

**CITY OF COPPERAS COVE
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 17, 2006 – 7:00 P.M.**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor, Roger P. O'Dwyer called the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Copperas Cove, Texas to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Sheppard gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

ALSO PRESENT

Bob Reeves
Larry D. Sheppard
John Gallen
James Stockman
R. Ray Gatewood
Fred Harris
Frank D. Somera, Jr.

Steven J. Alexander, City Manager
James R. Thompson, City Attorney
Jane Lees, City Secretary

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Gallen announced that the Copperas Cove High School Band and Color Guard recently received first place honors in Killeen at the Central Texas Marching Festival. This brings great credit to our community and our high school and shows the great education that we are providing in Copperas Cove.

Council Member Harris said that he and other Council Members visited with our Congressmen and Representatives and/or their assistants during their recent trip to the AUSA annual conference in Washington, D.C. The City Manager made a presentation to each office while there. He thanked City Manager Steve Alexander for an excellent presentation, saying that he spoke articulately and represented the City of Copperas Cove very well.

While in the Washington, D.C. area, he visited Walter Reed Hospital. There are 10,000 soldiers who are seriously wounded. Because of their injuries many will have to live drastically changed lives. He said we should never forget those wounded soldiers and whenever possible, go visit them to say hello.

Mayor O'Dwyer say that the ladies prayer group that recently met was very successful with over 200 attending.

He announced that the Cove Scottish Rite Club is hosting a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, October 28 at Mt. Hiram Lodge. The dinner is for the benefit of the Texas Military Family Foundation at Ft. Hood. This organization provides a kitchen facility and a place where people can grow their own vegetables for those who are wounded so that they don't have to eat cart food.

He said that Sandor Vegh asked him for a report on the AUSA annual convention that that six members of the Council and the City Manager recently attended. He said that the highlight of the trip was to meet with Senators and Congressmen and their legislative assistants. He said they interfaced with many military people and contractors for the military and had a chance to put a good light on Copperas Cove. He said that he spoke with the Provost Marshal of the Army, and as a result of that conversation, the Copperas Cove Police Chief and the City of Copperas Cove will make an effort to work more closely with the Military Police on Ft. Hood. He said that a Major came to him and thanked the City Council of Copperas Cove for what he learned while attending our Council meetings. He said it gave him insight for working with the people in Iraq.

City Manager Steven Alexander said that the AUSA conference was a productive event. The meetings with congressional officials were productive. They held discussions concerning the northeast bypass and updating information on the reliever route project, as well as other projects in and around Copperas Cove. The meeting that was held today with the people who police Ft. Hood was also productive. They have asked to work with the Copperas Cove Police Department to provide training from a city's prospective. The City has also offered to provide training to folks on Ft. Hood on running wastewater treatment plants and fire department services. We are excited to work with Ft. Hood and hopefully help them prepare for their missions in Iraq.

Mayor O'Dwyer said he also attended three forums on the military family while at the AUSA convention. He received a video telling how a child deals with his Dad going away and coming home. This video is to help young children understand what is happening when a parent leaves to serve in war. He offered the use of this video to anyone who wanted to borrow it.

E. PUBLIC RECOGNITION

1. Proclamation – “DECA Week”, October 16-23, 2006. **Roger P. O'Dwyer, Mayor**
2. Proclamation –“Veteran’s Day”, November 11, 2006. **Roger P. O'Dwyer, Mayor**
3. Proclamation – “Make a Difference Day”, October 28, 2006. **Roger P. O'Dwyer, Mayor**

Mayor O'Dwyer requested that Item J-6 be moved up under Public Recognition.

6. Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. Andrea Gardner, Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance
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Steve Alexander, City Manager, explained that this certificate was awarded to the City for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). In addition to this certificate, the person responsible for putting together the CAFR receives an award of financial reporting achievement. Although it takes many people and various departments to put together the entire report, someone is responsible for coordinating the entire process and assuring the accuracy of the contents. He presented the certificate to Andrea Gardner, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director. Ms. Gardner said that this award has been received by the City for the 16th consecutive year and that she is pleased to

accept this certificate on behalf of the City and all of the Staff for working with the Finance Department in completing this financial report. She thanked the external auditors, Lott, Vernon & Company, who worked on this project as well.

F. CITIZENS' FORUM At this time, citizens will be allowed to speak on any matter other than personnel matters, matters under litigation, or matters on the regular agenda, for a length of time not to exceed five minutes per person. Thirty minutes total has been allotted for this section.

Marty Smith, President, Chamber of Commerce. She announced that the Ogletree Gap Heritage Festival will be held this coming weekend. Opening ceremonies are Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. She thanked the Council for making the Texas Reception at the AUSA conference a success and for volunteering their help. She said that over 400 bicyclists were here last weekend for the bike race and that every bicyclist was from outside of Copperas Cove, except for one.

Council Member Ray Gatewood said that at the last Council meeting he recognized Police Chief Molnes and Fire Chief Haas for their efforts in the area of public safety. He said that tonight he wanted to recognize two other City employees. He thanked John Adel, City Planner and Kelli Sames, Human Resources Director, for their dedication and hard work for the City.

G. CONSENT ITEMS

1. Consideration and action on Resolution No. 2006-40 authorizing the City Manager to apply for, reject, alter or terminate a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) grant up to the amount of \$13,500. **Jeri Denniston, Grants Administrator/Budget Analyst**

Council Member Gallen made a motion to approve consent item G-1. Council Member Reeves seconded the motion, and with a unanimous vote, motion carried.

The Resolution caption reads as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-40

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR, REJECT, ALTER OR TERMINATE A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FOR A COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) GRANT UP TO THE AMOUNT OF \$13,500.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS/ACTION – None.

I. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration and action on approving the purchase of a new 2006 Frazer Ambulance through the Buy Board in the amount of \$97,525.00. **Dennis K. Haas, Fire Chief**

Dennis K. Haas, Fire Chief gave an overview of agenda item I-1.

Council Member Stockman made a motion to approve agenda item I-1. Council Member Reeves seconded the motion, and with a unanimous vote, motion carried

2. Consideration and action on appointment of three Commissioners to the Housing Authority of the City of Copperas Cove. **Jane Lees, City Secretary**

Council Member Somera made a motion to approve agenda item I-2. Council Member Sheppard seconded the motion, and with a unanimous vote, motion carried.

3. Consideration and action on approving the time and date change for the Christmas Parade. **Marty Smith, President, Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce**

Marty Smith, President of the Chamber of Commerce gave an overview of agenda item I-3.

Council Member Gallen made a motion to approve agenda item I-3. Council Member Somera seconded the motion, and with a unanimous vote, motion carried.

J. STAFF REPORTS

1. Financial Report for the Month ended August 31, 2006. **Andrea Gardner, Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance**

Andrea Gardner, Assistant City Manager/Director of Finance gave the Financial Report for the month ended August 31, 2006.

2. Third Quarter Report from Chamber of Commerce. **Aundi Gibson, Finance & Marketing Manager, Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce**

Aundi Gibson, Finance & Marketing Manager, Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce gave the Third Quarter report for the Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce.

3. Fire Department Report on September's Code Compliance Month. **Robert O'Dell, Deputy Fire Chief**

Robert O'Dell, Deputy Fire Chief gave a report on September's second annual Code Compliance Month. The focus this year was to educate the public rather than going out and just issuing warnings and citations. They sent out 11,000 code enforcement flyers during the month and a video was completed and plays on the public access channel every three hours on code compliance.

4. After action report for the Hazardous Household Waste Event. **Mike Mundell, Solid Waste Superintendent**

Mike Mundell, Solid Waste Superintendent gave a report on the Hazardous Household Waste Event which was held on September 16 at the solid waste operational center. He stated that people started lining up around 7:00 a.m. even though the event was not

scheduled to start until 9:00 a.m. He said six tons of household hazardous waste was collected and 50 scrap tires. The cost for the event was \$26,438.00, which was paid for by Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) through a grant from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

5. Recycling Program Update. *Mike Mundell, Solid Waste Superintendent*

Mike Mundell, Solid Waste Superintendent gave an update on the Recycling Program. He said that in June additional commodities were added to the program in an effort to reduce some of the tonnage to our waste stream and increase the amount of revenues generated through the recycling program. In those four months we have seen some up and down results of the newly added commodities. Plastics averaged about one ton a month. Office paper averaged one and a half tons a month. Steel cans averaged a half ton a month. The number of households services increased overall by about 500 from the same period last year. This has bumped our annual participation levels up to about 20 percent, which is a two percent increase. We still need to see a continuing improvement of the recycling efforts citywide in order to recognize a sizable diversion of tonnage from the waste stream.

In an effort to increase participation in the recycling program the following things have been done or are being planned; (1) placed three quarter page advertisements in the local newspapers; (2) four articles published in the local newspapers about the recycling program and the changes that were being implemented; (3) ads are being run on the government access channel, along with a list of the items now accepted for recycling; (4) changes to the recycling program were printed on the July utility bill; (5) in August the roadway display systems were installed on the side of the collection vehicles to encourage residents to recycle; (6) several banners have been made to display around the City; and (6) presentations are planned for elementary schools to educate the kids about recycling. In addition, in November some local billboard space will be rented to advertise the recycling program. Also, the possibility of adding an electronics recycling program is also being researched.

K. REPORTS OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS—None.

L. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS—None.

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Pursuant to §551.974 of the Open Meetings Act. *Tex. Gov't Code*, Council will meet in Executive Session to discuss the evaluation of the City Secretary.

2. Pursuant to §551.974 of the Open Meetings Act. *Tex. Gov't Code*, Council will meet in Executive Session to discuss the duties and responsibilities of the City Manager.

Mayor O'Dwyer announced the City Council would adjourn from the regular meeting to enter into Executive Session at 8:28 p.m.

N. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION FOR POSSIBLE ACTION RESULTING FROM ANY ITEMS POSTED AND LEGALLY DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor O'Dwyer reconvened the City Council Meeting at 10:16 p.m. and stated that Executive Session items M-1 and M-2 were for information purposes only and no action would be taken.

O. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor O'Dwyer stated the meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

Roger P. O'Dwyer, Mayor

Attest:

Jane Lees, City Secretary