

AGENDA

EAST MOUNTAIN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
February 12, 2024
MONDAY 6:00 PM
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

***CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & ROLL CALL**

***PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Must sign in. 5 minute limit

***APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: January 8, 2023 Regular Session Minutes**

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discuss Extending Water-Mayor Marc Covington
2. Discuss Status on Water Pump Station-Mayor Marc Covington
3. (Police Tab) PD Operations-Chief Stephen Rathbun
4. Approve Handbook-Mayor Marc Covington
5. Adjournment-Go Into Closed Meeting-Mayor Marc Covington
6. Return to Open Meeting-Mayor Marc Covington
7. Adjournment

Witness My Hand and Official Seal
Of the City of East Mountain, Texas
On This 9th day of February, 2024

Lisa Stewart

Lisa Stewart, City Secretary

Posted the 9th day of February at 12:30 PM

THIS FACILITY IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE AND PARKING SPACES ARE AVAILABLE.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY OFFICE AT 903-297-6041.

The City Council of the City of East Mountain reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters above, with respect to and as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.074 (Personnel Matters) and 551.087 (Negotiations).

CITY OF EAST MOUNTAIN
CITY COUNCIL-REGULAR SESSION
February 12, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Marc Covington. The invocation was given by Mr. Eugene Brown. All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Those Council Members present were: Mr. Danny Medlin, Mr. Eugene Brown and Mr. Richard Lattier, and Mr. Billy Morrow

Open Discussion: Kristi Diviny approached the Mayor with questions on a citation she received..She mentioned that she was told by the Judge that she would need to talk to the Mayor about her citation since she did not agree with it. She requested that she see the radar, which Chief let her know that it was not removeable from his truck. He can get a copy of dash cam. The Mayor let her know that he would talk to the Judge and see what she says and also look at the dash cam and would get back in touch with her.

Anthony Depaepe also approached the council. Anthony handed out a stack of calls that he got from Upshur County where Chief had gone on out of city limits. Ask if the city was getting reimbursed when he is outside city limits (Big Sandy, Diana, Glenwood)Richard ask what prompted him to take a look at these and Anthony replied with citizens have been asking questions Stormie ask to reply. She let council know that she had talked to the employees of the store on corner of 1844 and 300, they feel like the officer is targeting their customers.. Also, ask how Chief is able to sit at Hwy 300 and do calls with it being out of city limits.

One resident mentioned that they had called due to loud music and when he arrived he just sat out in his truck and never did anything, then drove off.

Billy ask if Stormie was talking about the store on 300 and 1844. Stormie replied yes. People just feel like they are being targeted.

Gerald, turkey Rd has a lot of speeding. There are several children and older people walking. He is ask that they need help with the speeders. He mentioned that he had not seen police in area at all.

Richard ask Chief if he has written any tickets in the area. He mentioned no, they notice his white truck.

Chief mentioned that there are not only speeders, but people intoxicated on the road. Stormie ask for the reports of this and Chief refused, saying he had nothing else to say about it.

Chief said that he would increase patrol and would get reserve officer to help.

Stormie, questioned about the story time, that she thought the story time is border line illegal.

Mayor checked on the story time.

Paul Barber, ask about the map of city. He questioned the budget for the police department. He let everyone know that he has nothing about Stephen, only ask questions.

He mentioned he does not understand the 24/7 on call. Chief replied that if he gets a call for the city he needs to leave and go there. The small stuff Upshur County will take care of it.

Mayor let everyone know that it is in the City By Laws and they have to have an officer . Kristi ask if by laws could be changed and Mayor let her know that it isn't as easy to do. Citizens would have to get a petition started.

It was asked why city doesn't use Upshur County and not have a police officer here. The Mayor let everyone know that Sheriff Webb had come to talk to the city at one time about using the county. With using them it would cost the city around \$100,000 a year. It would not be just using them, they would have to be paid.

Paul approached the council once again and let them know that Trendsetters has a lot of speeders.

Billy Morrow, mentioned that if there is a problem then it needs to be brought to our attention so that we can look into it.

Terry Carter approached the council with questions . He mentioned that he can't understand why things have gotten the way they are. Mayor let him know that they are working on getting it taken care of. The Mayor mentioned that any information that citizens want to bring to council he welcomes it, will then take care of it as they can.

A resident mention about a lot of traffic going in and out all different hours of the night. Knowing that something is going on and needs to be checked. It had been taken care of at one time and they are back. The Chief and Sherriff need to work together again to get this taken care of.

Mayor let everyone know that the information given was appreciated.

Approval of the Previous Minutes:

Mr. Eugene Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2023 for Regular Session Meetings and Mr. Danny Medlin seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Agenda Item One: Discuss Extending Water-Mayor Marc Covington

Looking into extending the water. Christian Heritage School has ask to extend water to them. TCEQ are on them about getting better water. Mayor asking if we would agree to extend to them. Mayor said it could potentially add about 40 more customers. Christian Heritage has offered to help pay to get water to them. Mayor mentioned that this would benefit the city.

Agenda Item Two: Discuss Status on Water Pump Station-Mayor Marc Covington

Longview has signed off and now it has been presented to TCEQ and reviewing it at this time. Will take 12-18 months for the project to get better water

Agenda Item Three: PD Operations-Chief Stephen Rathbun

Chief went over the Racial Profile and went over his reports for the month

Agenda Item Four: Approve New Handbook-Mayor Marc Covington

Eugene Brown made motion to approve new handbook and Billy Morrow seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Agenda Item Five: Adjourn for closed meeting-Mayor Marc Covington

Danny Medlin made motion to adjourn and Eugene Brown second. Vote was unanimous. Adjourned at 7:15pm.

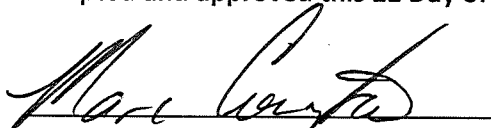
Agenda Item Six: Return to Open Meeting: Mayor Marc Covington

Returned to open meeting at 9:36pm. Recalled approved by Billy Morrow and Danny Medlin second. Vote was unanimous. No Decisions.

Agenda Item Sevn: Adjournment

Mr. Eugene Brown made motion to adjourn and Mr. Billy Morrow second. The vote was unanimous. Adjourned at 9:40pm

Accepted and approved this 11 Day of March, 2024



Mayor Marc Covington

Attested:



City Secretary, Lisa Stewart