

**BRYAN CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING
MAY 12, 2015**

A workshop meeting of the Bryan City Council was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, in the Council Chambers of the Bryan Municipal Building. A notice of the meeting was posted at least 72 hours in advance in accordance with Section 551, Texas Government Code. Mayor Jason Bienski and Councilmembers Al Saenz, Rafael Peña, Greg Owens, Mike Southerland, Art Hughes and Chuck Konderla were present. Also present were City Manager Kean Register, City Attorney Janis Hampton, First Assistant City Attorney Lauren Crawford and City Secretary Mary Lynne Stratta.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. PRESENTATION BY STAFF PROVIDING AN UPDATE ON ANIMAL SERVICES

Deputy City Manager Hugh Walker gave the background of the City assuming animal sheltering services with the opening of the Bryan Animal Center (BAC) on September 1, 2011. In May 2012, Animal Control Officers reported to the BAC. Environmental Services Manager Eric Zaragoza discussed the great effort that staff invests in providing care and finding homes for the animals. He thanked the members of the Bryan Animal Center Advisory Committee for their service. He listed the public hours of the BAC and gave an example of daily activities. He discussed required annual inspections, BAC service fees, staffing, volunteers, foster programs, rescue groups, adoptions, promotions and events. He thanked volunteers for their dedication. He provided revenues and expenses for fiscal years 2013 and 2014. He reported 1,252 animals had been cared for at the shelter in fiscal year 2015, with an exit rate of 68 percent, euthanasia rate of 23 percent, and retention rate of 9 percent. He added Animal Control Officers returned 198 animals to their owners. He discussed various programs offered through the BAC such as microchipping, sterilization, tags/licenses, community events, etc.

Mr. Zaragoza also discussed developing partnerships with Texas A&M University Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and Blinn College Veterinary Technology Program. Special thanks were expressed to the F.W. Bert and Mae Dean Wheeler Foundation for donating \$30,000 and \$50,000 to the BAC in 2014 and 2015, respectively. Mr. Zaragoza then listed recent improvements made at the shelter facility as well as future projects. He said long term, a new animal shelter at the estimated cost of \$3.5 to \$4 million was desired. He showed slides facilities and construction costs in other cities. A question was raised as to possible benefits of having a veterinarian on staff. Mr. Zaragoza said the budding partnership with the Texas A&M Veterinary College may provide additional veterinarian care opportunities. Trap/sterilize/release programs were discussed.

It was stated that prior to the City opening its own shelter, the euthanasia rate was much higher, costs were higher and Animal Control was not returning animals to owners. Staff was asked to gather information about other cities' ordinances as to the number of animals allowed in a residential area, because there was some thought the City may need to raise the number from the current limit of four animals per household. Council thanked the staff and volunteers for their outstanding work at the BAC.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING CONSENT/STATUTORY AGENDA ITEMS FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 12, 2015

Councilmembers briefly discussed agenda items 9 c, 10 c and 10 d of the consent/statutory agenda for the regular meeting of May 12, 2015. No action was taken.

4. ADJOURN

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

City Secretary Mary Lynne Stratta

Mayor Jason P. Bienski