

MINUTES  
BALMORHEA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 10, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR JOHN L. DAVIS, JOSUE MENDOZA, IKE WARD, JOY LEWIS

MEMBERS ABSENT: BERNADETTE PORTILLO

STAFF PRESENT: SANDRA NAVARRETE, MARLENE JURADO, GREG PERRIN, JOANNA GARZA

VISTORS: DOAK PAINTER, ELLEN WEINACHT, ESEQUIEL DUTCHOVER

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor John L. Davis at 7:04 pm.
2. Mayor John L. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Doak Painter with Painter and Associates, P.C. stated he had audited the accompanying statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component unit, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the City of Balmorhea, Texas (City), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the City's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. Mr. Painter stated it was a good audit with a good opinion. On the financial highlights Mr. Painter reported the City's total net position decreased by \$99,878 as a result of this year's operations and as a result the net position of our governmental activities decreased by \$67,871 and the net position of our business-like activities decreased by \$32,007. During the year, the City had expenses that were \$67,871 more than the \$205,792 of revenues generated by the general operations of the City's governmental type funds and \$32,007 more expenses than generated by water and sewer sales and other revenues for the Propriety-type fund of \$661,211. Depreciation expense for the current year was \$114,856 of which \$18,727 was associated with governmental activities and \$96,129 was associated with business-like activities. Depreciation expense was \$62,608 for the prior year. The governmental-type general fund ended the year with a total fund balance of \$406,324 which was a decrease of \$71,361 from the prior year. The proprietary-type funds ended the year with an unrestricted net position amount of \$35,065 which represent an increase of \$1,668 from the prior year. The budget for the City's general fund revealed \$3,208 less revenues were received during the year than were originally budgeted while \$57,216 more expenses were incurred than were budgeted for the year. The net effect of the budget variance was a negative budget variance of \$60,424. The results of the audit procedures disclosed no findings to report for the year ended September 30, 2022 (Audit Report Attached).

4. Ike Ward made a motion, seconded by Josue Mendoza to approve minutes for March 13, 2023. Motion Carried 3-0.

5. Josue Mendoza made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to approve bills & adjustments as presented. Motion Carried 3-0.

6. Reports

A. No report was submitted.

B. City Clerk reported 32 work orders that include (10-water related), (7-clean up), (12-patching), (3-misc). Mayor Davis stated that the City possibly would not catch up on clean up until later on. The main areas are the ones that need to be taken care of first or the areas we can see the most. Areas that you can hit with the blue mower.

C. Greg Perrin reported that the City is still waiting to hear from the wastewater project. Mayor Davis stated that the clay valve at the pump station is a priority and the gauge marker or measuring device at the Evan's tank will have to be replaced with a different device due to the fact that we have had to go swim inside the tank to reattach the marker. Mayor Davis asked Greg Perrin if the tablet has been useful to keep up with the daily readings. The purpose for the tablet was to inform Mr. Perrin of daily readings that he needs for reports.

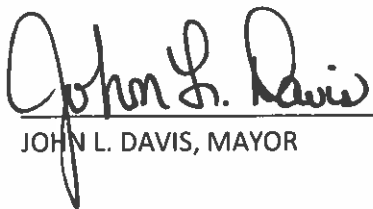
D. No quarterly report was presented. Laura Lannom was not present.

7. Ellen Weinacht stated that people don't know that Balmorhea has a Lake and it is our main source of tourism. Mrs. Weinacht added that Pat Brijalba had called her and asked her to make a brochure on the Balmorhea Lake and show it to the City. Mrs. Weinacht stated that the City of Balmorhea has a brochure but no information about the lake. Mayor Davis stated that the reason why there was no information on the brochure was because in the past no one from the Reeves County Water District wanted to participate. Mrs. Weinacht provided a sample of a brochure to the Council that her daughter and Mr. Brijalba had put together. Mrs. Weinacht is asking the City of Balmorhea to use their vehicle of distribution to distribute their brochures as well. Joy Lewis asked if the Reeves County Water District had seen the brochure and Mrs. Weinacht responded, no. Mrs. Weinacht stated that her lake brochures were priced at .37 cents each and had an additional quote that was for .42 cents with a better quality paper. The brochure will have a motif similar to the sign that is located here in town on HWY17. Mayor Davis asked if the City of Balmorhea brochure had anything on the Balmorhea Lake. City Clerk responded, yes there is a picture and telephone number to the Lake Store. Mayor Davis stated that he didn't quite understand why the Balmorhea Lake could not make their own brochures with all the revenue it collects from tourists. Mrs. Lewis asked Mrs. Weinacht if the Reeves County Water District would be involved in this. Mrs. Weinacht responded, no they are not. Mrs. Weinacht added they have got the signage for free and our volunteers are doing what they can. Mayor Davis added that the Balmorhea Lake has always stood on its own and for the City of Balmorhea to purchase the lake brochures and City brochures is an expense. We need to just add everything together. Mayor Davis stated that he still doesn't understand how the City

would get involved in funding a project like that unless we call it donating to the Balmorhea Lake, because that entity makes money from entry fees to access the lake. Mrs. Weinacht stated that was beside the point because to get to the lake they have to drive through Balmorhea. Mrs. Weinacht added that the lake gets entry fees and the restaurants get their money, but all we are trying to do is to get people to come to Balmorhea, Texas. Mayor Davis asked, how many brochures are you wanting to make? We need to promote every entity here in Balmorhea not just one. We need to look at the overall picture. Mrs. Lewis asked if this idea has been presented to the Reeves County Water District being that they have authority over the lake. Mrs. Weinacht responded, that the Reeves County Water District has not seen the brochure. Mayor Davis stated he would like to wait to include Bernadette Portillo on this decision and that it would also allow the City to do more research on pricing of possible inserts that we could include in the City of Balmorhea brochure. No action was taken.

8. Mayor Davis stated that this inter local agreement between the City of Balmorhea and the Balmorhea State Park only states the City is going to participate in doing future projects together. As the projects begin to happen there will be additional paper work to sign in agreement between the 2 parties. Ike Ward made a motion, seconded by Josue Mendoza to approve Inter local agreement between the City of Balmorhea & Balmorhea State Park. Motion Carried 3-0.
9. Josue Mendoza made a motion, seconded by Ike Ward to approve Election Clerks and Election Stipends for General Election on May 6, 2023. Motion Carried 3-0.
10. Bernadette Portillo submitted an update to the City Council. No questions were addressed.
11. Josue Mendoza made a motion, seconded by Joy Lewis to adjourn meeting at 8:00 pm. Motion Carried 3-0.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9 DAY OF MAY, 2023.**

  
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JOHN L. DAVIS, MAYOR

  
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SANDRA NAVARRETE, CITY CLERK