

Walter Ward, Mayor
Ebbie Johnson Lover,
Mayor Pro-Tem



Janeene Lucas, Councilmember
Linda Timberlake, Councilmember
Earnest Starling, Councilmember

Walter Ward, Mayor
EASTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
January 12, 2021
8:00 PM
EASTON COUNCIL CHAMBER, EASTON CITY HALL
185 KENNEDY BOULEVARD
EASTON, TEXAS 75603

1. Called City Council to order at 8:00 pm – Mayor Walter Ward
2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Walter Ward
3. Roll Call – Crystal Jenkins, City Secretary
 - a. Mayor Walter Ward – Present
 - b. Ebbie Lover – Present by Phone
 - c. Janeene Lucas – Present
 - d. Earnest Starling – Present
 - e. Linda Timberlake – Present
4. Public Comments and Announcements – General Public
 - a. No comments
5. City Council will discuss and/or approve the following items:
 - a. Review and/or approve December 8, 2020 meeting minutes.
 - i. Earnest Starling motioned for the December 8, 2021 meeting minutes to be accepted as read by City Secretary, Crystal Jenkins. Janeene Lucas seconds. Three for, zero against.
 - b. Review gas report.
 - i. Artis Anderson, gas supervisor, informs the council 3 new meters put in and one new customer. Gas truck is down. Asked if city is going to rent one or buy one. Mayor Ward responded by saying we can budget for an up-to-date truck. City and Gas System staff can start to look for a vehicle (preferably a 3 ¼ ton). Mr. Anderson stated that we can look for a truck without the utility box if need be because we can transfer the current box to the new vehicle. Those boxes cost \$5,000 to \$6,000. Mayor Ward stated that we need to stay in the range of 20 to 21, truck needs to be a Ford. Artis stated that truck can be a Ford or Chevy. Mr. Anderson asked if gas staff were to keep using their personal vehicles to run the gas and that he and Andrew can alternate by the week and keep track. Mayor Ward stated that the City would have to reimburse them for gas and that the City wants to ensure that we are handling this matter legally.
 - c. Review fire department report.
 - i. Larry Kellams, assistant fire chief of Easton VFD, informed the council that they have run on five calls, handled a wreck on HWY 149, ran two EMS calls and two structural fires. Talked to fellow at structural fire on Sawmill who said they are getting that site cleaned up. FD has run 12 calls for the year. Presented invoice for \$614.17 from Bobcat radio installation, parts, and labor for both FD vehicles.

Radios cover Gregg and Rusk County Sheriff's Office, Longview Dispatch and Rusk County Fire. Previous radios FD had received through donation were not strong enough. Mayor Ward thanked Mr. Kellams for getting that completed. Mr. Kellams informed council that Bobcat recommended that we get the alternators checked on the fire truck. He will check with a repair shop to see if they can look at the truck.

- d. Review 2021 Elections.
 - i. Mayor Ward stated that everyone will be running in the upcoming election so if you are interested in running please sign up before the deadline.

Executive Session: The Council will now hold a closed executive session meeting pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code, and Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated, in accordance with the authority contained in one or more of the following sections: Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney; Section 551.072 Real Property; Section 22.010 Appointment of Official(s) and Resolution; Section 551.073, Deliberation regarding a Prospective Gift; Section 551.074 Personnel Matters. Section 21.022, 21.025 Public Official Misconduct.

OPEN MEETING

Reconvene in General Council meeting and announce any items from Executive Session requiring Board action.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:21

Walter D. Ward

Walter Ward, Mayor