

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 25, 2024
CITY OF LUMBERTON**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Lumberton was held at 7:00 p.m. on November 25, 2024, pursuant to notice duly posted according to law. The following members were present:

Don Surratt	-	Mayor
Lynette Barks	-	Councilwoman
Joey Schoen	-	Mayor Pro Tem
Kenneth Wahl	-	Councilman
David Maniscalco	-	Councilman
Dan Bell	-	Councilman

And absent:

Kimberly Cline	-	Councilwoman
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Also present were City Manager Steve Clark, City Attorney Curtis Soileau, Police Chief Danny Sullins, City Secretary Darla Harrington, Zoning Secretary Anita Price, and other guests (see attached Guest Register).

Mayor Surratt called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. noting that a quorum was present, and meeting was duly called and posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Councilman Wahl then delivered the Invocation; Mayor Pro Tem Schoen led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Maniscalco led the Texas Pledge.

CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION – MAYOR PRO TEM SCHOEN PRESIDING

Mr. Harvey Zernial, a Lumberton Historical Museum Board Member, came forward to address the Council about the progress of the museum. Mr. Zernial stated that they are using donations and grants to furnish the museum. They have hired a consultant that is experienced as a graphic designer, historian, and museum curator. Mr. Zernial stated that a Board has been formed for the museum, which consists of ten members, and they have also established a 501C non-profit status. The motto for the Lumberton Historical Museum is "From the Bayou to the Creek".

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CITY BUSINESS:

City Manager Steve Clark announced that the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting at the City Park will be next Friday, December 6th.

Councilman Wahl announced that the committee for the new event center lease agreement had prepared a lease document for the Council to consider. Mayor Surratt stated that he would like to move this discussion to the Mayor's Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CONSENT AGENDA:

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 11, 2024 PUBLIC HEARING AND
REGULAR MEETING**

Councilman Bell made a Motion to accept the Minutes as presented. Councilman Maniscalco seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously with six (6) for and none (0) against.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Item #241121 – Discussion and Possible Action – Live Oak Environmental, LLC Contract

Mr. Sonny Hubbard with Live Oak Environmental, LLC came forward to address the Council regarding this item. He stated that after having met with the Mayor and City Manager, Live Oak Environmental has agreed to withdraw the \$5.00 administrative fee for paper billing. He also explained the reasons behind why the Company has converted to using the Automated Side Load truck which only requires one man per truck. He stated that the Company will be sending out another letter with a better explanation of how to place the garbage bins so that the automated trucks will be able to pick them up. Mr. Hubbard stated that currently there is a second man on the trucks until the residents get accustomed to setting the bins out properly. Mr. Hubbard also stated that they will begin picking up bulk items on the first and third Thursday of the month. The resident will need to notify Live Oak Environmental that they have items to be picked up. Mayor Surratt also requested for a dumpster to be delivered to the City to help the citizens during the holidays. Councilman Bell made a Motion to approve the 3.8% rate increase to begin December 1, 2024. Councilman Wahl seconded the Motion. Motion passed with six (6) for and none (0) against.

MONTHLY REPORTS:

Monthly financial reports were reviewed at this time.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Surratt requested that City Attorney, Curtis Soileau discuss the lease requirement for the new Multi-purpose facility. Mr. Soileau explained that a lease agreement between a municipality and the public would not look the same as a lease between a company and an individual. He stated that the City could have a lease agreement with the Chamber of Commerce and the Museum, but the Agreement between the City and the Health Department would require an interlocal agreement. There was also discussion as to who is responsible for the utilities. Mr. Soileau gave some solutions as to how to resolve these issues. Mayor Surratt requested that Mr. Soileau draw up the agreements and then meet with the committee. The documents will then be presented to the Council to be voted on.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

None at this time

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

None at this time

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council did not enter into closed Executive Session.

ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

None at this time.

PERSONNEL:

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Councilman Wahl made a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilwoman Barks seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously with six (6) for and none (0) against. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

DON SURRATT
MAYOR

ATTEST:

DARLA HARRINGTON
CITY SECRETARY