

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

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON THIS DAY OF THE 21st of September, 2023 at 6:30 pm, the City Council of Poetry, Texas, held a Workshop, Budget Public Hearing, and Regular Town Council Meeting at 5671 CR 323 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 pm.

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

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
Councilmember Blake led the pledge and invocation.

f: Mayor Tara Senkevech gives items of community interest;

*Kaufman County is celebrating 175 years Anniversary. They are having a parade with all the mayors of Kaufman County and the representative school mascots on October 14th on Washington Avenue in Kaufman at 9 am. It begins at the Auto Zone in Kaufman. schools. They are also having a Harvest Festival. All are welcome!

* Thanks to Wesley Jackson & Brett Patterson of Ace Paint & Décor for all the Tape, Bed & Texture in new closet and repairing cracks from the move and repainting the interior.

* Thanks to Kane Hansard for installing lighting in closet.

* Thanks to Bob Boles for installing the speaker system in the new town hall.

* Thanks to Sheri Vinson for typing the minutes.

* Thanks to Corinne Hanson for assistance in watering trees at Town Hall.

* Thanks to CM Blake, CM Anderson, former CM Vinson, and Kevin Senkevech and for helping us move much of our furniture into the town hall.

* Thanks to Rae Hirogoyen for helping clean and work on the floor at Town Hall.

*Thanks to CM Tom Anderson for putting up the handicapped sign and Town Hall sign as well as a street sign on CR2426. In looking at the history for the last 6 months, it shows that we CAN accommodate those who show up.

*Thanks to CM Anderson and CM Jaffe for assisting with moving a file cabinet and cleaning up debris at Town hall.

Every hour donated, helps our town avoid taxes. We also get to know each other better and build our community in the process.

***CURRENT NEEDS:**

* Two small trees need to be cut down at the edge of the town hall property.

Looking for a volunteer.

g) WORKSHOP Meeting 6:30 pm -7:25 pm.

Topic: Discuss the Zero Zoning or other Ordinance proposed. Citizen Patrick Smith asks about Town Council Decorum Policy. Citizen Shelley Smith wishes both ordinances had been in the current packet. Citizen Tracie Hibbs asks that the workshop be moved to another date. Citizen Doug Kendrick gives suggestions for council to approve some zoning.

Councilmember Fowler discusses building sizes vs. fire codes, and setbacks; Council discusses their concerns, and asks questions of Legal.

Mayor Senkevech calls for 5-minute break.

h) BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING 7:30 pm

Topic: Discuss and take action on the proposed budget for fiscal year Oct. 1,

2023-September 30th, 2023. Mayor Senkevech gives proposed break downs. Citizen Patrick Smith asks when the proposed budget was filed with the town. Citizen Shelley Smith states that the meeting times on the website were wrong. Citizen Tracie Hibbs asks about the ADA compliance on the ramp. Citizen Dale Bryant asks about the budget for street signs and sight line work. Motion made to accept by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Blake. Passes 5:0

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-09-01 Motion made to accept by **Councilmember Anderson**, seconded by **Councilmember Blake**. **Councilmember Fowler** votes to pass, **Councilmember Jaffe** votes to pass, **Councilmember White** votes to pass. Passes 5:0

I) REGULAR MEETING

j) Reports

1. Financial— a) August end 2023

Councilmember Fowler asks for clarification and re posting.

b) Sales & Use Tax Receipts

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

3. Town Hall Report—passed inspection. Councilmember Anderson gives the Inspection overview.

4. New TEC rule: Any campaign or SPAC reports filed on or after Sept 1, 2023 must be posted on a city website within 10 days of receipt and kept there for 5 years. [Certain items must be redacted online, but not on original].

k) Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes from August 10th, 2023, Meeting. Motion made to move to consent agenda by **Councilmember Jaffe**, seconded by **Councilmember Blake**. **Passes 5:0**
2. Pay July legal bill of \$853.64 Motion made to pay by **Councilmember Anderson**, seconded by **Councilmember White**. **Passes 5:0**

l) Regular Agenda:

a) Minutes for August 10th, 2023. **Councilmember Jaffe** adds verbiage to minutes. Motion made by **Councilmember Fowler** to approve minutes with edits made by **Councilmember Jaffe**, seconded by **Councilmember White**. **Passes 5:0**

1) Discuss and take action if needed on the Poetry Post Newsletter.

Councilmember Fowler prefers not to solicit for contractors. He also would like to remove 'Poetry Proud' from the newsletter. Citizen Shelley Smith voices her agreement with Councilmember Fowler. Citizen Tracie Hibbs suggests using the Poetry Seal for the newsletter. Citizen Robin Boles votes for Poetry Strong. **Councilmember Fowler** makes motion to remove 'Poetry Proud' from the newsletter, and to place the town seal on front and back of the newsletter. Seconded by **Councilmember Blake**. **Passes 5:0**

2) Discuss and take action on the updated map of town to include the volunteer annexation for purposes of the 1445 agreement. No action taken.

3) Discuss and take action on the 1445 agreement. The council discusses certain amendments. Citizen Patrick Smith asks about people in the Poetry ETJ. Citizen Shelley Smith asks about amended minutes vs. current agreement. The council decides to edit and present to Hunt County for suggestions.

4) Discuss and take action regarding meeting places for Council meetings.

Councilmember Fowler expresses concerns over occupancy. Citizen Doug Kendrick, as a retired Fire Chief recommends contacting the State Fire Marshal. Citizen Patrick Smith expresses concern over an ordinance that states the address for council meetings is not Town Hall. Citizen Glenn Strauss has concern over the number of seats available at Town Hall. Citizen Shelley Smith asks about the ordinance stating the address for meetings, and states that air flow is a concern. Councilmember Jaffe expresses hopes for moving past the history of our town members, saying that there are amazing people here. **No action.**

5) Discuss and take action regarding a Town position in addressing tree removal for those which are in the Right of Way. The council feels that trees are the homeowner's responsibility. **Councilmember Anderson** makes motion to send letter to homeowners stating council's position. Seconded by **Councilmember Blake**. **Passes 5:0**

6) Discuss and take action on contracting with someone to clean the town hall each month up to 4 hours each month. **Councilmember Anderson** makes motion to find contracted cleaner, seconded by **Councilmember Blake**. **Passes 5:0**

7) Discuss and take action on letter of engagement with CPA for annual audit. Motion made to accept by **Councilmember Jaffe**, seconded by **Councilmember Anderson**.
Passes 5:0

8) Discuss moving the Regular October meeting to Thursday, October 12th, Tuesday Oct 17th, or Wednesday, Oct. 18th to meet a legal requirement. No Action

m) General Public Comments

Citizen Shelley Smith asks if the Mudd has contacted Poetry Water.

Citizen Robin Boles asks for positive attitudes to help grow the town.

Citizen Jack Senkevech congratulates everyone who worked on the town hall.

Mayor Senkevech adjourns the meeting at 10:12 pm.

Minutes typed by Sheri Vinson.