

**MINUTES
BALMORHEA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR JOHN L. DAVIS, IKE WARD(6:13PM), DANNY VASQUEZ III,
ROSA DOMINGUEZ, JOY LEWIS, JOSUE MENDOZA**

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

**STAFF PRESENT: SANDRA NAVARRETE, GREG PERRIN-ABSENT, RUSSELL MORRIS,
GUADALUPE MENDOZA**

VISTORS: NONE

1. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Davis at 6:03 pm.
2. Mayor John L. Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Mayor Davis explained that the water rate increase needed to be tabled to be looked later because we really need to look at our sewer rates first. Joy Lewis stated that the sewer rates are calculated using the winter water usage readings. Joy Lewis made a motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to table item 1 until next fiscal year. Motion Carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Josue Mendoza made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez to approve minutes for October 15, 2024. Motion Carried 5-0.
2. Josue Mendoza made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez, to approve bills and adjustments as presented 5-0.
3. Mayor Davis explained that this item was briefly discussed at the last months city council meeting And the downfall of this charge is that the customers are being charged twice for the emergency Services. Joy Lewis added that the fire department is not using a lot of money and based on her motel water bill she is being charged more for emergency services than what the ESD charges annually on property taxes. Mrs. Lewis added that adding a fire fee to a water bill is illegal according to the Attorney General. Mayor Davis stated this has been in place for many years and a lot of municipalities to this. After some discussion Joy Lewis made a motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to eliminate the fire department fee on water bills starting immediately. Motion Carried 5-0.

4. Reports

- A. ESD1 &2 report was not submitted. City Clerk reported that the ESD fire did not submit usage log for the month of October 2024. City Council asked that contact be made with Ronald Lee regarding report and usage log.
- B. The City Clerk reported that that the Santa in the park and tree lighting event will be held on December 7th starting at 7:00pm. The annual Christmas party will be on December 20th starting at 6:00pm at the old Balmorhea ISD gymnasium. Mayor Davis added that we probably need to look at maybe doing a potluck dish and dessert dinner for this event.
- C. Water Operator reported that Greg Perrin was doing the weekend checks when he felt ill and was later transported to the hospital. Mr. Perrin was not able to attend tonight's meeting due to him traveling back from his medical emergency. The water operator stated that Mr. Perrin had forwarded him an invoice for the Scada pack services for the City of Balmorhea. But at this time, he and Mr. Perrin have not been able to get any diagnostic data from the devices. The invoice reflects it being a renewal for the services and maybe it stopped working due to payment. Mayor Davis added he would talk to Mr. Perrin about the charges on the invoice. The operator also reported that he and maintenance help will start cleaning the wastewater ponds and lift station with the equipment that was rented.
- D. Rosa Dominguez had no BEDC update.
1. Joy Lewis made a motion, seconded by Rosa Dominguez to appoint Lyndell Brooks to the Balmorhea Economic Development Corporation board. Motion Carried 5-0.
 2. Oath of Office will be administered when Mr. Brooks is available.
- E. Rosa Dominguez stated that the Balmorhea Committee board was thinking of having a Merry Market instead of taking over the Christmas Parade on December 7th event. The event will make decorations and create Christmas cards for pictures with Santa. Mayor Davis suggested that the parade still must go on. This is an opportunity for the elder people to get a glimpse of the parade from their home. Joy Lewis added that the council needs to have a float. Josue Mendoza added that the same float can have Santa riding in it. The City Clerk added that we will need a volunteer to conduct the formation of the parade and get judges to choose the winning float. The winners for 1st-\$200, 2nd-\$100, 3rd-\$50. Mr. Mendoza volunteered to oversee the Christmas Parade. Water operator and Maintenance employee will oversee decorating a float for Santa and the council to ride. Mrs. Lewis added that the council will need to throw candy to the spectators. Line up for the parade will be 6:00pm behind The Cactus Motel.


5. After some discussion Josue Mendoza made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez to use RV/Trash fund balance to cover repair/renovation expenses being incurred on the old Balmorhea ISD building. Motion Carried 5-0.

6. Ike Ward made a motion, seconded by Danny Vasquez to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm.
Motion Carried 5-0.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9 DAY OF December, 2024.



JOHN L. DAVIS, MAYOR



SANDRA NAVARRETE, CITY CLERK