

## Regular City Council Meeting

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** City Administrator Mindy Paxton 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 Kim Schlichting, 3) Council Member Beverly Felts, 4) Council Member Joyce Wolfe. *Council Member Mike Hale was absent.*
3. **Opening:** Pledge of Allegiance US Flag and Texas Flag, and Invocation. The Pledges of Allegiance to the US Flag and Texas Flag were performed. The Invocation was led by Mayor Walt Williams.
4. **Comments:**
  - a. **Mayor Comments:** Mayor Williams thanked Mr. Melvin Strey and all his friends and volunteers for the work they did at the playground.
  - b. **Fire Chief Comments:** Chief Strey indicated normal call volume and stated that year to date they have had 80 calls, lower than last year and normal. Ten calls shorter than last year due to communication errors that are happening between Wilson and Guadalupe Counties dispatch due to the location of the towers and where the call originated from. He stated that he does respond to the EMS calls taken by Wilson County when he hears them. Chief Strey stated that he is working on this.

He stated that as he had mentioned at the meeting, they are on the cusp of working on several projects but none of them are complete, a lot of aspects are creating delays. Working on a brush truck, has a lot of equipment they are bringing in to tramp up their capabilities.

He stated that over the weekend he received information regarding the 1<sup>st</sup> Responders vehicle, and it should arrive in two (2) weeks. He stated that the first few months he has been attending meetings regarding the growth in Guadalupe County as it is the fastest growing County and the growth around us does affect our city. He is spending a lot of time in these meetings to stay up to date.

Chief Strey stated that yes, he is the Fire Chief for the Fire Department, but technically the Fire Department is not an entity of the city, it's its own entity, and he is also the City's Emergency Management Coordinator. (EMC) These two play a lot together, which is good. The reason he does not talk about the Emergency Management Coordinator and what he is doing, is most of it involves planning and mitigation. The city does not have enough money; most of the planning involves money and mitigatory projects, example flood control which involves millions of dollars. While there is a lot happening on the EMC side and it all ties together, there is some things the EMC can't do because it is limited on the scope and our city does not have enough money. He is not indicating to change this, what we are doing now is fine but there are things that come down from State and Federal Government, and when they come up, we need to be ready to take advantage of it. We need to be ready to hop on. We need to be flexible in understanding what the funding might be for and what we could and will use it for. He spoke on the type of examples, i.e., money for an Emergency Management Center, money for grants that are available. He and the Mayor attend several meetings to keep our city informed of what is on the forefront that we could possibly take advantage of.

Mayor Williams added that Erika Striver with Congressman Cuellar called and there is 3 million dollars to do an Emergency Management Center and he stated that he thought it should be in the City of New Berlin and why we could make it part of the Fire Station/ Police Station and shared with the county. We have thrown our hat in to be considered. He stated that they also have grants for building a new City Hall. He and Chief Strey are working on these and will keep the Council informed. They continue to work with Congressman Cuellar's office.

- c. **City Marshal Comments:** City Marshal Hatcher reported that from February 11, 2023 to March 20, 2023 – 83 events: 43 total stops, 44 citations issued, 34 warnings issued, 8 no /suspended driver's license, 1 no commercial driver's license, 5 no liability insurance, 15 expired registration, 2 possession drug paraphernalia, 21 license plate

5 calls for service/incidents, 1 medical call, 1 assist agency. City Marshal Hatcher noted that 3 vehicles were towed, one traffic stop resulted in recovery of methamphetamine. Lastly, court went smoothy 7 people showed up and 23 did not.

City Marshal Hatcher addressed Council Member Schlichting's questions regarding his hours worked, and information regarding purchase of gas.

**d. City Council Members Comments**

Mayor Williams recognized Council Member Schlichting who stated that the stop sign at the corner of Linne Rd and Santa Clara Rd is broken and needs to be fixed. Mayor Williams indicated that he is aware and will be out to fix it permanently.

- e. 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.

Mayor Williams recognized Mr. Melvin Strey, 9161 FM 775 who addressed concerns with the proposed Ordinance regarding No Through Truck Streets. He went over proposed changes and corrections. They included:

Add "g" to the word providing in last sentence of header; 3<sup>rd</sup> whereas change no to not; 5<sup>th</sup> whereas reference to Cibolo Road which needs to be removed, two Santa Clara road references, need to be Santa Clara road that is within the New Berlin city limits; not a Koehler Rd in our city, remove Weyel Road at Cibolo not in New Berlin; Warncke Rd misspelled; not mentioned was Zuehl Crossing; under Now Therefore – missing Y in City and New Berlin is misspelled; section 2 last sentence delete the word "are"; under Light Truck should read means any; under proof of route last sentence should read delivery and the destination of the pick-up or delivery; under Recreational Vehicle 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence should be "Pickup"; Section 3 make changes as noted above deleting and revising and correct spelling errors; Section 4 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence change personal to "person who"; Section 7 last sentence should read "each day constitutes a separate offense"; Section 8 define/reword as it does not make sense or remove. He questioned adding Warncke Rd as there is only a part within the city, suggestion was to say the section of Warncke Rd within the City of New Berlin city limits. He stated that there is a similar problem to Linne Rd as there is only a portion in the city.

Mr. Strey stated that corrections and clarifications need to be made to this ordinance before approving. Mayor and Council Members agreed to not approve as additional work needed to be done. The ordinance will be resubmitted with corrections.

**f. Planning and Zoning Commission Comments:** Diana Flipppo Strey, Chairperson

Mayor Williams recognized Chairperson Strey who stated that they received interest from a property owner who wants his property added to the city, change from agricultural to residential to build three (3) houses and build a commercial building. They have not heard back from the property owner. The property is off of Schmidt and FM775. Chairperson Strey stated that she will try to get a hold of the property owner.

**g. Other Committee Comments**

**1. PARKS and PLAYGROUNDS – Melvin Strey, Chairperson**

Mayor Williams recognized Chairperson Melvin Strey who thanked all the volunteers who helped with the spreading of the mulch at the playground. He stated that there is an opportunity to have a work day. On the east side of the building there is mold that needs to be removed as well as trees that need to be trimmed up and again is suggesting a half day work day.

**2. ORDINANCES REVIEW/REVISE – Kim Schlichting, Chairman**

Mayor Williams recognized Council Member Schlichting who provided a handout on observations and suggestions about the city's ordinances. In her handout she provided codes, these codes are for the different city departments and department heads to review. (Handout to be included with these minutes). The handout included the following:

***Observations and suggestions about Ordinances***

- 76-005 Emergency operations plan- where is it – does it need updating?
- 91-003 Need update of mailing address p.3?
- 94-001 Lists speed limit on Linne Road as 35mph- current signage says 45 mph
- 91-005 Lists # of animals per acre- does it need updating?
- 01-004/04-003 Flood control- need review/updating with county?

**Missing ordinances:**

- 1985-001;002
- 1986-001;002
- 1989-001
- 2012-006
- 2015-002
- 2018-001

**Missing annexations:**

- 2011-010; 034-37; 038
- 2013-007; 016;026-28
- 2014-0005; 0006

On the website, 2022-002 is listed twice; year 2021 is out of order; 2017-034 is the only ordinance listed for 2017; two ordinances have a 2011-001 designation.

Year 2023 - Ordinances not on website

Need Marshall, Fire Chief, and P&Z to review ordinances with designated codes.

*Note to P&Z: (Subdivisions) 96-001 repeals both 79-002 and 90-003 also see 03-001. Also 16-007 replaces 99-004.*

City Council to review permits, fees/fines; comprehensive, Emergency Operations, Civil Preparedness, and Flood Plans as appropriate.

**Special Notes:**

Some ordinance numbers are 00\_ and some 000\_  
“-A”, “B”, and “Addendum” were used instead of numerical sequence in some places.

*Council Member Schlichting also provided a Summary of Ordinances with codes for the various City departments, Planning & Zoning Commission and City Council to review.(Copy attached)*

**5. Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Discussion/Action** on these Consent Agenda items to be acted on in a single motion.
  - 1. Minutes: City Council Meeting – February 20, 2023
  - 2. Financial Report: February 2023

Council Member Beverly Felts motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2023 Council meeting and the financial report for February 2023 with edits to the financial interest section. Council Member Erika Gonzales seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0. Motion carried.

**6. Council Agenda**

- A. Discussion/Action to adopt Ordinance 2023-04 amending and replacing Ordinance 2019-003, designating No Through Truck Streets within the City of New Berlin, Texas adding Warnacke Rd, Linne Rd, Church Rd, Koehler Rd, Weyel Rd at Cibolo and include all of Santa Clara Rd.

Council Member Beverly Felts motion to table this item to the next meeting and make the revisions and the edits as presented and noted earlier, Council Member Joyce Wolfe seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0. Motion carried.

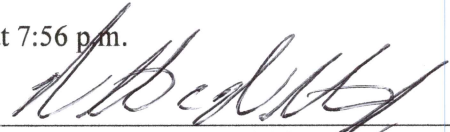
**Announcements**


Mayor Williams indicated that the City of New Berlin is hosting the Northeast Partnership workshop dinner meeting for all the mayors in the area this Wednesday, and will be held at the Cowboy Restaurant. The mayor stated that he is looking at creating a Fire Marshal position and is looking for someone in the Volunteer Fire Department. This position will be able to assist with upholding Local and State Laws that are in place.

Also mentioned was the Century Oaks Phase 3 grand opening this weekend – Saturday – open house.

**7. Adjournment**

As there was no further business, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

  
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Walter C. Williams Jr., Mayor

Attested by:   
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Roxann Pullin, City Secretary