

The Robert Lee City Council met in Regular Session on December 11, 2017, Mayor Leroy Casey, presided. Members Present: Roger Alexander, Janie Munoz, Shaunna Grantham. Members absent: None. There are 2 vacant positions currently, due to death and resignation. The meeting started at 6:04 P.M. with a quorum present. City staff present: Patricia Fields, temporary billing clerk. Sign in sheet on file.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation:

Open Forum: Brandi Brosh asked about the replacement of the Assyst, bookkeeping program. Her statement was that the program was a good program and assistance from the company was readily available with just a phone call. The IT people are able to log in to the computer and show whomever how to resolve the problem. It is a problem with the system then more education is needed not replacement at an added expense.

A. Consent Agenda: (Items 1-3)

Minutes of the meeting November 27, 2017, Monthly Code Enforcement Officers report, Monthly Animal Control Officers report. Council Member Alexander made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Munoz. Motion passed.

B. Regular Agenda:

4. Cancel the second council meeting in December. December 25, 2017.

Motion by Council Member Grantham, seconded by Council Member Munoz to cancel the second council meeting of December, that falls on Christmas Day. Motion passed.

5. Presentation by EMEX, results of the online auction.

The online auction was held at 3:00 P.M. today and the results were a possible savings of \$2,419.95 annually with the contract. Motion to enter in to a contract with EMEX beginning at the end of the current contract. Motion was made by Council Member Grantham and seconded by Council Member Munoz. Motion passed.

6. Adopt revised and up dated Personnel Policy.

Motion to table made by Council Member Alexander and seconded by Council Member Munoz. Due to not enough time read policy. Motion passed.

7. New payroll schedule starting January 2018.

Motion to table this item until more information can be obtained made by Council Member Alexander and seconded by Council Member Munoz. Motion passed.

Original December 11, 2017 Minutes

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A. Consent Agenda: (Items 1-4)

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New December 11, 2017 Minutes



Time

by James M. Decker

“Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.” —Psalm 90:12

I’m taking a one-week detour from my series on vacant buildings. This topic has been on my mind and I felt compelled to share. It’s funny how the Good Lord’s timing works. As I was preparing a Sunday School lesson on Sunday morning, I stumbled into this verse from Psalms and some great wisdom on using our time wisely. Then, this week hit. It’s been just one of those weeks with too many things to do and not enough time to do them well. The to-do list has had too many tasks that were either unpleasant or necessary drudgery. Sometimes the schedule just lines up that way. Sometimes it’s our own fault for procrastinating those tasks. Sometimes it’s a little of both.

When the Bible speaks about managing our time, it does so from a holistic perspective on living our entire life well. It doesn’t tell us how to manage our time. Instead, it gives us some very simple principles. Put God first. Keep God at the forefront of all you do. Remember that we’re here on Earth for only a short time, so use that time well. In 1 Corinthians 10:31, Paul’s very familiar instruction to us is an excellent time management reminder: “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” This is not a magical secret to success like you hear from motivational speakers and authors trying to sell you their books and seminars, but it’s much more powerful.

We spend a lot of time in our life being “busy.” We are busy, we tell

others we’re busy, we ask them how busy they are. Americans glorify being busy as if it’s a good thing, because we see “busy” as a sign of success and prosperity. People ask how we’re doing, how work is, how the kids are. We say we are busy as if it is a badge of honor. But is it?

Let’s have some real talk. Have we asked ourselves *why* we’re busy? Are we busy (or boasting about being busy) to impress others? Are we busy because we are glorifying material success? Or maybe, do we sometimes use being busy as a disguise for laziness? We can be like the kid in school who is doodling on his paper, but when the teacher looks at him, he stares at the paper very intensely to fool the teacher into thinking he’s concentrating on his work. If I sit in the recliner and stare blankly ahead, that feels like I’m doing nothing. That seems lazy. But if I’m scrolling through social media or filling my time in some other “busy” way, then I’m totally doing something, right? I keep myself busy doing nothing, while pretending it’s actually something.

We make ourselves busy because our society encourages it. Glorifying being busy is a plague on American society. It wears us down and it is draining to our own mental health and self-worth. It is good to work and to work hard, particularly when you are pursuing your passions or improving the lives of people around you. It is not good to be busy for the wrong reasons or to be busy just for the sake of it.

Earlier in Psalms 90, the author (Moses) writes “A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by” In the grand scheme of God’s creation, our individual days are but a speck of time. Our lives are short and pass by quickly. Let us make sure we use them, every day, for the right reasons, to glorify the right things.

James Decker is a lawyer, farmer, and mayor in Stamford, and the creator of the forthcoming “West of 98” podcast and website. He may be contacted through Facebook at facebook.com/james.decker.

Ballot set for March 2018 Primary Election

With the end of the filing period for the March 6, 2018, primary election on December 11, 2017, the ballot is now set. Local candidates only filed for the Republican Primary. No local candidates filed to run as a Democrat.

Offices up for election include County Judge, currently held by Roy Blair; County Treasurer, currently held by Hal Spain; Justice of the Peace, currently held by Jackie Walker; County/District Clerk, currently held by Mary Grim; Commissioner Precincts 2, currently held by Paul Williams; and Commissioner Precinct 4, currently held by Joe Sefcik.

Below are the candidates that have filed for a place on the ballot. Hal Spain, current County Treasurer and former owner/publisher of The Observer/Enterprise, has filed for County Judge and will be joined on the ballot by Sherry Davidson. Therese Emert has filed for County Treasurer. Emert is a retired Verizon Sourcing Manager. Russell Johnson filed for Justice of the Peace, as well as incumbent Jackie Walker. Johnson is currently serving as a deputy with the Coke County Sheriff’s Office. Monica Reyes has filed for County/District Clerk. Reyes is currently a deputy in the Clerk’s Office. Three men have filed for Commissioner Precinct 2, Henry Chisholm, Robert Feil, and incumbent Paul Williams. Chisholm is a retired law enforcement officer and Feil previously served as Commissioner Precinct 2 in years past. Joe Sefcik has filed

for re-election as Commissioner Precinct 4.

Commissioners Court meeting held

The Coke County Commissioners Court met in special session on December 27, 2017, at 9 am at the courthouse in Robert Lee. Those in attendance included County Judge Roy Blair, Commissioner Precinct 2 Paul Williams, Commissioner Precinct 3 Marshall Millican, Commissioner Precinct 4 Joe Sefcik, and Deputy Clerk Monica Reyes.

The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag and prayer was offered by Judge Blair.

Judge Blair announced the presence of a quorum. Commissioner Robertson was absent.

The burn ban is currently off at this time. Commissioner Sefcik moved to approve the minutes. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Millican, carried.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the payroll. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Millican. The motion carried.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the purchase of the sand for the quoted price of \$765. Commissioner Sefcik seconded the motion. Commissioner Millican abstained. The motion carried.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the amended health insurance. Commissioner Sefcik seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve the amended budget for insurance. Commissioner Sefcik seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There is no private road work being done at this time.

Commissioner Millican moved to approve the payment of the bills. Commissioner Sefcik seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Judge Blair adjourned the meeting at 9:55 am.

RL City Council meeting minutes

The Robert Lee City Council met in regular session on December 11, 2017, with Mayor Leroy Casey presiding. Members present included Roger Alexander, Janie Munoz, and Shaunna Grantham. No members were absent. There are currently two vacation positions, due to death and resignation. Temporary Billing Clerk, Patricia Fields, was also present. The sign in sheet is on file.

The meeting began at 6:04 pm with a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the invocation was given.

Open Forum: Brandi Brosh asked about the replacement of the Assyst bookkeeping program. Her statement was that the program was a good program and assistance from the company was readily available with just a phone call. The IT people are able to log in to the computer and show whomever how to resolve the problem. It is a problem with the system then more education is needed, not replacement at an added expense.

Coke County Junior Livestock Show Schedule

Friday, January 19, 2018

All animals must be in place by 12 noon.
Official weigh in will begin at 1 pm.

Saturday, January 20, 2018

- Market Lamb Show - 8:30 am
- Market Goat Show - following completion of Lamb Show
- Lamb and Goat Pee-Wee Showmanship
- Rabbit Show
- Market Pig Show
- Pig Pee-Wee Showmanship
- Market Steer Show - following the completion of Market Pig Show
- Barbeque Lunch - 12:30 pm (or following completion of Steer Show)
- Premium Ribbon Sale - 3 pm

9th Annual Daddy Daughter Date Night “Blooming Beauties”

Saturday • January 27 • 5-8 pm

Robert Lee Methodist Church

Family Life Center

Grades Pre-k thru 6th

Advance Tickets purchased before

Wednesday, January 24

\$20/couple, \$5 for additional child

Tickets will be available at the door.

\$30/couple, \$5 for additional child

Tickets may be purchased at DJ’s Merle Norman in Robert Lee and Bronte Hardware Store.

Photos will be taken from 5 to 6 pm with the group picture at 6:15 pm.

For More Information, call or text

Katie Drennan at 473-0112 or

Erin Oleksiuk at 656-9884.