

**MINUTES OF THE
TOWN COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 22, 2008**

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman called the regular session to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 22, 2008, in the Vivian Cockburn Municipal Building located at 405 Shaffner Street.

ITEM 2 ROLL CALL

Those present were Council Member Ashman, Council Member Crider, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Rouse and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman.

ITEM 3 INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Police Chief Steve Grube led the invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ITEM 4 MAYOR'S REPORT

None. Mayor Vardell was absent.

ITEM 5 CITIZEN INPUT

Georgia Linam signed up to speak regarding item #11.
Richard Wilkinson signed up to speak regarding item #10.

ITEM 6 CONSENT AGENDA.

Council Member Crider moved to approve the September 8, 2008 minutes. Motion seconded by Council Member Wilkinson. Ayes: Council Member Crider, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Ashman, Council Member Rouse and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 7 PRESENTATION OF A RESOLUTION FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE TAN PARKER IN REFERENCE TO THE EDDIE DEUSSEN PARK IMPROVEMENT GRANT.

Council Member Ashman read into the minutes the Resolution from State Representative Tan Parker as follows:

Whereas, The Town of Ponder has received a grant of \$50,000 in matching funds from the Texas parks and Wildlife Commission for the enlargement and improvement of Eddie Deussen, Jr., Park; and

Whereas, The park is named for longtime Ponder resident and community leader Eddie Deussen; the site's expansion and development project will include the installation of a picnic pavilion, barbecue grills, playground equipment and landscaping; and

Whereas, Under the leadership of the Ponder Town Council and the Park board, this project also benefits from the matching contributions of cash, labor, equipment and materials from members of the community; and

Whereas, Thanks to the hard work of many dedicated public officials and other local citizens, this noteworthy effort will greatly contribute to the quality of life of area residents; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That all those involved with the Eddie Deussen, Jr., park project be honored for their efforts to enhance and improve the park for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

ITEM 8 CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 08-21, AMENDING THE FEE SCHEDULE OF THE TOWN OF PONDER CODE OF ORDINANCES.

Council Member Wilkinson moved to approve Ordinance 08-21. Motion seconded by Council Member Ashman. Ayes: Council Member Crider, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Ashman, Council Member Rouse and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 9 CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPROVAL OF AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN DENTON COUNTY AND THE BETTY FOSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Council Member Wilkinson moved to approve the Interlocal agreement between Denton County and the Betty Foster Public Library. Motion seconded by Council Member Crider. Ayes: Council Member Crider, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Ashman, Council Member Rouse and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 10 DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 08-22, CONCERNING MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY IN REFERENCE TO PIPELINES.

Richard Wilkinson reported to the Council that he studies water every day and that gas companies can override any ordinance that a city passes. Mr. Wilkinson stated that he has any data that the Town might need regarding this issue.

Council Member Wilkinson moved to table this item. Motion seconded by Council Member Ashman. Ayes: Council Member Crider, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Ashman, Council Member Rouse and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 11 BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS FY 2008-09 BUDGET.

Georgia Linam asked the Council why the city limits sign showed Ponder being of population 712. Council Member Wilkinson replied that those numbers come from the North Central Texas Council of Governments and not the Town of Ponder. Ms. Linam asked if the trinity was being contaminated by the gas well drilling. Gary Morris replied that they are not and that the Town has ordinances to prevent drilling within a certain distance from a water well. Ms. Linam also stated that sometimes we recognize that there is a problem but do not handle it properly and asked why the Town raised taxes this year. Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman replied that it is because of the cost of living rising and the lack of other funds to operate.

Director of Public Works, Gary Morris went over his budget by line item noting that in this budget the water and sewer revenue and expenses are separated. Council Member Wilkinson asked Mr. Morris if there was anywhere he could trim expenses. Council Member Wilkinson would like to see a capital project program started in the future.

ITEM 12 CONSIDER AND ACT ON APPROVAL OF THE FY2008-09 PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET.

Council Member Wilkinson moved to approve the FY2008-09 Public Works Budget as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Ashman. Ayes: Council Member Crider, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Ashman, Council Member Rouse and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

ITEM 13 ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

Presentation by Commissioner Andy Eads.
Gas line resolution.

ITEM 14 ADJOURN.

Council Member Ashman moved to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Motion seconded by Council Member Wilkinson. Ayes: Council Member Crider, Council Member Wilkinson, Council Member Ashman, Council Member Rouse and Mayor Pro-Tem Gorman. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion passed with 5 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.

APPROVED:

Alan Gorman, Mayor Pro-Tem

Date

ATTEST:

Sheri N. Clearman, City Secretary