

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF  
THE CITY OF BLANCO**

**Meeting Minutes  
June 14, 2021, 10:00 AM**

A special meeting of the City Council, City of Blanco, Texas was held on June 14, 2021 at 10:00 am at the Byars Building, 308 Pecan Street., Blanco, Texas.

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 am by Mayor Rachel Lumpee, followed by roll call (Laurie Cassidy) announcing a quorum was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Lumpee. Council members present: Mayor Lumpee, Mayor Pro-Tem Saucedo, Councilmembers McClellan, Smith, Divine, and Barron.

City staff present: Laurie Cassidy, Ronnie Rodriguez, and Chief Rubin.

Mayor Lumpee announced that today is Flag Day.

Public Comments:

- Matt Herden spoke regarding streets within the City. He suggested Council and the City should pass a bond for street repairs.
- Ann Ahrens, Ray Don Tilley, and Nick Dornak asked to speak before agenda item #2, Task Order #9.

Consent Agenda: None

Kelly Kuenstler requested Mayor Lumpee move Items 2 and 3 up on the agenda to items 1 and 2. Next we heard public comments from the following:

- Ann Ahrens, member of Protect Our Blanco Board shared how the City and Protect Our Blanco formed a task force and have been working together the past eight months for the purpose of addressing a long-range wastewater plan. She asked Council to postpone any decisions on hiring a firm until the Task Force and public citizens have had an opportunity to review what you are looking at doing and weight in on it and until that action has been taken don't spend money to engineer the location and need for a pipeline.
- Ray Don Tilley, Wimberley Valley Watershed Association, spoke regarding concerns with vagueness of item being considered and asked if Council could postpone decision until next regular council meeting.
- Nick Dornak, The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, said the Task Force is expecting the final draft of the engineering report from Aqua Strategies and expecting to finalize report by Friday. The Task Force is hoping to present findings to Council at the July regular meeting. The current TCEQ permit requires discharge pipe to the river. There are viable options that eliminate the need for discharge with additional storage, even in an emergency.

**New Business: Consider, discuss and take appropriate action on the following:**

1. Discussion and possible action on approval of new Task Order No. 9 Freeland Turk Engineering Group, LLC – waste water treatment plant, waterline and access easement. Councilmember Smith asked Tom Turk (Freeland Turk Engineering Group) what the pros and cons of delaying approval of task order would be. Mr. Turk said he did not see any disadvantage with delaying this work. It's important to take time to deliberate why or why not the work would be necessary. Mr. Bullock said there are two deadlines in the agreement; 1) ordering of the survey (we just received) and 2) it shall be completed within 12 months of the issuance of the TPDES Permit WQ0010549002. Not a problem to delay until next month. Resident, Jay Palmer spoke regarding the delays saying they have been exploring multiple ways to come up with a less expensive route. If someone has a better idea he is all in favor of it (saving money). **A motion was made by Councilmember Smith to postpone the approval of Task Order #9 to the next regular scheduled City Council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Divine, all in favor, motion passed unanimously.**
2. Discussion and possible action on renaming City of Blanco part time code enforcement officer position. (Kelly Kuenstler). Ms. Kuenstler shared the history and her observations as a consultant regarding this position. At the last Council meeting a motion was made to allow Mr. Daves to be reinstated to his former position as Codes Officer for the City of Blanco. After some research, Mr. Daves is not certified to do codes enforcement and a Police Officer is needed to write citations. Mr. Daves was actually doing community development, building permits and inspections. Ms. Kuenstler suggested a renaming of the position to Community Development liaison should Mr. Daves accept the part-time position. Then once a thorough analysis of the building inspection department has been done it may be necessary to make this a director type, full-time position in the next budget year. **A motion was made by Councilmember Barron to rename the City of Blanco part time code enforcement officer position to Community Development Liaison, seconded by Councilmember McClellan, four in favor, one opposed (Councilmember Smith), motion passed.**
3. Discussion and possible action on approval of hiring of Kelly Kuenstler as interim City Administrator. Ms. Kuenstler spoke and said her understanding is Council wanted the consulting services to continue with city administrator advise to the mayor on an as needed basis. **A motion was made by Councilmember Smith to approve expanding the service contract with Kelly Kuenstler to include administrative consulting to the mayor, as needed and amended by Councilmember Saucedo to add: revise the cost of the contract not to exceed \$42,000, seconded by Councilmember Divine, all in favor, motion passed unanimously.**
4. Discussion and possible action in support of Blanco County efforts to patch/repair Blanco State Park entrance. (Ronnie Rodriguez) The City of Blanco has been asked to join in support with Blanco County Precinct 1 to repair the entrance area to the Blanco State Park. Tommy Weir, Blanco County opened an interlocal agreement to work together to complete the project at no cost to the City (other than a couple of public works' man hours). **A motion was made by Councilmember McClellan to support Blanco County efforts to patch and make repairs to the street at the Blanco State Park entrance, seconded by Councilmember Smith, all in favor, motion passed unanimously.**

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Councilmember Barron to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Divine, all in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:11 am.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rachel Lumpee*  
Rachel Lumpee, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Laurie A. Cassidy*  
Laurie A. Cassidy, City Secretary

These minutes were approved on the 13 day of July, 2021.

