

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

AUGUST 15, 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	(A)
	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 Janice Baldwin and the Pledges of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Texas flag were said.
4. Persons desiring to appear before City Council: Roberta Groschke read a letter addressed to City Council about the new golf cart ban. Mrs. Groschke said she loves living in Stagecoach and she loves her neighbors. She thanked Chief Wethington for everything he does and she thanked Brenda Rutt for organizing events for the residents. Mrs. Groschke said that she and some of her neighbors were enjoying an evening at Lake Hardin recently when Officer Lopez drove up and told them they were no longer allowed to drive golf carts to the lake. She is very disappointed about this new ordinance [policy] because they did not receive any notice and she wishes the decision would have been put to a vote. She urged Chief Wethington to allow licensed drivers to drive golf carts in the City. Chief Wethington explained that he has adopted a no-tolerance policy towards all off road vehicles. The no-tolerance policy is due to young people driving off-road vehicles on Stagecoach Road and people creating problems by riding four-wheelers in the park and on roads. Chief Wethington said the issue comes down to safety and that is why we have started enforcing State law regarding golf carts. The no-tolerance policy will remain in effect until something is passed by Council authorizing the department to issue permits and stickers. Chief Wethington said that Joey Bohannon is the only resident that he knows of who has a licensed utility vehicle at this point. Drivers will have to be licensed and the vehicles will need to have equipment added to them to make them legal, including a slow-moving vehicle sign. Chad Strange said the officer that approached them at the park treated them like they were hardened criminals. Chief Wethington said that until an ordinance is passed, all unregistered vehicles must be kept off the roads. Mayor Mansee said we have to follow State law because we do not have an ordinance allowing golf carts on public roads. James

Schexneider said they have golf carts at the University of Houston where he works. There have been three serious accidents involving golf carts and now all passengers riding in golf carts must have a seat belt. Chief Wethington said our ordinance would probably still prohibit golf carts from traveling on Stagecoach Road. Jimmy Cones said a lot of people have been illegally passing on Stagecoach Road. Jimmy Cones asked about the recent burglaries in the area and inquired if anyone has been arrested. Chief Wethington stated that he caught a 13 and a 14-year-old on Stagecoach Road last Saturday night. Chief Wethington reported that several vehicles were broken into in our City; however, only loose change appeared to have been taken out of the vehicles in our City. Chief Wethington is talking to the parents and grandparents of the juveniles about the situation. Chief Wethington said it appears that there were three different sets of thieves targeting cars this past weekend. The group that burglarized vehicles in Timbergreen took everything of value out of the vehicles. Two individuals were arrested by the County in connection with those car burglaries. Chief Wethington reminded our residents to lock their vehicles because all the vehicles that were burglarized in our City were not locked.

5. Council reviewed the minutes of the July 18, 2017 General Meeting, and the August 3, 2017 Special Meeting on the proposed tax rate. City Secretary Rutt read the corrections that were submitted. Alderwoman McClure motioned to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2017 General Meeting and the August 3, 2017 Special Meeting, as amended. Alderman McGahen 2nd. The vote was all in favor.
6. Consider and Adopt the Operating Budget for the City of Stagecoach for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018. Council discussed the proposed 2017-2018 Maintenance and Operations Budget. Alderman McGahen motioned to approve the 2017-2018 Maintenance and Operations Budget which shows a surplus of \$269. Alderman Osteen 2nd. The vote was all in favor.
7. Consider, Adopt, and Set by Order/Resolution the 2017 Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operation at \$0.4595/\$100. Alderman Osteen motioned that the 2017 ad valorem tax rate be adopted at a rate of \$0.4595 per \$100 of valuation. Alderwoman McClure 2nd. The vote was all in favor except for Alderman McGahen who voted nay.
8. Approval of the Montgomery County Emergency Communication District's Budget for Fiscal Year 2018. Operations Manager Jeanne Frey addressed Council regarding the District's 2018 budget. The District was formed in 1985 under the Health and Safety Code. The District is primarily funded by fees on telephone service. The District anticipates collecting approximately \$4.5 million in 2018 which is 3.8% more than the current year. The District is also the addressing agent for the County. The District had to change some addresses in the County because even and odd numbered addresses were on same side of the road. Smart911 and Rave Alert are included in this year's budget. Montgomery County is the first county in Texas to implement Smart911. Smart911 allows a resident to enter their cell phone number, address and any other information such as dogs, who lives at that address, any medical conditions, etc., into a database and that information will be available to dispatch if that number is used to dial 911. This program will assist both the call taker and the responders. Once the call ends, that information "disappears" until that number calls dispatch again. Alderman Osteen said that he was surprised that the County does not have GPS technology for cell phones. Ms. Frey explained that the information they receive is not an exact location – it is a location triangulated between cell towers. They do not have the capability of obtaining an exact location at this time. If there is a 911 hang up call, they will attempt to call the number back; however, if they do not get an answer, then they must

dispatch an officer to the location assigned to that phone number. Location validation technology is supposed to be in place by 2020. Alderman Osteen motioned to approve the Montgomery County Emergency Communication District's Budget for Fiscal Year 2018. Alderman McGahen 2nd. The vote was all in favor.

9. Status of new home construction projects within the City and requests for permit applications. There was not a P&Z meeting this month. An application for a carport at 16322 Cimmaron Dr. has been turned in but it was not submitted in time for the meeting. City Secretary Rutt reported that the Hinojosa's residence at 15450 Shady Oaks did not pass their electric inspection. The Rutt's new residence at 16474 Cimmaron Dr. has the pad in place. No action required.
10. Status of properties having ordinance violations. Chief Wethington reported on the status of properties having ordinance violations. Chief Wethington reported that the operating business violations at 16610 Wagon Wheel Rd. and 16419 Old Coach have been corrected. The clutter violations at 16810 Boot Hill Rd. and 15918 Indian Springs Trail have been corrected. The clutter violation at 15903 Boot Hill Rd. has been corrected and the junk vehicles are in the process of being removed. No action required.
11. Status of Public Works projects and activities. Director Terry Rutt was not present. Chief Wethington reported that two cylinders need to be replaced on the backhoe. Chief Wethington will take the cylinders off and take them in to be repaired. Chief Wethington reminded Council that the backhoe is 20 years old. No action required.
12. Financial statements for July 2017. No action required.
13. Reports:
 - a. Chief of Police: Passed out the monthly statistics report. Chief Wethington reported that there were two possible felonies involving methamphetamines; one with intent to distribute and one involving a stolen motorcycle. There was one accident - a resident's mailbox on Stagecoach Road was hit by a vehicle. The County handled the incident report for that accident. The resident is putting up a wooden mailbox because the brick mailbox has been hit several other times. Chief Wethington reminded Council that although we have three paid officers and 11 unpaid officers, we are not a 24/7 agency. The Chief works a lot of extra hours and does many late-night patrols on his own time. Stagecoach is surrounded by trailer parks and the police department is doing the best it can with what they have. Mayor Mansee thanked Chief Wethington for his time and service.
 - b. Flood Plain Administrator: No report.
 - c. P & Z Commissioner: No report.
 - d. City Attorney: City Attorney Baldwin reported that she has been working with Corporal Hughes to put together a body camera policy for the police department. She thanked Alderman Osteen for the excellent letter he wrote regarding fireworks. City Attorney Baldwin does not believe that we need another ordinance regulating fireworks. If someone is shooting fireworks at someone, that is a crime of intent and that is covered by State law. City Attorney Baldwin reported that we have several cases on the docket this month for minors in possession of alcohol.

- e. City Secretary: No report.
- f. Aldermen: Alderman Osteen thanked City Attorney Baldwin for reviewing the letter and the City Secretary for preparing the letter. Alderman Osteen suggested that our residents go on the Internet and pull up crime statistics for Montgomery County. The county looks like a red flag with a donut hole in middle – we are the donut. Alderman McGahen and Alderwoman McClure said “ditto.”
- g. Mayor: Mayor Mansee said that Alderman Osteen’s fireworks letter was well written. He reported that the State Legislature is trying to pass several laws that take away cities’ rights and hopefully they will not pass.

14. There being no further business, Alderwoman McClure motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Alderman McGahen 2nd. The vote was all in favor.

Brenda Rutt

Brenda Rutt, City Secretary-Treasurer-Court Clerk

