

Town council work session April 28, 2025

Present: Mayor Chris Lelle; Councilmen, Tommy Buchanan, Eric Dailey, Sally Brown, Doug Koestel and Sharon Johnson; Clerk, Kathy Bridges

Visitors: Beth Buchanan, Scott Morgan

The meeting opened at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor asked that passport updates be added to the agenda. Sally Brown made the motion to amend the agenda to add passport updates, Eric Dailey seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Sally Brown made a motion to approve minutes from April 7th, Sharon Johnson seconded, and the motion passed 4-0 with Eric Dailey abstaining from voting since he was absent from the meeting.

The council voted to pass the Title VI Non-discrimination agreement with a motion by Doug Koestel, a second by Sharon Johnson and a unanimous vote. Eric Dailey agreed to be the official responsible for initiating and monitoring Title VI activities, preparing reports and other responsibilities as required.

The Mayor said he was to do a walk-through with the CPL engineer concerning the road estimates in order to get a new estimate for preparing road bids.

Credit card processing through GovCard was discussed. Eric Dailey agreed to assist in getting more information on the company and their charges.

Sally Brown presented sketches on the Welcome to Bethlehem signs. She was working with Paul Inneckin on the designs and estimates and suggested placing signs on 316 ramps; both sides of Highway 11 and both sides of the former Highway 324.

The council voted to submit the resolution to amend the land use element included in the Barrow County Comprehensive Plan with a motion by Sally Brown, a second by Eric Dailey, a yes by Sharon Johnson and Doug Koestel and a no vote by Tommy Buchanan. The mayor said the findings from the Department of Community Affairs said that the amendment adequately addressed applicable requirements.

The Mayor said the price of \$35 a square foot to renovate the house at 742 Manger Ave. was the correct bid. The house is almost 2000 square feet.

Sally Brown gave an update on the city becoming a passport facility. The clerk had attended manager training and submitted the paperwork. In-person training for agents was to be scheduled within the next 2 weeks.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10.