



7019 Pleasant Ridge Road * Coffee City, TX 75763 * Phone: (903) 876-3414 * Fax: (903) 873-2433

to approve the meeting minutes from 08-13-21 as well as the city financials, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Standifer, motion carried unanimously.

5. Approve meeting minutes from the City Council Meeting: September 13, 2021.
6. Approve City Financials:
7. Council to Review: City Ordinance on the use of cellular devices while driving. / *Tabled from the August Meeting- See Attached Ordinance that the City Secretary has composed.*
Discussion: Councilman Castleberry asked if this ordinance would cover everybody or just City officials, or just anybody just driving through the city? Mayor Serrato stated it would be for everyone, with the exception of the 1st Responders, City Secretary stated that all EMS, Police, or 1st responder with a Mark vehicle would be an exception to this ordinance. Councilman Ver Hey had question about how the citizens would be notified that this ordinance was in effect? How would the city proceed with getting this information out to the citizens as well as the traffic coming through our city? He also stated that he had been in larger cities that when they enforced an ordinance like this, that area would advertise this information on bill boards, news websites, etc. heavily several months in advance of the ordinance taking effect, and the citizens would have a grace period and everyone would know about the ordinance. Councilman Ver Hey said that there was nothing in this ordinance on how this would be handled as in (advertising) notifying the public of the ordinance. Mayor Serrato stated that this was not for the advertising this was just for the ordinance, to prohibit the use of cell phones while driving. Mayor Serrato then stated he wasn't sure on how this would need to be advised for the citizens that he and the City Secretary would find that information out. Councilman Ver Hey voiced his concerns, if being voted on and passed that he felt there needed to be a grace period before going into effect so that citizens would know about the ordinance before the PD starts pulling people over and writing citations. Councilman Ver Hey expressed his concerns on the fine amount of \$500. For this citation. Mayor Serrato asked was the fine amount \$500 or up to \$500, Councilman Ver Hey stated the ordinance states Up-To \$500. Councilman Ver Hey stated that the Police Chief was there to ask him how many accidents do we have in the city of 300 residents that involve this kind of ordinance? Councilman Ver Hey expressed his concerns of why we needed this kind of ordinance in a city this size, yes, he understood that in larger cities he could see this kind of ordinance, but it's his understanding that the State of Texas already has a No Text and Drive Law. Mayor Serrato, stated that as far as accidents the DPS works those, not our officers. Mayor Serrato, explained to Councilman Ver Hey that this item was tabled from last month to the council to get a better view from the examples that had been given in the council packets. Councilman Castleberry asked the Mayor if this ordinance was covered in the state ordinance? Mayor Serrato said this would be our City ordinance not the State ordinance. Councilman Ver Hey stated that he had read that this ordinance would conflict with the Texas State ordinance. Mayor Serrato explained to Councilman Ver Hey that this document was only found by one person, that he appreciated Ms. Moss for undertaking this document, Councilman Ver Hey agreed. Ms. Moss then explained to the Mayor and Councilmen how this ordinance was composed, Ms. Moss said that at the last council meeting there had been two example ordinances given to the councilmen for review, she



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- contacting the attorney for this matter, to be reviewed by the council. Councilman Jones stated he personally didn't think the city needed it but, he wasn't opposed to looking at the documentation that the attorney brought forward. Councilman Ver Hey, then expressed his concerns on how the city would go about keeping the employees if a new mayor came in and decided that the current employees had to leave their jobs, Mayor Serrato stated that is the purpose for this contract was to help secure this from happening, and this would be based on their job performance, another situation where the attorney could help with their contracts. Councilman Castleberry asked what was the reasoning behind the mayor wanting to looked into contract vs. non contracts for the employees? Mayor Serrato stated for job security. Are their employees opposed to the contract was asked by Councilman Castleberry? Mayor Serrato stated there is 1 for it and 1 is not. Councilman Castleberry asked what advantages would the city have with having these contracts for the employees? Mayor Serrato stated that was something that the attorney would help with. Councilman Ver Hey asked if anything like this ever been done before for the employees? Mayor Serrato said that he remembered Fire Chief stating at one time there was a contract. Councilman Ver Hey stated that he agreed with Councilman Jones about he didn't think the city needed a contract for the employees as well as spending the money for this. Ms. Bivens spoke from the floor asking if Judge Rich would fall under this contract or was, he bound by statue, the mayor stated that Judge Rich was a contract employee and that he was bound by statue. Ms. Bevins asked why Judge Rich would have a contract, Mayor Serrato stated it had not been thought about. Ms. Bivens asked if the Judge received a 1099? Mayor Serrato stated yes. Mayor Pro Tem stated that he would rather not spend the money on the attorney. Councilman Ver Hey made a motion not to go forward with it, his thoughts where it wasn't necessary. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Standifer, Motion carried unanimously.
10. Consider and Act Upon: Saprina Carey, Cleaning for the City. Mayor Serrato stated that she was the only one that shown interest in cleaning the city hall as well as the CC for the amount of money that was budgeted, that the cleaning amount was overlooked when making the budget for this fiscal year. Mayor Pro Tem asked if she was a related to anyone at the city? Mayor Serrato stated not that he knew of she was not. Mayor Serrato then explained the areas that she would be cleaning here at City Hall and then down at the Community Center, every 2 weeks, for the amount that was budgeted. Councilman Castleberry made the motion to accept Saprina Carey to clean City Hall as well as the Community Center twice monthly for the amount that was budged, seconded by Councilman Jones, motion carried unanimously.
11. Consider and Act Upon: Resolution Revision Amendment 2021-0111A – Adding 12 more Reserve Police Officers to the Police Dept. Roster. *(Needing the Council to Sign)* – All Councilman Signed this document.
12. Consider and Act Upon: Axon Body Cameras Contract *(PD Body Cameras)* – Mayor Serrato stated that the contract with Axon Body Cameras is for 3,500 a yr. Mayor stated that the PD came across 3 more body cameras that had been taken originally from the dept. by ex-officers but these have been returned to the dept. In order to use these cameras, you have to pay for the equipment plus the licensing, they are willing to wave the equipment fee and only charge for the licenses. Mayor Serrato stated that we



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citizens, and serve on committees. Mayor Serrato stated that Ms. Vicki Castleberry has been working hard with the EDC on trying to pull the city and community together on having different events, that he hoped that the city and council could pull together and show support for her hard work. Mayor Serrato continued to read what makes a good official? It's trust, honesty, compeonence, committed to the community and Council. Mayor Serrato stated that the council may not see eye to eye on things but he hopes that the community see's that they are still working together as one.

15. City Secretary's Report: City Secretary, Nanette Moss spoke to say that from the prior meetings she was able to retain a 36K grant for Broadband infrastructure, she went on to say that the mayor as well as herself and our IT Dept. Mark Guthrie has a meeting with DC Texas on Thursday to go over this grant money and the possibilities to get Broadband Internet here in the city for the citizens. Ms. Moss also stated that there was an opioid grant that the City was eligible for through a lawsuit with Jansen pharmaceuticals, this grant was for the amount of 1,088.00 for the City, that she was hoping that she could obtain this money to pass along to the Police dept. for Opioid Test Kits. She also informed the Council that the Auditor David Godwin was here doing his field work for the 20-21 FY. Also, that TML contacted her about the Cities Workers Comp Audit as well, that she would be involved with this as well getting this information to TML.

The mayor had asked if there was any objection of moving the Municipal Court Report up before the EDC Report so that Court Clerk Mary McDonald could leave to take care of her children? There was no objection so Agenda Item # 17 got moved to the # 16 spot.

16. EDC Report: EDC President Pam Drost stood to say that the EDC has been really busy, with the Councils approval on serval items last month that the EDC was going over a lot of those projects now. Ms. Drost spoke to say that the EDC was looking at some land acquisition, from different locations on HWY 155 and 3506, that the Council has a request in their packet to be discussed in Exec. Session, on a project that the EDC has been working on as well. Ms. Drost said that Ms. Vicki Castleberry had some things that she wanted to go over with the Council and public on some projects that she has been working on as well. Ms. Castleberry spoke to say that the EDC is planning a Trunk or Treat on Oct 30th from 6pm to 8pm with the help of the city dept.'s The EDC will be holding a contest on the best trunk decorated from their dept. with prizes to be awarded for that. This event will be held at the Community Center Parking lot as well as the City Hall parking lot area without blocking the Fire Dept. November activity will be a Vendor Show at the Community Center, she asked if anyone knew of anyone wanting to participate in this event let the EDC know, there will be a registration fee. Ms. Drost spoke to say that the EDC does have an information flyer that will be distributed without the city for this event. Financial reports from the EDC were placed in the Council packets if there were any questions the council could ask the Treasurer Geo Jan Wright Hunter. Mayor Serrato had a question about the profit and loss statement concern the Lake Palestine Resort HOT tax amount, Ms. Hunter explained that this report was a month behind. That their report is always a month behind. That amount showing was for the Sept. payment to the EDC for their Hotel Occupancy Tax. The Mayor just wanted to point out that the amount that was showing was apparently



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Issues) and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code, including, but not limited to, Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).

CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT A COPY OF THE TUESDAY OCTOBER 12, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA OF ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COFFEE CITY, CITY COUNCIL WAS POSTED AT THE CITY HALL PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD AND THE CITY WEBSITE ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 08, 2021.


MAYOR - FRANK SERRATO


CITY SECRETARY - NANETTE MOSS