



Happy Retirement! Coke County employee, Lorrie Martin, was honored with a retirement reception on Monday, November 8, 2021, at the Coke County Courthouse in Robert Lee. Martin has served Coke County for 23 years as administrative assistant to three County Judges. She has worked for three years with current County Judge Hal Spain (above left); former County Judge Roy Blair for 16 years; and former County Judge Jackie Walker (not pictured) for four years.

...Bronte City Council minutes

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The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

The Bronte Volunteer Fire Department would like to use a tank truck to fill up citizens pools by BVFD volunteers. TMLRIP responded that there would be no coverage for the volunteer firefighters because they are not acting in the course and scope of work. The council discussed the liability insurance and Gwen Dyess made the motion to deny the fire department's volunteers filling up citizens pools. She was seconded by RA Morris and the motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

It was considered authorizing the City Secretary to close the Bronte Pipeline checking account and move the funds to the water debt fund savings account. Zach Davidson made the motion to approve the City Secretary to close the Bronte Pipeline checking account and to move the funds to the water debt fund savings account. He was seconded by Clabe F. Webb and the motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

It was considered approving the City Secretary to advertise for a part-time labor position and set up a subcommittee to help with the interview process. Gwen Dyess made the motion to approve advertising for the position in the local newspaper and on social media. She was seconded by RA Morris and the motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

Consideration was given to approve the Robert Lee Rate Increase, effective December 1, 2021. Gwen Dyess made the motion to approve the increase per the Water Supply Contract, effective December 1, 2021. She was seconded by RA Morris and the motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

Gwen Dyess made the motion

to approve the proposed one cent per \$100 tax increase of \$3,384 for FY21-22 Tax Rate. She was seconded by Clabe F. Webb and the motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

Clabe F. Webb made the motion to approve the minutes from June 7, June 17, July 15, July 19, and August 2, 2021. He was seconded by Gwen Dyess and the motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

Clabe F. Webb made the motion to approve the March, April, and May 2021 financials and aging reports. He was seconded by Zach Davidson and the motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that sales tax revenue is still looking good. The road repairs around Stripes have been completed, along with the triangle between the restaurants. EDC 4A helped with the cost of this project. The old prison property was shown and could have a data



Well Attended Meeting! Many local citizens from both sides of Coke County were on hand Monday evening, November 15, in downtown Bronte for a special Town Hall, hosted by Bronte Economic Development. Ken Becker, Interim Director, SEED Municipal Development District in Sweetwater, was the first of the two guest speakers. He began his presentation with a series of rhetorical questions about Bronte. What do the residents think of Bronte? Do they want Bronte to grow or stay the same - remembering if a town isn't growing, it is dying? What is provided to potential businesses when they request information about Bronte? What are they learning about Bronte from its website and social media? He also discussed the necessity of caring for current and established businesses. Becker stressed that it is much easier to keep an established business than to recruit a new business to set up shop in the community. He was followed by the second guest speaker of the evening, Tara Mulanax. Mulanax is an attorney with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins, & Mott LLP. She focused on various options available to deal with dilapidated properties and/or properties with delinquent taxes. The first option explained was when a property had 5 years of delinquent taxes and had been abandoned at least one year. The properties that fit this category have a tax warrant issued and, following all due process, are seized and sold in a tax sale. She also discussed using code enforcement violations to hold a sub-standard structure hearing. Ms. Mulanax's firm is the company Coke County's local government entities use for delinquent taxes. She introduced audience members to Texas Communities Group. This organization assists entities with locating, determining the best way to obtain ownership of the distressed property, and the best way to get the property back on the tax roll. In addition to their mobile app to assist with property identification, TCG has code enforcement officers, realtors, and property management services under their corporate umbrella.

center business. They would need high speed internet. The City should be hearing back from USDA regarding the water plant. The census is now at 1049. USDA looks at medium household income and it might hurt the City but more information is to come from USDA.

Utility Director's Report

The backhoe is in San Angelo but is waiting on additional elements before delivering to the City. After this winter storm, TCEQ is implementing a prepare emergency preparedness plan that demonstrates the utility's ability to provide water per Senate Bill 3 that passed recently. There is a deadline of November 1 for

submitting contact information; March 2, 2022, to submit plan; and July 1, 2022, to implement the approved plan. The cost is not known but just know that the budget will need to be

amended next year. Road base will be obtained to put down in the cemetery with the help of the county to help spread the road base.

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HOLIDAY CLOSING NOTICE

Holiday Hours:
All facilities of this bank will close at 1:00 pm, Wednesday, November 24. All facilities of this bank will also be closed Thursday, November 25.

In Observance Of



Thanksgiving Day

Please plan your banking requirements during regular banking hours to avoid any inconvenience.

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Robert Lee, Texas