



*The City of Bruceville-Eddy Rising into the Future*

143 Wilcox Drive  
Eddy, Texas 76524

[www.bruceville-eddy.org](http://www.bruceville-eddy.org)

Phone: (254) 859-5964  
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Minutes of the **Special Called Meeting** of the governing body of the City of Bruceville-Eddy that was held on the 20th day of June, 2019 at 6:30 PM at City Hall Council Chambers, located at 143 A Wilcox Drive, Eddy, Texas.

Call to Order. Mayor Connally Bass called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. In attendance:

**Councilmembers present:**

Mayor Connally Bass  
Mayor Pro-Tem Halbert Wilcox  
Gary Lucas  
Allen Trigg  
Linda Owens

**Councilmember absent:**

Jason Dean

**Employees present:**

Heather Spivey  
Chief Bill McLean  
Sgt. Scott Millsap  
Cpl. Juan Cardenas  
Gene Sprouse  
Pam Combs  
James Stewart

Citizens attendee sign-in sheet attached

**Item 1: Council to discuss, consider and possibly take action on resignation of police personnel.**

Mayor Bass introduced item 1 on the agenda. Stated that they would be considering the resignation of the Chief Bill McLean who has been on the force for 9 years. Mayor Bass stated that Chief McLean had done a wonderful job and that there were no issues between the City and the Chief, but that the Chief had decided to move on from police work. He asked if Chief McLean wished to come and speak to council before tendering his resignation.

Chief McLean stated that he had started with the Department as a patrolman and worked his way up to corporal, interim chief, and then chief for the last 8 years. He conveyed his love for the City and it's citizens, but that he and his wife felt it was time that he move on to something else and step aside.

Councilmember Linda Owens asked Chief McLean if there was anything they could do to get him to reconsider. Chief McLean stated that there was not. Ms. Owens stated that she knew that they had promised him that certain things would get done and not all of them did. Councilmember Gary Lucas asked Chief McLean if he had had a contract in the 9 years he had served. Chief McLean answered no. There was ongoing discussion between several members of council regarding the issue of the lack of contract for Chief McLean. Mayor Bass asked if Chief McLean had a written resignation. Chief McLean presented Mayor Bass and each of the councilmembers with a copy of his resignation. Mr. Lucas asked if not having a contract was a factor. Chief McLean stated there were multiple factors. Mayor Bass stated that the City's police force was lacking before Chief McLean took over as Chief and that he had worked hard to make it respected in the community.

Mr. Lucas asked Chief McLean if he had any recommendations for improvements for the next chief. Chief discussed the need to keep up with training and equipment and how it was necessary for the department to be

able to do their jobs and protect the community and the City without causing a liability for the City. Chief McLean discussed some of the dangers associated with the job and how training, equipment, and support are key. Mayor Bass asked Chief McLean to sign his resignation. Chief signed as requested. Mr. Lucas expressed his concern regarding the ability of the City to retain the improvements that have been made in the department and asked for Chief McLean's feedback on how any issues could be alleviated. Chief expressed that he believed communication is key. Mr. Lucas asked if communication was needed with just the council. Chief McLean stated that communication was needed across the board-with everybody. Mayor Bass stated that council needed to support the police department. Mayor Pro-Tem Halbert Wilcox stated that the council does support the police department, but there needs to be better communication between council and members of the community and the City showing their support. Ms. Owens and Mr. Lucas both expressed thoughts that they thought things that had been promised and been done and felt like they had failed the Department. Mr. Lucas wanted to know the reason why the City was losing a valuable employee. Chief McLean again stated that it was multiple factors. Mayor Bass stated that Chief would be paid the remainder of his sick leave, 120 hours of vacation, and other holiday comp time. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcox addressed the issues that had been brought up by Mr. Lucas and Ms. Owens regarding not following through on promised matters. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcox stated that all of this happened at the same time the City hired a new administrator. He stated that she is doing a wonderful job, but it has been a learning curve as there has been no help from the prior administrator. Chief expressed that knew how that was as he was in that same position 8 years ago when he was named interim chief. Mr. Lucas and Mayor Pro-Tem also brought up the point that the former City Attorney failed to follow through with some items he had been given as well and that was also a source of frustration.

The councilmembers stated that they and the community did not want to see him leave the police department. Mayor Bass asked Chief McLean if he would be willing to help the new chief. Chief McLean answered that he would. Mr. Lucas expressed his thanks on behalf of the school for helping the students. Councilmembers expressed their appreciation for the Chief's work with the City.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Halbert Wilcox moved to accept the resignation of Chief Bill McLean.**

**Councilmember Allen Trigg seconded the motion.**

**All in Favor-4 Against-0 Absent-1**

**Item 2: Council to discuss, consider and possibly take action on hiring new police chief.**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Halbert Wilcox made motion to move to executive session per Texas Government Code Section 551.074.**

**Councilmember Gary Lucas seconded the motion.**

**All in Favor-4 Against-0 Absent-1**

Mayor Bass recessed the meeting to executive session at 6:48 p.m. stressing to the citizens present that no action would be taken during executive session.

Mayor Bass reconvened the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

**Councilmember Linda Owens moved to advertise and take out applications for the hiring of a new chief of police and in the interim name Officer Juan Cardenas as the Interim Chief of Police for the department.**

**Councilmember Allen Trigg seconded the motion.**

**All in Favor-4 Against-0 Absent-1**



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**Item 3: Council to discuss, consider and possibly take action on an interlocal agreement with McLennan County for tree and brush removal along city roads.**

Mayor Bass explained that the agreement was with McLennan County to bring out their machine to trim the trees within the city right of way. He stated the agreement was for 50 hours of labor and equipment at the cost of \$45 per hour for a total of \$2,250.00. Gene Sprouse, Water Department Supervisor, was in the audience and stated he would answer any questions that the Council had regarding the agreement. Mr. Sprouse said he had spoke with a representative at the County and asked them to specifically begin the work on 1<sup>st</sup> Street once the agreement is approved by both the City Council and the County Commissioners. Mr. Lucas asked which streets would be part worked as their was not enough hours in the agreement for them to do all the streets. Mr. Sprouse stated that the Maintenance Supervisor Calvin Schaeper had given the County a list. Mr. Sprouse stated he could not remember exactly which streets were on that list but he believed there were 5 or 6. He stated he thought they were 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Bruce Street, Shady Shores, and Hungry Hill. Mr. Lucas asked if Tatum was on that list as the school bus had difficulty getting down that street due to the overhanging trees. Mr. Sprouse said that he could not remember if that street was on the list, but if there was time left after they finished with the list then they would move to other streets. Mayor Bass expressed concern that it would take more than 50 hours to complete the work. Mr. Sprouse stated that the City doesn't have the equipment to get the high overgrowth and that is why they discussed entering the interlocal agreement with the County. Mayor Pro-Tem Wilcox asked if they would be removing the brush after it was cut. Mr. Sprouse stated that the City crew would be responsible for following the County crew and removing the brush that was cut. Ms. Owens asked about the cost of renting the equipment. Mr. Sprouse stated that it would cost \$600.00 a day just to rent the lift and that did not include the cost of a chipper. Mr. Lucas said he thought we had a chipper. Mr. Sprouse said the we do and Calvin had worked on it so it is running. Mr. Lucas asked if he sharpened it. James Stewart who works for the maintenance department stated that it would cost more than the value of the chipper to tear it down to sharpen it. Several councilmembers discussed the cost of the agreement and made clear that it did not include the removal of the brush. Mr. Sprouse stated that most of the debris would be fine material from the shredder and they would pick up the larger limbs that fall off and put them in one of the City's burn piles. Mr. Lucas asked Mr. Sprouse what the plan was for the future. Mr. Sprouse stated he would like to find a boom truck so that the could reach the higher brush safely. Mayor Bass again stated concern that the 50 hours in the agreement would not be enough for the work that needed to be done. Mr. Sprouse stated that Justin from McLennan County Road and Bridge had his crew run the roads on the list that Calvin Schaeper gave them with the equipment they would be using and they could get those roads done in that amount of time.

**Councilmember Gary Lucas moved to proceed with the Interlocal Agreement with McLennan County for 50 hours of work at \$45 an hour for a total of \$2,250.00.**

**Councilmember Linda Owens seconded the motion.**

**All in Favor-4 Against-0 Absent-1**

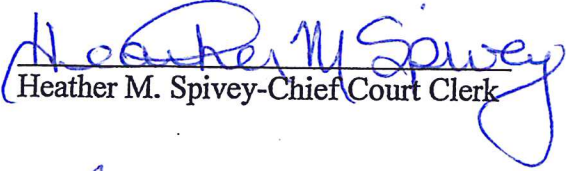
**Councilmember Allen Trigg moved to adjourn.**

**Linda Owens seconded the motion.**

**All in Favor-4 Against-0 Absent-1**

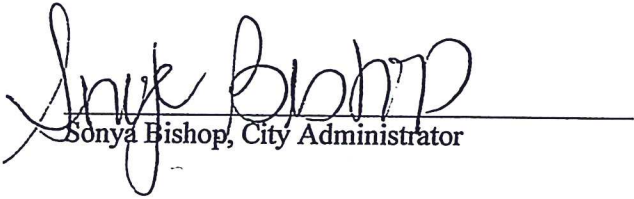
Mayor Bass adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Minutes completed by:

  
Heather M. Spivey-Chief Court Clerk

  
Mayor Connally Bass

Attest:

  
Sonya Bishop, City Administrator

seal

