

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

**BE IT REMEMBERED THAT ON THIS DAY OF THE** 19th of October 2021 at 6:00 pm, the City Council of Poetry, Texas, held a regular town hall 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 Brian Vinson

*Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.*

**PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Prayer and pledge led by **Councilmember Anderson**.

**Mayor** reminded citizens that early voting begins on November 2nd. She thanked Don Yost for the new microphones, Bob Boles for the speakers, and Josh Senkevech for the streaming.

**a) Workshop**

**1. Road Report**

**Citizen Mike Griffin** said on October 7th, two routine shifts were held, during which time, volunteers filled 250 potholes with nine tons of asphalt. He reminded people that they hope to hold two more shifts on October 28th.

**2. Planning Committee Report**

**Chairwoman Katherine Hardwicke** said we are looking into a place to hold a meeting where the people can get together and the chair can hear their voices. She reminded people about her email and the sign-up sheet so that they can have a public meeting.

**3. Church Restore Update**

The upcoming board meeting scheduled this week will reevaluate the lease. There is a workday scheduled for Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. **Mayor** reminded people about the workday, which is always the Saturday after the regularly scheduled meeting. They have a board meeting for Thursday to meet with the church board to fine-tune things there. She invited people to come by.

#### ***4. September End 2021 Financial Report***

**Mayor** reminded people that it's online; they opened their bank account on 9/13, and they have two encore franchise payment deposits.

##### **h) Consent Agenda:**

1. Approval of minutes from the September 25th, 2021 Special Town Council Meeting.

**Councilmember Anderson** motioned to move this item to the regular agenda. **Councilmember Jaffe** seconded. Passed 5:0

2. Approval of minutes from the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Special Town Council Meeting.

**Mayor** motioned to accept minutes. Passed 5:0.

##### **b) Regular Agenda:**

1. Approval of minutes from September 25th, 2021 Special Town Council Meeting (continued)

**Councilmember Anderson** said that on page three, "exhibit a" needs to be changed. Also, where it currently reads "Tulia," it should say "based on Tulia" because the way it is currently written implies that they are adopting Tulia's style verbatim.

**Councilmember Vinson** made a motion to accept changes. **Councilmember Anderson** seconded. Passed 5:0.

2. Discuss and consider approving a Resolution approving the use of a new voting machine by the Hunt County Elections Division, as recommended by Jeannie Ash, Elections Director.

**Councilmember Anderson** made a motion to accept new machines. **Councilmember Jaffe** seconded. Passed 5:0

3. Discuss and consider approving an Ordinance relating to the collection of solid waste within the Town of Poetry with amended insurance requirements.

**Councilmember Anderson** asked the lawyer to clarify the definition of instructive demolition waste on page two.

**Lawyer Patricia Adams** said that the definition should be kept vague on purpose, as it will be driven by what the vendors want to accept.

**Mayor** called forward citizen expert **Kim Kilmer** to discuss the 2 million comprehensive liability insurance detailed in the franchise because the council has considered lowering the amount.

**Kilmer** introduced herself and said that her standard is 1 million; if they increase to 2, they will be in a different insurance bracket.

**Adams** clarified that the comprehensive for bodily injury is 1 million and the aggregate is 2 million; she clarified that they were discussing the bodily injury one.

**Councilmember Jaffe** clarified that the 2 million is only for the bodily.

**Adams** said it has 2 million for the aggregate of a couple of other things as well.

**Kilmer** asked about addresses on their trash trucks and if they need to put their address and phone number on the trucks.

**Mayor** said that the phone number would be more important.

**Councilmember Vinson** moved to strike the address requirement on page three and instead require a DOT number and telephone number. **Councilmember White** seconded. Passed 5:0.

**Councilmember Fowler** asked to reference the policy from the city of Talty.

**Councilmember Vinson** made a motion to move this discussion to the end of the meeting. **Councilmember Fowler** seconded. Passed 5:0.

4. Discuss and consider approving an ILA agreement with Hunt County, as amended by the County, for road repair, maintenance, enhancement, and related mowing and clearing within the Town.

**Mayor** said that they sent to Hunt county what they approved for Kaufman county and they had a court session over it, amending it.

**Councilmember Vinson** asks for the points that they approved.

**Councilmember Anderson** said they were discussing the ability to pay for various town needs.

The council discussed Hunt county's budget for roads.

**Mayor** called citizen expert **Dan Thompson** on the phone.

**Thompson** discussed his background; he has worked with heavy equipment for the past seven years and technology for 30 years; he purchased an asphalt dealership and the dealer for the entire state of Texas; he sold equipment to places all over Texas and Oklahoma. He mostly works in North East Texas and West Texas. He lives in Poetry, in the ETJ.

**Mayor** said that Thompson was key in allowing them to use a hot mix machine with the volunteer crew she asks if Thompson is also working on a bridge repair.

**Thompson** discussed the differences between hot and cold mix and explained how they could use either.

**Councilmember Jaffe** called forward citizen expert **Marty Murphy**.

**Murphy** came forward and explained his background in construction, estimation, and project management. He's done excavation, prep, concrete, and asphalt.

**Mayor** asked him about the high-performance cold mix.

**Murphy** agreed with Thompson and said cold mix is a temporary material and more expensive. He recommended hot mix.

**Citizen Chad West** came forward to speak, asking how much it will cost to fix the roads.

**Mayor** explained that they can't be sure yet but they will fix roads based on priority and it depends on if the sales and use tax passes.

**Councilmember Fowler** called up Murphy to comment; **Murphy** said that materials are about 65% of the cost to fix a road.

The council discussed more phrasing in the document.

**Councilmember Jaffe** made a motion to accept the agreement as written. **Councilmember Andersson** seconded. Passed 5:0.

*Mayor called a five-minute recess. Mayor called the meeting back to order at 8:23 pm.*

5. Discuss and consider the procedure for Council Meeting minutes, including transcription versus summary of minutes.

The council discussed how detailed they would like the minutes to be and discussed minutes from other nearby small towns. They called on the **Town Secretary, Karoline Chapman**, to ask how long it takes her and what style she recommends.

**Adams** said she has seen many minutes and talked to a lot of secretaries. She offered her recommendation of how long and detailed they needed to be.

**Councilmember Anderson** made a motion to format the minutes going forward after the city of Waller, Texas, and to continue to hone the process from there. **Councilmember Vinson** seconded. Passed 5:0.

6. Discuss and consider approval of a Town credit card to be paid off each month to allow for more secure online transactions.

**Mayor** discussed why she wants to use a credit card rather than a debit card or check.

**Adams** clarified that a credit card statement would help with accountability for keeping records of purchases.

**Councilmember Jaffe** made a motion to approve her getting a credit card. **Councilmember White** seconded. Passed 5:0.

7. Discuss and consider how to handle public dumping of items not picked up on normal routes by solid waste vendors.

**Councilmember Vinson** said that he brought up this issue because it has been discussed a lot on the NextDoor app for Poetry, Texas.

**Adams** said that towns usually do a community clean-up day.

**Mayor** suggested creating a dump report, and if trash is left out for a long time, they can call upon their local experts to help resolve the problem.

**Citizen Kenz'e Salisbury** came forward to discuss what they want Poetry's image to be. She asked about a vandalized sign on 986.

**Mayor** said that the sign has been fixed.

**Councilmember Jaffe** made a motion to end this discussion for now. **Councilmember Anderson** seconded. Passed 5:0.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding potential 2021 Christmas activities to be sponsored by the Town.

**Councilmember Vinson** wanted to know what “sponsoring” entails.

**Councilmember White** said it could be sponsored by local businesses.

**Citizen Kenz’e Salisbury** came forward to assert that she thinks the town should not spend any money on Christmas activities.

**Councilmember Anderson** said it could be discussed in the Poetry post, as that would give them time to think of a resolution.

9. (continued) Discuss and consider approving an Ordinance relating to the collection of solid waste within the Town of Poetry with amended insurance requirements.

**Councilmember Fowler** made a motion to amend the aggregate amount across the whole agreement to say 1 million instead of 2 million. **Councilmember Vinson** seconded. Passed 5:0.

**Adams** clarified that approving these amendments also changes the ordinance.

**Mayor** said that she has constructed a letter and a check sheet and ordered registration stickers for local vendors, but wants to know what to do for ETJ customers.

**Adams** said that they cannot be stopped from driving through the town but she does not recommend turning people away.

### **General Public Comments**

**Citizen Chad West** asked about an amendment passed on the August 17th meeting and asked why it was not part of the minutes.

**Adams** clarified that just because something is a public record that it does not necessarily have to be part of the minutes, but that he can request access.

**Chairwoman Katherine Hardwicke** thanked all the townspeople for coming and encouraged them to continue to show up.

**Mayor** adjourned the meeting at 9:51 pm.

Meeting notes submitted:

*Karoline Chapman*  
Karoline Chapman, City Secretary