

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF KAUFMAN AND HUNT
CITY OF POETRY, TEXAS**

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON THIS DAY OF THE 18th of July, 2023 at 6:30 pm, the City Council of Poetry, Texas, held a Public Forum and Regular Town Council Meeting at 11214 FM 1565 Poetry, Texas, 75160 with the following present:

Mayor Tara Senkevech
Councilmember Tom Anderson
Councilmember Mike Jaffe

Councilmember Simeon White
Councilmember Terry Fowler
Councilmember Jonathan Blake

Mayor Senkevech called the meeting to order at 6:30

Evie Anderson, Clerk confirmed quorum.
All council members were present.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Councilmember Fowler led the pledge and invocation.

f: Mayor Tara Senkevech gives items of community interest;

The mayor is soliciting for any grant-writers available to please email to
contact@poetrytexas.org

* Thanks to Chad Dalida and 365 Land Development for clearing three fallen trees from the Town Hall site.

*Thanks to Jon Simpson for donating his time to put sheet rock inside the new closet and for a reduced price in adding on the closet addition.

* Huge thanks to Leland Barnett for donating gravel for the drive and additional concrete work while doing an excellent job on our ADA van-accessible parking lot. He worked the gravel so that it is very solid and will keep the area from being muddy after a rainstorm.

*If you live in Kaufman County. We want to hear from citizens. Anyone who believes they were adversely affected by the property ID's split out in Kaufman County to please email with factual information regarding such to mayor.tara@poetrytexas.org. To solve any of the problems, we need factual information about any hardships this may have caused. Coy Johnson, the Deputy Appraiser of Kaufman County has said it does not affect your property values as the group them together in what is called "economic unit" when evaluating values. He says it doesn't affect one's homestead or Agriculture exemptions.

g) Reports

1. Financial—June end 2023; Q3 Budget vs. Actual

2. Secretary's Report—Deputy City Secretary Theresa Scholander

DCS Scholander has requested hours for Town Hall be changed from 12-4pm to 1-5pm on Thursdays.

3. Town Hall progress—Tom Anderson and Mayor Senkevech

Councilmember Anderson gives explanation of ADA ramp.

h) Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes from June 5th, 2023, Meeting.

Councilmember Jaffe makes motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember White. Passes 5:0

2. Minutes from June 20th, 2023, Meeting.

Councilmember Jaffe makes motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember Blake. Passes 5:0

3. Pay June legal bill of \$ 245.01

Councilmember White makes motion to approve, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Passes 5:0

i) Public Forum:

1) Discuss and take action on Voluntary Annexation of Lori and Andy Bass

property. Motion made by Mayor Senkevech to move Public Forum to after Item 1 on Regular Agenda, seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Passes 5:0

j) Regular Agenda:

1) Discuss and take action on making monthly reports of sales and use tax receipts, potential disbursements and balances.

Councilmember Anderson explains reasons for putting this item on the agenda, making a point of how sales and use tax should remain a restricted account. Council agrees that transparency is called for, maybe with a line item on Monthly End reports.

i) Public Forum:

1) Discuss and take action on Voluntary Annexation of Lori and Andy Bass

property. Citizen Shelley Smith asks if there were any perks offered for this action, Mayor Senkevech answered no. Councilmember Anderson makes motion to accept Ordinance, seconded by Councilmember White. Passes 5:0

2) Discuss the Zero Zoning Ordinance proposed. Councilmember White presents the Ordinance and explains the history. He reiterates that this needs public discussion and

encourages everyone to talk to the council about it. Council discusses various issues, including grandfathering. Citizen Brian Vinson stands against Ordinance as written, asks for a new title, asks for clarification/definitions. Citizen Chad McFarlane is against regulation of his front yard, and expresses concern for citizens who have smaller lots due to disproportionate laws. Citizen Shelley Smith asks if all discussions will happen in public from now on, and asks who will be enforcing the zoning laws. Citizen Louis Cernoch feels that the Zoning Ordinance is too lenient, Citizen Patrick Smith asks Councilmember White if the work he presented is accurate information. Citizen Mike Griffin says the document refers to a map, and asks when it will be available, and warns against pairing the document down too far. Councilmember Jaffe expresses concern of the “slippery slope”. Council discusses further, and Councilmember Anderson requests that Legal attend next meeting.

3) Discuss and take action on the 1445 Agreement. Mayor Senkevech gives history on necessity of agreement. Citizen Herbert Fletcher is not in favor of Kaufman County regulating anything around him. Citizen Brian Vinson is opposed to signing over exclusive jurisdiction to any other municipal organization. Citizen Shelley Smith asks if a similar agreement will be made with Hunt County, and she asks if Poetry plans to meet or exceed Kaufman County's road specifications. Citizen Patrick Smith asks for purpose of this agreement, and expresses concern over road specifications. He is also concerned with citizens of Poetry being treated differently between the counties. Council discusses, and decides to delay vote until Legal can be included.

4) Discuss City Secretary search. Mayor Senkevech gives update on applications.

5) Discuss and take action on Deputy City Secretary Theresa’s request to amend office hours to Thursdays 1-5 pm to allow her to take a needed morning therapy class and to flex with occasional extra hours up to the allotted 15 hours per week until the secretary vacancy is filled. Motion to approve made by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Jaffe. Passes 5:0

j) General Public Comments

Citizen Luke Knochel lives on a private road, and would like a future discussion on city help with road upkeep.

Citizen Shelley Smith asks if the past Property Tax Ordinance is coming back.

Citizen Jim Cook asks if future Development roads would be city roads or ETJ, and says that a delay in Zoning will leave more to be grandfathered.

k) Adjourned Regular Meeting @ 8:21 pm [Minutes prepared by Sheri Vinson]