

MINUTES
Lefors City Council Meeting
April 8, 2024 - Regular Session

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Michael Ray. Present were Council members James Gee, Ashley Miller, Aaron Hunt, Jerry Stegall, and Savannah Kingcade.

Mayor Ray led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Gee said the Invocation.

Rick McMullen addressed the Council regarding abandoned houses surrounding his property and trash that has not been disposed of. The trash blows into his yard and he has to pick it up every day.

Public Works Director, Nick York reported to Council that he met with the contractor for the wastewater plant project. The rest of the aerator parts should be here this week and hopefully work will begin in about two weeks. Once started it will take 4-6 weeks to complete. In March, public works have repaired a broken riser, repaired a couple man holes, repaired numerous alleys, received new RAS valve for decommissioned aerator, had generator Repaired at WWP, cleared numerous mains, and replaced two sewer taps.

City Judge Kurt Curfman submitted a written report: For the month of March 2024, the City had receipts of \$1,017.00. There were several new complaints or citations filed with the Court from the Marshal. These were for state or city ordinance violations. At this time, we have an outstanding balance of fines and court costs due to the City in the amount of \$7,302.00, plus warrants of \$4,603.00. We are current with all local, state, and federal reports.

City Marshal Hayden Gray reported for March: Complaints received: -Animal Complaints: 4; Calls for service: On duty: 3-Call-out: 7; Reports: Criminal Reports: 2-Information Reports: 2; Traffic Stops: 21-Traffic Citations (to include parking violations) issued: 5- Warnings issued: 16- City Ordinance Warnings (to include verbal warnings) issued: 3-Arrests: 1; Search Warrant Executed: 1

Councilwoman Miller made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including minutes from the March 11, 2024, regular meeting, bills, and department reports. Councilman Hunt seconded. Vote unanimous. Motion passed.

Lefors Independent School District Superintendent, Ashley Brauchi, spoke to Council regarding the May 4, 2024, bond election. The LISD has called a bond election for a total of \$2,650,000.00. The bond money is intended to be used to connect the elementary and the high school buildings with one point of entry, new administrative offices, and addition of student commons area. This will increase safety and security for the students and all students will have access to the safe room. Taxpayers that are 65 and over who have applied for and received a tax freeze on their homestead will not have their taxes go above the frozen levy amount/ceiling that was established whenever the 65 and over exemption was granted, except for improvements after the exemption was granted. If the bonds are issued, the tax rate for debt service on the bonds is expected to increase by an additional \$0.04 per \$100 of taxable property valuation. However, all Texas homeowners are eligible to receive a \$100,000 State homestead exemption on school taxes (This will not change the school taxes for persons with a home valued under \$100,000). Additional Disability and Veteran exemptions may be available for persons who qualify.

The council took a break at 7:14 p.m.

The council went into executive session at 7:18 p.m. to discuss personnel. (Texas Government Code §551.074-Personnel Matters)

The Council returned to regular session at 8:04 p.m. Documentation from the Executive session be placed in employee Hayden Gray's personnel file.

Councilwoman Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Hunt seconded. Vote unanimous. Motion passed.

City Secretary

Mayor