

CITY OF STAGECOACH
CITY COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING
E.S. Williams City Center
16930 Boot Hill Road
Stagecoach, Texas 77355

JANUARY 17, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

State of Texas
County of Montgomery
City of Stagecoach

1. Mayor Galen Mansee called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. The roll call was taken with the following persons present (P), absent (A), or late arrival (LA):

Mayor:	Galen Mansee	(P)
Aldermen:	Sharon McClure	(P)
	Jim Cooley	(P)
	James Osteen	(P)
	Mark McGill	(A)
	Bill McGahen	(P)
Attorney:	Janice Baldwin	(P)
Secretary:	Brenda Rutt	(P)
Chief of Police:	Mike Wethington	(P)

3. The Invocation was given by Mayor Mansee. and the Pledges of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Texas flag were said.
4. Persons desiring to appear before City Council: John Allison addressed Council with regard to several acres that he owns in the City. He stated that he timbered his land back in the early 1980's and he would like to timber again in the near future. He was not aware that timbering was no longer allowed. He has approximately 120 pine trees that he would like to take down. He will be taking some other trees around his house taken down because they are dying. He has been solicited by a tree company about timbering his property. Mr. Allison said that he would leave the hardwoods and the smaller pines and only the large pine trees would be timbered. He wants to take the pine trees down before pine beetles kill them. Alderman McGahen said that it is against the ordinance to clear cut property. Mr. Allison said that he will read a copy of the ordinance online.
5. Council reviewed the minutes of the November 15, 2016 General Meeting and the November 29, 2016 Special Meeting. City Secretary Rutt read the corrections that were submitted for the November 15, 2016 minutes. Alderwoman McClure motioned to approve the November 15, 2016 minutes as amended, and the

November 29, 2016 minutes as presented. Alderman McGahen 2nd. The vote was all in favor.

6. Designate the *Magnolia Potpourri* as the City's official newspaper. Alderman McGahen motioned to designate the *Magnolia Potpourri* as the City's official newspaper for 2017. Alderman Osteen 2nd. The vote was all in favor.
7. Variance request to extend the expiration date of the building permit issued on January 29, 2015 for the construction of a residence at 15450 Shady Oaks Drive. Teresa Hinojosa requested an extension, by email, due to difficulties they are having with their builder. She stated that they are in the process of changing builders. Council discussed the various options, including a 90-day extension or red-tagging the property. City Attorney Baldwin suggested granting a 30-day extension conditioned upon the property owners coming to Council with a new building contract. The Hinojosas must provide a reasonable schedule for finishing construction or the property will be red-tagged. Alderman McGahen motioned to extend the building permit for 30 days conditioned upon the property owners coming to the February 21, 2017 Council meeting with a copy of a contract which details what needs to be done to complete the residence and how long it will take to finish construction. Alderman Osteen 2nd. The vote was all in favor.
8. Order an Election for the General Election, May 6, 2017. City Secretary Rutt asked Council to order an election for the General Election to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2017 for the positions of Alderman Position 2, Alderman Position 4, and Alderman Position 5. Alderwoman McClure motioned to order an election for May 6, 2017 for the positions of Alderman Position 2, Alderman Position 4, and Alderman Position 5. Alderman Cooley 2nd. The vote was all in favor.
9. Contract with Montgomery County for a joint election for the General Election, May 6, 2017. City Secretary Rutt asked Council to consider contracting with Montgomery County for a joint election. We need to notify the County as soon as possible if we plan on participating in the joint election. There will be no cost if the City cancels the election. The City has budgeted \$5,000.00 for the 2017 election. Alderman McGahen motioned to allow the City to enter a contract with Montgomery County for a Joint Election on May 6, 2017. Alderwoman McClure 2nd. The vote was all in favor.
10. Status of new home construction projects within the City and requests for permit applications. Planning & Zoning Commissioner Chuck Evans was not present. City Secretary Rutt reported that Ms. Bonner submitted an application for an accessory building of less than 500 square feet, but it cannot be approved until additional information has been submitted. City Secretary Rutt also reported that the Servins on Westward Ho and the Garricks on Wagon Wheel have both passed their final inspection. No action required.

11. Chief Wethington reported on the status of properties having ordinance violations. He is still pulling up for sale signs for the house on Indian Springs. He has not requested that the pool sign at 14302 Stagecoach Road be taken down because the pool is still being built. Chief Wethington reported that he will be delivering a letter to all residents. One of the items he will be addressing is dogs running loose in the City. Mayor Mansee told Council about an article in the December issue of *Texas Town & City*. Sachse, Texas has started sending out happy grams for various nuisance issues. The happy grams are cute, illustrative notices that are given to residents who are in violation of certain ordinances. Instead of being penalty focused, they remind people to be good neighbors and it is helpful to keep a friendly relationship. Mayor Mansee has requested samples of the happy grams. No action required.

12. Status of Public Works projects and activities. Public Works Director Rutt reported that the intersection of Old Coach and Stagecoach Road has been paved. He purchased 25 tons of asphalt material from Waller County Asphalt for approximately \$2,500. The asphalt delivered was enough to pave the corner of Old Coach and Stagecoach as well as several pot holes and low sections around the city. The asphalt is easier to spread and a lot less expensive than cold patch. Director Rutt will purchase another load or two this spring to try to fix Westward Ho and some other roads to help build them up and even them out. Alderman McGahen suggested contacting the County to bring out a roller on a hot day to help smooth out the corner of Old Coach and Stagecoach Road. City Secretary Rutt reported that we have not received any FEMA payments yet. It was suggested that the Mayor contact our State Representative to check on the status of our FEMA check. Chief Wethington reported that the stagecoach has been pulled into the bay due to some warping of the strips on the top of the stagecoach. Chief Wethington has pulled the batteries out of the generator and he will pick up the new batteries next week. Alleine McGahen suggested calling the Texas Draft Horse and Mule Association about purchasing the stagecoach. City Secretary Rutt reported that a gentleman in Minnesota might be interested in purchasing the stagecoach. Chief Wethington said that three trees were removed last month and there is another dead tree that is partially in the road at 14210 Stagecoach Road that needs to be taken down. Chief Wethington got a junk man to haul off the old cable that was taken down on Surrey Lane. There is still cable that needs to be taken down. Bill Berger asked about CenterPoint doing some additional tree trimming. Mr. Berger thought CenterPoint was going to come back in a few weeks to take down some dead trees. Terry Henshaw and Bill Berger both have dead trees on their property that need to be taken down and there are a lot of dead trees on Stagecoach Road. Director Rutt asked if the tallow tree at City Center should be cut down and the Mayor said yes. No action required.

13. Financial statements for December 2016. No action required.

14. Reports:

- a. Chief of Police: Passed out the monthly statistics report. The department made a felony arrest for meth and assisted with a felony arrest for heroin outside of the city limits. Our officers receive multiple calls for assistance from our elderly residents; we try to check on them daily. Ms. Price passed away and her nieces have put up a nice fence and they are remodeling the house. A trailer was stolen this month. Chief Wethington reported that Montgomery County has highest rate of trailer theft in Texas. Captain Mike Abercia is leaving the department to work for Harris County Precinct 4 Constable. He will be assisting us with paperwork until we hire a replacement. Alderman McGahen said he would like to have a third officer. The Chief said he would like that as well but it comes down to money. There is not enough money in the budget for a third position. Chief Wethington said that he was offered a job by Precinct 4 as well but he turned them down. He said he has been here for over 17 years and he enjoys working in the City.
- b. Flood Plain Administrator: No report.
- c. P & Z Commission: No report.
- d. City Attorney: City Attorney Baldwin reported that the City will not have to hire a special prosecutor for a pending matter in the Court. The case should be winding up soon by agreement of the parties involved.
- e. City Secretary: No report.
- f. Aldermen: No report.
- g. Mayor: No report

15. There being no further business, Alderman Osteen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Alderwoman McClure 2nd. The vote was all in favor.

Brenda Rutt

Brenda Rutt, City Secretary-Treasurer-Court Clerk

