs to be an agreement in place for the future.

Discussion was held regarding RFP - American Rescue Plan proposals. A grant administrator will make sure the grant received is used appropriately. They will be paid from the grant itself. Only one proposal was submitted by GrantWorks. A motion was made by Tracy Grantham to accept the proposal by GrantWorks to be the City of Robert Lee's grant administrator for the American Rescue Plan grant. She was seconded by Jonathan Torres and the motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

The second reading of Ordinance 1347 - Elected Official Salary was held and Josh Tennison made a motion to approve the second reading. He was seconded by David Lewis and the motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

A discussion was held regarding future water plans. State Representative Drew Darby would like for Bronte, Robert Lee, and CCWSC to combine into a consolidated water district for the county. This would create another taxing entity and another governing body. This is one of the many different solutions that Robert Lee could look at to potentially solve water issues. Robert Lee is considered in dire need of a stable water supply, which allows Robert Lee to access more money through USDA. In order to get these grants, Robert Lee needs projects. City Attorney Jeff Betty and Mayor Jason Moran will schedule a meeting with Todd at USDA to discuss more in detail and report back to the council.

The City Superintendent reported that the golf course reclaimed water line has been repaired and is back in operation.

A motion was made by Tracy Grantham to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. She was seconded by Josh Tennison and the motion carried with a vote of 4 - 0.

51 was increased to replace some AC units. There are some Title Funds and ESSER money left. Ashley Braswell made the motion to adopt the 2021-2022 budget at \$3,441,720, which was seconded by David McWright. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0.

Josh Schoenfield moved that the property tax rate be adopted at \$0.9020 and was seconded by Terry Queen. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0.

Mr. Siler recommended BISD continue with the property/auto insurance company that they have been using. This year's premium is \$52,170, which is a slight increase from last year. Ashley Braswell made a motion to approve the recommendation and was seconded by Lynsey Coalson. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0.

Mr. Siler presented an update to BISD's Public Health Guidance and Guidelines. It is recommended that if someone comes in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, that person should stay home and watch for symptoms. It is up to the parent to make a decision about keeping a child home after close contact. A rapid test is required of an unvaccinated employee if that employee chooses to stay on campus during the 10 days after close contact. Mr. Siler advised mask wearing is encouraged but not required. No action was taken by the board.

Mr. Siler recommended adopting a resolution to give employees up to 10 days of paid leave if they test positive or must stay home and take care of a relative living in their home who tests positive for COVID-19. David McWright made a motion to adopt as recommended and was seconded by Ashley Braswell. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0.

Terry Queen made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Josh Schoenfield. The motion passed with a vote

of 7 - 0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

More than \$200,000 in Texas Farm Bureau scholarships available

High school and college graduations may be months away, but now is the time to start thinking about applying for scholarships, according to John Ross Copeland, Coke County Farm Bureau president.

Coke County students are encouraged to apply for more than \$200,000 in Farm Bureau college scholarships offered on the local, district and state levels.

"Scholarships and awards are an excellent opportunity for Farm Bureau families to earn money to pursue their education," John Ross said. "We encourage all eligible students to apply."

There are three high school scholarships available: Memorial/Honorary District Scholarship, Young Farmer & Rancher Scholarship and the Dick Mitchell Memorial Scholarship.

Enrolled college students can apply for four scholarships: Young Farmer & Rancher Scholarships for Enrolled College Students, TFB S.M. True Jr. Agricultural Scholar Award, Mia Balko Student Teaching Scholarship and the Rural Veterinary Scholarship.

High school scholarships Memorial/Honorary District scholarships are available to high school students who have not yet graduated. Thirty-nine \$1,000 scholarships and 13 \$1,500 scholarships are awarded annually on the district level.

Thirteen \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to high school students through the TFB Young Farmer & Rancher Scholarship based on academic achievement and the applicant's desire to pursue a career in an agricultural-related field.

The TFB Dick Mitchell Scholarship, a \$1,000 award, is designated for one high school senior who completed the virtual Thrive Experience as part of TFB's Student Success Series this summer.

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Bronte ISD board meeting minutes told

[Editor's Note: We are continuing to play catchup with Bronte ISD board meeting minutes as space allows.]

The Bronte ISD Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on August 23, 2021, at 6 pm. Those in attendance included Board Members Jodie Arrott, Ashley Braswell, Josh Schoenfield, Lynsey Coalson, John Seales, and Terry Queen; administration member Tim Siler; and guest Richard Rogers.

The meeting was opened at 6:08 pm with prayer by Terry Queen.

A quorum was established at 6:09 pm with seven members present.

There were no audience items.

Terry Queen made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and was seconded by David McWright. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0.

A motion was made by Josh Schoenfield to approve the bill listing as presented. He was seconded by Lynsey Coalson and the motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Siler gave his report. COVID is hitting BISD really hard right now as there are many cases. Mr. Siler is concerned that BISD might have to shut down if more staff tests positive. He advised that there were 15 extra days built in to the calendar but with attendance at 87%-88%, TEA will not give a waiver. The budget is close to predicted but there will be an amendment presented to cover over expenditures in function 52. TEA is reducing the ESSERIII funds by approximately \$6,000 due to the prior year remote

learning ADA. The first football game is Friday and homecoming will take place next week. There are volleyball games coming up. Another custodian has been hired to help clean and disinfect during the school day. Mr. Siler made sure to brag on the teachers and kids that everyone is doing a great job and the kids seem very happy.

Mr. Rogers, the architect with CADCO, went over some of the options BISD can take when replacing the roof. He explained that there are two options, sealed bids or Cooperative Purchasing (TIPS/Buyboard). He believes the bidding process will take longer, his fees will be higher, and there are more guidelines when choosing a roofing company if using sealed bids. His advice is to go through the TIPS/Buyboard. It will get the project started much sooner. He advised the decking is problematic as much of it needs to be replaced. He wants us to make sure and look at warranties and hail protection, as well as needing to have the gas lines retested after the project is complete. He seemed

impressed with the bid from M&R Roofing but the board would like to see more companies submit proposals before coming to a decision.

David McWright made a motion to authorize Tim Siler to use Cooperative Purchasing to get multiple bids using the scope of work. Terry Queen seconded and the motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0.

Mr. Siler proposed a budget amendment of \$11,500 to cover over expenditures. Ashley Braswell made a motion to amend and was seconded by Josh Schoenfield. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0.

Mr. Siler went over the proposed budget. He advised the budget has to be adopted at the function level and cannot be adopted above. The budget is very similar to last year as far as revenue. He mentioned there are three things to remember about the budget: fixed allotment in House Bill 3, which caused BISD to lose approximately \$48,000; the CTE funding; and the TRE. The budget is built on a 215 ADA, which is very conservative and leaves flexibility. Function

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