

## Regular City Council Meeting - Minutes

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** City Secretary Roxann Pullin provided the roll call with Mayor Williams, noting a quorum of the following Council members Present: 1) Council Member Joyce Wolfe, 2) Council Member Beverly Felts, 3) Council Member Kim Schlichting. Excused absences Mayor Pro Tem Erika Gonzales and Council Member Mike Hale
3. **Opening:** Pledge of Allegiance US Flag and Texas Flag was led by Mayor Williams. The Invocation was also led by Mayor Williams.
4. **Action** to swear in by Oath of Office the November 7, 2023, Elected Officials.
  - a. Alderman Erika Gonzales – Oath will be provided at the next meeting
  - b. Alderman Joyce Wolfe – Oath of office provided
  - c. Alderman Mike Hale – Oath will be provided at the next meeting

Mayor Williams provided the oath of office to newly re-elected Alderman Joyce Wolfe.

### 5. **Comments:**

#### a. **Mayor Comments – Mayor Williams provided the following comments/announcements:**

1. City Hall will be closed November 20, 2023, through November 24, 2023, December 25, 2023, through December 29, 2023, & January 1, 2024, for the holidays. Municipal Court will be closed November 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24, 2023, December 25, 2023, through December 29, 2023 & January 1, 2024.
2. Christmas party & tree lighting is December 3, 2023, at 5:30 pm. at the New Berlin Community Center – 8815 FM 775. The committee received a \$2,000 donation from Council Member Gonzales, and they will be providing gifts. There will be music, etc. Mr. & Mrs. Clause will also be there.
3. The 2024 city volunteer donation letter will be mailed out the month of January 2024.

#### b. **County Commissioner Comments – no comments as the commissioner was not present.**

#### c. **Fire Chief Comments – Chief Strey stated that their call count was 353. He stated that smoke alarm calls are not recorded. County does not record all calls. Chief Strey stated that the call count is more like 400. He stated that with the recent rain it has helped out with fire calls, but the rain has resulted in more car accidents. Chief Strey stated that he had come across a once in a lifetime deal – Jaws of Life piece of equipment for \$12,000, he stated that they had bought one through a grant years ago and the price was \$12,000. The price of \$12,000 now is a great deal and stated that they held an emergency meeting with the committee to approve the purchase.**

Chief Strey indicated that they have 40 people on the roster for the volunteer Fire Department.

#### d. **City Marshal Comments** Marshal Hatcher provided his activity report for the dates October 16, 2023, to November 13, 2023:

- *Total Stops – 29*
- *Total citations issued – 29*
- *Warnings issued – 20*
- *Truck Route Violations – 0*
- *No/Suspended DL – 5*
- *No Commercial DL – 0*
- *No Liability Insurance – 5*
- *Registration Violations – 8*
- *Possession Drug Paraphernalia – 2*
- *License Plate (False/fictitious/Improper use) – 8*

- *Call for service/incidents – 2*
- *Arrests –2*
- *Assist Agency – 2*
- *Total Citations & Warnings to Date –5301/192*

e. **City Council Members Comments** – No comments were provided.

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.

No one signed up to speak.

g. **Planning and Zoning Commission Comments:** Diana Flippo Strey, Chairperson – No information provided.

h. **Other Committee Comments**

1. **PARKS and PLAYGROUNDS** – Melvin Strey, Chairperson  
Mayor Williams recognized Council Member Kim Schlichting who requested to have someone cut up and remove the large tree limb that fell during the recent storms, she also requested that the city contact someone to mow as Mr. Berger is not available.
2. **ORDINANCES REVIEW/REVISE** – Kim Schlichting, Chairman – No update provided.

6. **Consent Agenda:**

a. **Discussion/Action** on these Consent Agenda items to be acted on in a single motion.

1. **Minutes:** City Council Meeting – October 16, 2023
2. **Financial Reports:** October 2023
3. **Ordinance No. 2023-008** – Consideration and/or action approving Ordinance 2023-008 by the City Council of the City of New Berlin, Texas re-appointing Terreal Hatcher as the Municipal Marshal for a two-year term beginning December 2023.
4. **Ordinance No. 2023-009** – Consideration and/or action approving Ordinance 2023-009 by the City Council of the City of New Berlin, Texas regarding a request for a Variance - Discussion and Consideration and/or action approving a request for a variance to plat for subdividing 2.694 acres of property from 10.52 acres of land out of the Vincente Duran Survey, Abstract 19, Guadalupe County Texas. Said 2.694 acre tract is off the southwest end of a tract called Tract 2 (10.52 acres) in conveyance from Herman Doege and Betty Jane Doege, husband and wife to Douglas Young and Patricia Young, husband and wife, Randy Doege and Loretta Doege, husband and wife, and Patrick Doege, a single person recorded November 3, 2006 in Volume 2394, Page 213 of the Official Records of said county.
5. **Cancellation of the December 18, 2023, City Council meeting.** – Consideration and/or action cancelling the December 18, 2023, City Council Meeting. The next meeting will be held on January 15, 2024.

Mayor Williams read the above items into record and recognized Council Member Joyce Wolfe who moved to approve the consent agenda items 1 through 5. Council Member Beverly Felts seconded the motion. The vote of 3-0. Motion carried.

7. **Council Discussion Agenda**

- a. **Fiscal Year 2023 Budget adjustment** – Discussion and consideration and/or action by the City Council of New Berlin, Texas approving an adjustment to the Fiscal Year 2023 budget in the amount of \$32,000 to continue funding the City Marshal and Municipal Court offices, and the hiring of an additional City Marshall to include payroll and various Marshal equipment needed for start-up.

Mayor Williams introduced this item addressing questions from the Council.

Council Member Beverly Felts motioned to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget adjustment in the amount of \$32,000 Council Member Joyce Wolfe seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0. Motion carried.

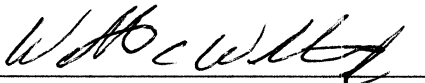
- b. **Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget** – Discussion and consideration and/or action by the City Council of New Berlin, Texas to review, amend if needed, and adopt the proposed 2024 City Budget as the final City Budget for the fiscal year January through December 2024.


Mayor Williams introduced this item stating that they held a public hearing earlier this evening and the proposed budget presented was approved. Mayor Williams called for a motion to approve the final 2024 City Budget.

Council Member Joyce Wolfe motioned to approve the FY 2024 Final City Budget as presented. Council Member Beverly Felts seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0. Motion carried.

**Announcements**

- 8. **Adjournment**– As there was no future business, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

  
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Walter C. Williams Jr., Mayor

Attested by:   
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Roxann Pullin, City Secretary