

Regular City Council Meeting - Minutes

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** City Court Clerk Taylor Rogers provided the roll call with Mayor Williams, noting a quorum of the following Council members Present: 1) Mayor Pro Tem Erika Gonzales 2) Council Member Joyce Wolfe, 3) Council Member Beverly Felts, 4) Council Member Kim Schlichting, 5) Council Member Mike Hale
3. **Opening:** Pledge of Allegiance US Flag and Texas Flag was led by Mayor Williams. The Invocation was led by Commissioner Germann.
4. **Comments:**
 - a. **Mayor Comments – Mayor Williams provided the following:**
 - Mayor thanked everyone for being present. The county road crew is doing a good job on fixing the roads that were part of the interlocal agreement. Would like the county to divide the grant money for each city to purchase police vehicles soon.
 - b. **County Commissioner Comments – Commissioner Germann provided the following:**
 - Commissioner Germann stated the road project is almost complete and would like the mayor and council to do a walk through when completed. The county received the grant money for the police vehicles on 08/15/2024 and the Commissioners Court will meet in September to allocate the money to each city.
 - c. **Fire Chief Comments – Chief Strey provided the following:**
 - Chief Strey stated that the Sausage Fest is coming up. Prizes, donations, and volunteers are appreciated. Currently there is not a burn ban in Guadalupe County but asked that we call him before issuing burn permits.
 - d. **City Marshal Comments – Chief Marshal Hatcher provided the following:**

Activity report for the dates June 17, 2024, to August 19, 2024:

 - Total Stops – 353
 - Total citations issued – 151
 - Warnings issued – 346
 - Truck Route Violations – 8
 - No/Suspended DL – 32
 - Speeding Violations - 45
 - No Liability Insurance – 20
 - Registration Violations – 38
 - Possession Drug Paraphernalia – 6
 - License Plate (False/fictitious/Improper use) - 4
 - Call for service/incidents – 14
 - Medical – 1
 - Assist Motorist- 2
 - Assist Agency- 5
 - Total Citations & Warnings to Date – 929/1164
 - Chief Marshal Hatcher answered the following questions:
How many farmers have been stopped in farm trucks? *None*
How many citations to warnings? *Multiple warnings per citation*

- e. **City Council Members Comments – Council Member Kim Schlichting provided the following:**
 - Portions of Gin Rd have potholes and would like to consider having a Town Hall meeting soon.
- f. **Public Comments:** This time is provided for the public to address the City Council on issues or concerns. NO CITY COUNCIL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME. Please add your name to the sign-up list BEFORE THE MEETING. Public comment(s) may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. You will be called upon by the Mayor during the meeting. Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks while addressing the Council may be directed to leave the meeting.
 - Citizen 1 voiced concern about the city being transparent to the citizens.
 - Citizen 2 voiced the city needs to support commercial development; sales tax is needed.
 - Citizen 3 voiced that commercial development needs to be carefully laid out.
- g. **Planning and Zoning Commission Comments:**
 - P&Z had no comments.
- h. **Other Committee Comments**
 1. **PARKS and PLAYGROUNDS – Melvin Strey, Chairperson provided the following:**
 - Grass needs to be tended to.

5. Consent Agenda:

- a. **Discussion/Action** on these Consent Agenda items to be acted on in a single motion.
 1. **Minutes:** City Council Meeting – Regular Meeting 06/17/2024 and Special Meeting 07/19/2024.
 2. **Financial Reports:** June 2024 & July 2024.
Mayor Williams read the above items into record. Council Member Mike Hale moved to approve the consent agenda items 1 through 2. Council Member Joyce Wolfe seconded the motion. The vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

6. Council Discussion/Action:

- a. **Type B City to Type A City - Discussion/Action** regarding switching the City of New Berlin from a Type B City to a Type A City.
Mayor Williams introduced item to Council. Council discussed the risks and benefits. Item was tabled until the next council meeting.
- b. **Acadian Ambulance Service- - Discussion/Action** regarding Acadian Ambulance Service.
Mayor Williams introduced item to council. Fire Chief Strey discussed issues with Acadian’s response time during a recent medical emergency. Would like to contract with ambulance services around the county to help assist. Acadian will investigate these issues. This item was discussion only, no action.
- c. **Dollar General-** Discussion on Dollar General coming into the City of New Berlin.
Mayor Williams introduced item to council. Mayor stated Dollar General is in the process of coming into the city. If businesses follow all city ordinances the city cannot stop businesses from building. Protected trees in our ordinance will be protected during all building/construction processes.
- d. **City of New Berlin Fire Department – Discussion/Action** regarding City of New Berlin Fire Department Contract.
Mayor Williams introduced item to council. Council Member Kim Schlichting motioned to allow Mayor Williams to review/discuss/approve contract amount with the Fire Department outside of the council meeting. Council Member Mike Hale seconded the motion. The vote of 5-0. Motion carried.

7. Adjournment– As there was no future business, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Attested by: Roxann Pullin
 Roxann Pullin, City Secretary

Walter C. Williams Jr.
 Walter C. Williams Jr., Mayor