

**SPECIAL MEETING
CITY OF KARNES CITY
FEBRUARY 22, 2017**

**STATE OF TEXAS)
COUNTY OF KARNES)
CITY OF KARNES CITY)**

On this 22nd day of **February 2017**, the City Council of the City of Karnes City, Texas convened in a **Special Meeting** at 6:00 P.M. in the City Hall with the following members answering to “Roll Call”:

Mayor: Leroy T. Skloss @ 6:23
Mayor – Pro-Tem: Jimmy D. Loya, Sr.
Councilmembers: Lillian Lyssy left @ 8:19,
Helen Hernandez, Sherry Sommer, Raymond Robinson

Councilmembers absent:

Others present were City Manager (CM) Don Tymrak, City Secretary (CS) Veronica Butler, Accounting Administrator Haylee Sowell, Director of Public Works (DPW) Fernando Rios, Code Compliance Enforcement Officer (CCE) Kevin Moehrig, Gus Hernandez and Lynette Jonas.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON:

(4) Resolution No. 2017-002 designating Karnes City as a Purple Heart City – Lynette Jonas gave a brief introduction of the program, she informed the Council with regulations on becoming a Purple Heart City. Councilmember Loya asked how many Purple Heart recipients we have in Karnes City. After further discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Sommer and seconded by Councilmember Lyssy to designate Karnes City as a Purple Heart City and begin the process to do the proclamation. The vote was 4-0 in favor and the motion was declared unanimously passed.

(5) TCEQ Air Monitoring Site Agreement (relocation from County Courthouse area) – CM Tymrak stated he was contacted by Nick Boulanger with TCEQ about relocation of the Air Monitoring Site from behind the County Court House to City property, they selected 2 sites 1 by the water tower and 1 by park “B”. CM Tymrak stated he met with Nick and indicated we would favor more the water tower location rather than the park, after they looked at the park then they realized it would be better served somewhere else and asked for an alternate site. We suggested for them to look at the closed main street sewer plant, Nick talked to Fernando and they went and looked at the location and felt that would be the best site. They have submitted the Air Monitoring Site Agreement, City attorney Frank Garza has reviewed the agreement and found no concerns. CM Tymrak stated TCEQ would be responsible for the cost involved, setting up the 45x45 pad and electricity. Councilmember Loya asked if they would have their own lock to have access to get into the fence. DPW Rios stated yes, they would have to have 24 hours access in case something went down. After further discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Sommer and seconded by Councilmember Hernandez to approve the TCEQ Air Monitoring Site Agreement relocation from the County Court House to the closed Main St. sewer plant area and authorize CM Tymrak to sign the

agreement on behalf of the City. The vote was 4-0 in favor and the motion was declared unanimously passed.

(6) Electricity Contract Renewal (March 2016) – Accounting Administrator Sowell stated the City has been in a 2 year contract with Direct Energy and the contracts come up for renewal on March 2017, as you can see the old rate of .04073 is higher than the projected new rates. Councilmember Sommer suggested we go with 26 months verses 24 months to be locked into a lower rate for an extra 2 months. Mayor Skloss informed the Council that natural gas prices make the rates change, he suggested no more than 24 months. After further discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Loya and seconded by Councilmember Lyssy to go with a 24 month contract @ .03584 with Direct Energy. The vote was 5-0 in favor and the motion was declared unanimously passed.

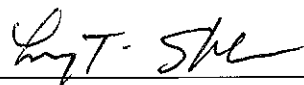
(7) Sewer service Block 171 Lots 7, 8, 9 – CM Tymrak informed the Council that this was a request that come to DPW Rios by Councilmember Hernandez, if we move forward with lift station we would be able to provide service to the area verses the owner doing a small grinder station or a septic system that will just provide service her property. CM Tymrak explained that if Councilmember Hernandez is able to occupy that area it will give rise to others to want to come in, which is why DPW Rios has proposed a project on Helena St. which would take in other blocks also, since there has been others requesting sewer service in that area. Councilmember Loya asked at what cost the property owner would have. CM Tymrak stated if the City would do the full lift station it would be at no cost to the property owner, if we have them pay the cost of a grinder station that would run around \$9,000. DPW Rios stated there have been a few people on Apperson St. that have requested sewer service, the proposed project would benefit 9 City blocks, and there are many areas that have water access and not sewer. Councilmember Sommer stated we need a bigger plan to develop that area, what areas still need to be developed? Councilmember Loya stated we have an ordinance that allows residents to have a septic system inside the City limits when the City was not able to provide service due to it being too costly. We do not want to set a precedent just because it's a Councilmember we are finding a way. Councilmember Hernandez stated if you divide this town from Mayfield in half, the North side of town has the most amount of growth since the City started to open the roads in that area. After further discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Loya and seconded by Councilmember Sommer to table the item. The vote was 4-0 in favor and the motion was declared unanimously passed. Councilmember Hernandez abstains from voting.

(8) The Council will convene in Executive Session under Texas Government Code 551.074 (Personnel Matters) to discuss the following job descriptions and duties for the positions of City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Deputy City Manager and/or Finance Director and the potential employment for these positions – CM Tymrak stated he was going to invoke Government code 551.074 and request that there be no discussion about City Manager or himself in executive session, “I want it in open session”, CM Tymrak also stated the other 3 items under Ordinance are staff positions that report to the City Manager so will I be included. Mayor Skloss stated the only reason he has requested this item to be on the agenda is to allow flexibility if any discussion came about for any of these positions the Council could discuss it in closed session. Councilmember Loya suggested to do this entire item in open session. Mayor Skloss stated a lot has transpired in the last couple of weeks, we had

instructed Don to make contact with a potential interested Finance Director to see if she was still interested, her reply was she would not be making the move. Do we allow Don to go ahead and fill the Finance Director position? Councilmember Robinson stated he would like to know why we are still wasting time talking about all other positions when our most immediate need is a Finance Director, these are rank and file positions why do we continue to discuss and not just let the City Manager go out and look to fill the positions. Councilmember Sommer stated she is a visionary person; I'm always looking 3-5 years down the road. I do think today with the Finance Director leaving we are in need of one today. Our vision is to find someone with a strong finance background to help mold Haylee into the position, and to be able to have someone on hand to help train her. Councilmember Loya stated he believes we do not need a Finance Director; we need a City Manager with Finance background and use the staff we currently have. Councilmember Sommer informed the Council that CM Tymrak had been speaking with 3 individuals to see if there is anyone interested in coming in part time to help with finance department. Mayor Skloss suggested to hire an clerk in the front at an entry level position and let CM Tymrak search for a consultant, contractor or a retired person with a strong background in budget preparation to help get through the budget process. Councilmember Loya stated we also need to start looking into bringing in an Assistant City Manager to start making the transition with the current City Manager's contract expiring in September. At this point CM Tymrak became upset with Councilmember Loya's comment and informed the Council he is beginning his leave as of today and left the meeting. After further discussion a motion was made by Councilmember Robinson and seconded by Councilmember Lyssy @ 8:15 pm to close the discussion. The vote was 4-0 in favor and the motion was declared unanimously passed.


(9) Item(s) discussed in Executive Session – There was no executive session held, all discussion on item 8 were in open session.

(10) Adjournment: There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Hernandez and seconded by Councilmember Robinson to adjourn the meeting. The vote was 4-0 in favor and the motion was declared unanimously passed.



Leroy T. Skloss
Mayor

ATTEST:



Veronica Butler
City Secretary

