

**MINUTES  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 20, 2018  
7:00 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert Bridges at 7:00pm.

Members present were Mayor Robert Bridges, Council Members Perry Barton, Edward Jackson, Dwight McCormic, Hattie Thrasher and Betty Lyle. Also in attendance was City Administrator, Michelle Irizarry, City Clerk, Mai Chang, City Attorney, Thomas Mitchell, Public Works Director, Sam Powell. Media was represented by the Barrow Journal.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A. Council Meeting, February 20, 2018**

Betty Lyle made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2018 Council meeting as written. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous.

**B. Special Called Meeting, March 2, 2018**

Perry Barton made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Called meeting of March 2, 2018 as written. Edward Jackson seconded the motion, unanimous.

**3. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Probation Services Contract Addendum**

City Attorney, Thomas Mitchell explained the addendum included a termination language in the contract that allowed the contract to terminate 30 days.

Perry Barton made motion to approve the addendum. Edward Jackson seconded the motion, unanimous.

**B. Inspection Fee Increase**

City Administrator explained the inspection fees as discussed at the Work Session was to increase the fee amount to \$55 to meet with the fee of the current contractor so that the City is not supplementing any funds.

Betty Lyle made motion to increase the inspection fee. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous.

**C. Bureau Veritas Contract**

City Administrator, Michelle Irizarry stated Mr. Chitwood is here to answer any questions arising from the scope of work from Bureau Veritas from the Work Session.

Perry Barton made motion to table until next month's work session. He liked to see a comparison between the existing contractor, this contractor and the hiring of an employee. Betty Lyle seconded the motion, unanimous.

**D. Edee's BBQ-Renovation of Rental Building**

Eddie stated there were some questions and concerns about the smoker in back so he brought some pictures to show Council about some details. He stated they don't want it to look tacky but to put it where the community will enjoy it when they come into town. He will make it child and dog friendly and also utilize the Gazebo area without causing any mess as a picnic area. They will police the area and have outdoor seating. Only employees have access to the front door of the business and no

damage will be done to the building front where the smoker is enclosed in. The smoker is on wheels to be rolled out to be cleaned and there will also be grease trap under the kitchen sink.

Eddie showed Mayor and Council a drawing of the building. He stated that if contractor had a full crew on the job, he's looking at 2 weeks after blue prints are done and maybe opening in May. He also asked when doing grand opening, he would like to bring in a couple of smokers for the event.

Thomas Mitchell suggested once the Health Dept. approves it, a motion can be made to authorize Mayor to sign off.

Edward Jackson made motion to authorize Mayor Bridges to sign off once approved by the Health Dept. to his discretion on what City is going to do. Hattie Thrasher seconded the motion, unanimous.

**E. Great American Clean Up- April 6-7, 2018**

City Administrator, Michelle Irizarry stated that Barrow County is doing the clean up on April 6-7, 2018.

Edward Jackson and Perry Barton agreed to go with Barrow County's clean up days. No motion needed.

**F. Abandonment of Lake and Dam in Oak Springs**

City Attorney, Thomas Mitchell explained that a spot on the plat on Oak Springs indicated the language may have been dedicated to the City. The covenants actually signed the open space to include the lake area. Due to questions, an ad was sent in for a sealed bid process and the winning bid is responsible. This also clears up title and address the covenants.

Perry Barton made motion to move forward. Edward Jackson seconded the motion, unanimous.

**4. CITIZENS CONCERN:**

**A. Tammy Crawley: Safety of City Streets (2022 Racheal Dr., Statham)**

Tammy stated she lived here one year and would like to discuss a few things as safety issues. She addressed street signs being too low and view of sign might be obstructed and they should be 7 ft. high. She stated that her husband almost ran a STOP sign because it was so low and covered up by cars parked on the side of the road and he couldn't see it.

She addressed some signs that she had measured that were below 7ft. 1) Hammond & Broad- 5'9", 2) Glen Jackson & Board- 6'5", 3) Board & Providence -6'7", 4) 8<sup>th</sup> & Broad- 6'8", 5) Railroad & 6<sup>th</sup> - 5'5", 6) Broad & 6<sup>th</sup> - 6'6". She stated that minimum is 7 ft. She also had concerns about the schools.

**B. Catherine Corkren: The City of Statham Tactics**

Catherine stated she is here to talk about tactics used by the City. She stated the definition for what "tactic" means. She gave out examples of tactics that were used. 1) Lie until you can't lie anymore, 2) Hey look over there, don't look over here, 3) Put on a pageant and 4) When all else fails, just attack. She gave an example of when Dwight McCormic asked the Mayor last year on how much money was going to be put on renovating the house next door and the Mayor's answer was \$100. She goes on with more examples like with the FY15 audit, 1999 Hillman Park accident and the Police Dept.

Mayor Bridges thanked her after she was done.

**C. Mary Williams:** Elections, 8<sup>th</sup> St. Traffic and Concerned

**Elections:** Mary stated she knows that City has been proposed with an amount of money it would take Barrow County to take over and she wanted to encourage the City to discuss it.

Mayor Bridges stated he agreed and it is what city is going to do anyway.

**8<sup>th</sup> St. Traffic:** Mary stated people are going fast coming off Hwy 316. She wants to see if a sidewalk can be put on 8<sup>th</sup> street due to the speed.

**Concerned Citizens:** Mary stated she was genuinely about Betty Lyle doing a lovely job on the Sunflower Festival. She watched what Betty Lyle and Perry Barton did and she stated that for anybody to say that they caused the death of a suicide or a loved one is as low as it can go. She can't believe they are leaders of the City.

**5. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

No executive session

**6. ADJOURN:**

There being no further business before the Council, Hattie Thrasher made a motion to adjourn. Dwight McCormic seconded the motion, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.