

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 14, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.**  
**AUDITORIUM IN THE RUHMAN C. FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**303 W. MAIN ST., KENEDY, TX. 78119**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** RANDY GARZA (MAYOR), ALBERTO BALDARRAMOS (DISTRICT 1), FELIPE LEAL (DISTRICT 2), BRANDON BRIONES (DISTRICT 3), MAGGIE GONZALES (DISTRICT 4)  
**CITY PRESENT:** BARBARA SHAW (CITY MANAGER), AMANDA HINES (CITY SECRETARY), JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ (PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR), DUANE DUBOSE (POLICE CHIEF), LANNY HOLLAND (BUILDING OFFICIAL)

**1. Call meeting to order and announce a quorum is present.**

Mayor Randy Garza called the meeting to order announced a quorum present at 6:00 P.M.

**2. Prayer.**

**3. Pledge of Allegiance.**

**4. Public Comments**

Joe Baker expressed his concerns about the recent water rate increase. He stated the increase ranged from 80% - 200%. He believes people may not want to make Kenedy their home because of this increase. One business owner was shocked when he received a bill for over \$5000. Mr. Baker felt little effort was made to inform the public. He asks for city leaders to admit their mistake.

Linda Whitaker stated she was upset about rates being doubled. She feels business owners were left in the dark.

Robert Richardson stated he is a former employee for the City of Kenedy. Mr. Richardson feels the pipes and R.O. are not in good condition and the R.O system needs to be simplified.

Lujuana Kasprzyk expressed her concerns about the water rate increase and agreed with Joe Baker. Her bill increased 65%. Ms. Kasprzyk stated the Facebook post by the city secretary talked about the deterioration of the sewer and R.O. plant, but the cost of repairs are not on the City of Kenedy's website. She also went over City Council minutes and didn't see anything about wastewater and R.O. repairs. She asked the Council what basis was used for the rates? She expressed her concerns for citizens with a fixed income.

Gretchen Dupnik stated her sewer bill increased by 300%. She asked why has it taken so long for repairs to be done for the sewer plant and R.O. She asked Council to please keep best interest of the citizens of Kenedy in mind when making decisions.

Tina Shearman stated she realizes Council inherited a mess and are trying to correct the problem. Ms. Shearman feels more time and planning is needed.

Brenda Taylor stated she is in support of Joe Baker and feels action taken was unfair.

Phillip Wright stated he has a Class C and D water license and that water is a precious resource. Mr. Wright feels discouraged because information is not being shared with the public. He asked if there is any oversight of staff getting information out to the public. He feels it reflects poorly on the administration. He also stated he would like a more professional handling of projects.

Manny Patel stated his concerns are for the hotel owners. The bill for his business went from \$300 to \$1000. Mr. Patel stated the rates for his hotel business will have to be raised. He expressed his concerns with customers lodging at hotels in the surrounding areas and not in Kenedy due to the increase.

**5. Consider/Act on the Consent Agenda:**

- A. Airport Board Report**
- B. Animal Control Report**
- C. Attorney Report**
- D. Board of Adjustments Report**
- E. Building Standards Commission Report**
- F. Chamber of Commerce Report**
- G. City Council Minutes**
- H. Community Development Report**
- I. Emergency Management Report**
- J. Financial Report**
- K. Fire Department Report**
- L. Kenedy 4B Corporation Report**
- M. Municipal Court Report**
- N. Parks & Recreation Report**
- O. Planning & Zoning Report**
- P. Police Department Report**
- Q. Street Department Report**
- R. TIRZ No. 2 Report**
- S. Water & Wastewater Report**

Felipe Leal made a motion to pull Item P. Maggie Gonzales seconded the motion. All in favor.

Felipe Leal made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Brandon Briones seconded the motion. All in favor.

Brandon Briones asked Police Chief Duane Dubose if the police officers have kept a close observation on the increase of 18-wheeler traffic that is going through downtown Kenedy. Police Chief Dubose stated the police officers have been observant but will speak with them to keep a better eye.

**6. Consider and possible action on an Ordinance to amend 1.A.1 minimum monthly charge for residential water rates inside the city limits. Mayor Garza**



Mayor Randy Garza addressed the public and stated he tasked the City Manager to hire an engineer to access the City of Kenedy. City Manager Barbara Shaw worked hard to do what was needed for the city. He also stated that the City of Kenedy has had the highest growth economically in Karnes County, but are not able to expand due to TCEQ regulations. Mayor Garza stated he met with the City Manager and engineer about a proposal he has created. He will work together with City Council, City Manager, and the engineer to review it.

Mayor Garza made a recommendation to reduce the residential water rates inside the city limits from \$20.00 to \$12.25 amending 1.A1.

Alberto Baldarramos made a motion to reduce the residential water rates inside the city limits from \$20.00 to \$12.25 amending 1.A1. Maggie Gonzales seconded the motion.

Brandon Briones and Felipe Leal voted against reducing the residential water rates inside the city limits from \$20.00 to \$12.25 amending 1.A1.

Motion failed.

7. **Consider and possible action in regard to the selection and/or renewal of employee group insurance coverage(s): Hospital and Medical, Dental, Vision, Long-Term Disability, and Life. Barbara/Amanda/TML.**

Felipe Leal made a motion to table agenda item 7. Brandon Briones seconded the motion. All in favor.

8. **Consider and possible action in regard to the recommendation to vacate and re-plat Lots 4 & 5; Block 2 of the J. F. Allen's First Addition; Recorded in Volume 41, Page 220, of the deed records in Karnes County, Texas within the City of Kenedy, Texas; to be known as 4A; Block 2 of the J. F. Allen's First Addition in the City of Kenedy, Texas; also, to be known as 308 Franklin Street. Lanny**

Building Official Lanny Holland explained to Council that the land has been purchased and the new owner would like to put a double wide modular home on the land. Mr. Holland also stated the Planning & Zoning Commission Board approved the recommendation. He also recommends approval.

Brandon Briones made a motion to approve the recommendation to vacate and re-plat Lots 4 & 5; Block 2 of the J. F. Allen's First Addition; Recorded in Volume 41, Page 220, of the deed records in Karnes County, Texas within the City of Kenedy, Texas; to be known as 4A; Block 2 of the J. F. Allen's First Addition in the City of Kenedy, Texas; also, to be known as 308 Franklin Street. Felipe Leal seconded the motion. All in favor.

9. **Consider and possible action in regard to the recommendation to vacate and re-plat lot 6; Block 69 of the Town of Kenedy Addition of the plat of record in cabinet A, page 149 of the plat of records of Karnes County, Texas in the City of Kenedy, Texas, known as 402 Karnes Street; Kenedy, Texas; to be known as lots 6A & 6B; Block 69 of the of the Town of Kenedy Addition in the City of Kenedy, Texas; also, to be known as 402 Karnes Street and 703 Copano.**

Building Official Lanny Holland explained to Council the property owner would like to fully develop the land and split into two lots. The Planning and Zoning Commission Board approved recommendation. Mr. Holland also recommends approval.

Felipe Leal made a motion to approve the recommendation to vacate and re-plat lot 6; Block 69 of the Town of Kenedy Addition of the plat of record in cabinet A, page 149 of the plat of records of Karnes County, Texas in the City of Kenedy, Texas, known as 402 Karnes Street; Kenedy, Texas; to be known as lots 6A & 6B; Block 69 of the of the Town of Kenedy Addition in the City of Kenedy, Texas; also, to be known as 402 Karnes Street and 703 Copano. Brandon Briones seconded the motion. All in favor.

10. **Consider and possible action to appoint Shelby Dupnik as the county representative for the TIRZ Board. Barbara**

City Manager Barbara Shaw recommended appointing Shelby Dupnik as the county representative for the TIRZ Board.

Maggie Gonzales made a motion to appoint Shelby Dupnik as the county representative for the TIRZ Board. Alberto Baldarramos seconded the motion. All in favor.

11. **Consider and possible action to appoint Felipe Leal, Mayor Pro-Tem to the Escondido Creek Parkway Project Oversight Committee to replace Walter Chance. Barbara**

City Manager Barbara Shaw explained to Council that Walter Chance needs to be replaced on the Escondido Creek Parkway Project Oversight Committee since his resignation. Ms. Shaw recommends appointing Felipe Leal, Mayor Pro-Tem.

Felipe Leal stated he would like to be on the Escondido Creek Parkway Project Oversight Committee.

Brandon Briones made a motion to appoint Felipe Leal, Mayor Pro-Tem to the Escondido Creek Parkway Project Oversight Committee to replace Walter Chance. Maggie Gonzales seconded the motion. All in favor.

12. **Consider and possible action in regard to Resolution 17-27, a resolution of the City of Kenedy, Texas casting the City's votes for a Candidate(s) to serve on the Karnes County Appraisal District Board of Directors for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2018. Barbara**

City Manager Barbara Shaw explained to Council the City of Kenedy is eligible to cast 206 votes for nominees to serve on the Karnes County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Ms. Shaw recommends granting the 206 votes to Lee Hext, the current board member.



Felipe Leal made a motion to approve Resolution 17-27, a resolution of the City of Kenedy, Texas casting the City's votes for a Candidate(s) to serve on the Karnes County Appraisal District Board of Directors for a two-year term beginning January 1, 2018. Brandon Briones seconded the motion. All in favor.

**13. Consider and possible action to accept the resignation of Walter Chance, City Council District 5. Megan and Barbara**

Felipe Leal made a motion to accept the resignation of Walter Chance, City Council District 5. Brandon Briones seconded the motion. All in favor.

**14. Consider and possible action in regard to options to fill City Council District 5 vacancy. Megan and Barbara**

**15. Pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 (entitled "Personnel Matters") City Council will convene in closed session to deliberate the appointment of an applicant to fill the City Council District 5 vacancy.**

Mayor Randy Garza announced that City Council will convene in Closed Session at 7:15 p.m. to deliberate the appointment of an applicant to fill the City Council District 5 Vacancy.

**a) CLOSED SESSION: In accordance with Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (entitled "Personnel Matters"), the City Council shall convene in Closed Session.**

Brandon Briones made a motion to reconvene in Open Session at 7:24 p.m. Albert Baldarramos seconded the motion. All in favor.

**b) OPEN SESSION: The City Council will reconvene in Open Session at which time action on the matter discussed in Closed Session may be considered.**

**16. Reconvene in open session for consideration and any required action, including any necessary resolutions, regarding the appointment of an applicant to fill the City Council District 5 vacancy.**

Felipe Leal made a motion to appoint applicant Gary Richards to fill the City Council District 5 vacancy. Brandon Briones seconded the motion. All in favor.

**17. City Manager's Report**

- Employee Updates
- Airport Updates
- TCEQ Enforcement Updates
- Park/KCCC Updates
- East Main Project Update
- Test Well & Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District (EUWCD Request Updates)
- Snocum and Buena Vista Update

City Manager Barbara Shaw informed the Council Jose Jaime has been hired full time for maintenance. Jaime Albiar has filled one position and working on filling the other. Phase

It has begun on the airport improvements and the land acquisition for the AWOS is still in process. The preliminary plans for the Kenedy Convention Center are 75% complete and have been forwarded to the Parks Board. Once the preliminary plans are complete, the plan may resume and the project may be put out for construction bids. The full report was submitted on October 26, 2017 for the Willis case and the SEP turned has been turned in as well and is awaiting certification. Mayor Garza and the engineer will be meeting with residents on November 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss findings from last meeting. As for the test well, an additional 200 feet will have to be drilled, which will cost the City an additional \$10,000.

**18. Adjourn**

Felipe Leal made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Maggie Gonzales seconded the motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

  
Randy Garza, Mayor  
Amanda Hines, City Secretary