

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS, HELD ON THE 7TH DAY OF APRIL, ~~1985~~, AT 11:30 A.M.

1986

On the 7th day of April, 1986, the City Commission of the City of Lufkin, Texas, convened in special meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall with the following members thereof, to-wit:

Pitser H. Garrison	Mayor
Percy Simond, Jr.	Commissioner, Ward No. 1
Pat Foley	Commissioner, Ward No. 4
Jack Gorden, Jr.	Commissioner, Ward No. 5
Louis Bronaugh	Commissioner, Ward No. 6
Harvey Westerholm	City Manager
Brian Boudreaux	Assistant City Manager
Robert Flournoy	City Attorney
Atha Stokes	City Secretary

being present,

Don Boyd	Commissioner, Ward 2
Lynn Malone	Commissioner, Ward 3

being absent when the following business was transacted:

1. Meeting was opened with prayer by City Manager Harvey Westerholm.
2. CANVASS OF ELECTION APRIL 5, 1986 - CITY OFFICERS ELECTION - RETURNS ACCEPTED AS CERTIFIED BY ELECTION JUDGES - OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED

Mayor Garrison stated that the City's Regular Election had been held on April 5, 1986, and announced that Election Judges forwarded all materials for review by members of Commission for official canvass. The following returns indicating results of the City Election were reviewed for election of Commissioner of Ward 1 and Commissioner of Ward 3.

Total Number of Votes Received

Commissioner, Ward 1

Percy Simond, Jr.	193
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Commissioner, Ward 3

Danny Roper	211
Lynn Malone	158

Mayor Garrison stated that the above election results had been reviewed and tabulated which indicated winners of the election to be:

Percy Simond, Commissioner Ward 1
Danny Roper, Commissioner Ward 3

Commissioner Pat Foley made a motion that the above listed results be made official as reported by Election Judges and Percy Simond be declared winner for position of Commissioner of Ward 1 for a three (3) year term to terminate in April of 1989, and that Danny Roper be declared winner for position of Commissioner of Ward 3 for a three (3) year term to terminate in April of 1989. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Louis Bronaugh. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

Oath of office was administered by Mayor Pitser Garrison. Mayor Garrison stated that he would like to formally and officially offer congratulations from himself and members of the Commission to Mr.

Simond and Mr. Roper for their successful elections. Mayor Garrison stated that he is sure that Mr. Simond has found from past experience that this is a very important position and that Mr. Roper recognizes the importance of the position by offering himself as a candidate. Mayor Garrison stated that Mr. Simond's and Mr. Roper's willingness to serve was appreciated.

Mayor Garrison stated that in his opinion the Commission should acknowledge the service of Mr. Malone as he passes from the Commission and it would be important for the Commission to offer thanks for his service on the Commission and for his contributions to City government. Mayor Garrison stated that it would be appropriate for the Commission to present Mr. Malone with a Certificate or plaque that evidences his service on the Commission.

Motion was made by Commissioner Jack Gorden and seconded by Commissioner Pat Foley that Resolution be presented to Lynn Malone expressing thanks and appreciation to him and the Commissioner's pleasure in working with him on the Commission. A unanimous affirmative vote was recorded.

Mayor Garrison requested Commissioner Percy Simond to make any comments he would like to make as he enters his third term of office.

Commissioner Simond stated that he did appreciate the privilege of serving on the City Commission, and he felt that he had a good rapport with the Mayor and Commissioners even though they did not always agree with each other all the time.

Commissioner Simond stated that he hoped his comments wouldn't be considered negative, but in his opinion, something needs to be done about the archaic method of voting in the City. Commissioner Simond stated that in Ward 1 people vote in one place for the School election and another place for the City election. Commissioner Simond stated that if the various elections are held on the same day, they should be in the same place. Commissioner Simond stated that it was discouraging for voters to have to vote in two or three different places.

Commissioner Simond stated that, in his opinion, a committee from the Commission should ask for a meeting with the School Board and see if they can work something out where people can vote at one place and he would suggest the Civic Center.

Commissioner Simond stated that there had been some confusion at the Civic Center Annex this year as the voting area had been moved to another room in the building and people were wandering around trying to find where they were supposed to vote.

Commissioner Simond stated that he noticed that the keys to the voting cans were in plain sight and, in his opinion, the keys to the ballot boxes should be held at City Hall and the City Secretary should be the only one to have the keys. Mayor Garrison stated that the Election Judge is in charge of the keys. Mayor Garrison stated that the number of votes tabulated have to correspond with the voters poll list where they sign the poll list.

Mayor Garrison stated that, in his opinion, the place for voting has to do with the State law, and that the voters for a City election have to vote in their own ward.

Commissioner Simond stated that, in his opinion, each city district should have a voting place in conjunction with their school and it should be as convenient as possible for people to vote.

Commissioner Bronaugh stated two years ago when he ran for office, there were three elections going on at the same time, the City election, the school election, and the College Board of Trustees election and for an individual to vote he had to go to three different places. Commissioner Bronaugh stated that this kind of situation is certainly discouraging to get people to come out and vote.

Mayor Garrison stated that he would request that the City Manager find out what is required to have city and school voting at the same place and if it takes a legislative action.

Mayor Garrison stated that Danny Roper is just beginning his term of office and is not without some knowledge of the operation of City government and requested that the Commission would welcome any comments he would like to make.

Mr. Roper stated that he would like to express that he was very much looking forward to serving on the Commission, and he pledged to each member a willingness to understand any positions that each member might take or differences that the Commissioners might have. Mr. Roper stated that he agreed with Commissioner Simond in that the members can disagree without being disagreeable. Mr. Roper stated that he looked forward to working with each member of the Commission.

Commissioner Jack Gorden stated that he was out of town the day of the election and, in his opinion, the media did not do a very good job of covering the election. Commissioner Gorden stated in the future he would like to see the City contact the news media and give them the election results. Commissioner Gorden stated that Commissioner Simond was right when he stated that there is not enough public interest in the elections and perhaps better media coverage could help the situation.

City Secretary Atha Stokes stated that KTRE had been called and a recorded message stated that the stations hours were from 8 to 5 Monday through Friday.

Commissioner Pat Foley stated that he would like to congratulate Commissioner Simond and Mr. Roper and looks forward to working with them.

Commissioner Bronaugh stated that he would like to congratulate Mr. Simond on getting 193 people to vote with no contest and that 369 votes in Ward 3 was a better turn out than last election.

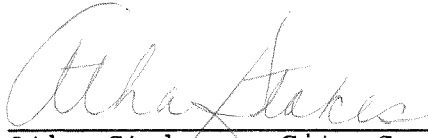
Mayor Garrison stated that he hoped that there was beginning to be more awareness of the importance of City government.

City Manager Westerholm stated that lunch would be served immediately at the conclusion of the meeting.

3. There being no futher business for consideration, meeting adjourned at 12:05 P.M.


Pitser H. Garrison - Mayor

ATTEST:


Atha Stokes - City Secretary