

**Minutes**  
**Flatonia City Council**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**May 13, 2003**

**Present:**

**Mayor**  
**Councilpersons**

Lori Berger  
Ken Freytag – Mayor Pro Tem  
Larry Branecky  
Carlene Carlock  
Steve Morrill

**City Staff**

Eric Tijerina  
Robert Wood – City Manager  
Melissa Brunner – City Secretary  
Leonard Cox – Police Chief  
Jack Pavlas – Utility Director  
Greg Robinson – Code Enforcement Officer  
Mike Hudson – Patrol Officer  
Mike Noak – Patrol Officer

**Opening Agenda:**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Berger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Invocation & Pledge**

Mayor Pro Tem Freytag led the invocation and Mayor Berger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Citizen's Participation**

Regina Lighteard spoke concerning the delinquent utility bill and CJ's Country Junction and the Dan Bowling residence and questioned if there were any other "special accounts". Tanya Elliot spoke concerning the delinquent utility bill at CJ's Country Junction and the Dan Bowling residence and spoke of filing a grievance with the public utility Commission as well as questioned whether it was considered "theft of service". Justice of the Peace Tommy Tipton assured the group that it was not considered theft of service if it was known that the electricity was being used. He further stated that the returned checks were another matter for the bankruptcy attorneys. George Bartos spoke concerning the "unfair practices by the City of Flatonia" and questioned who was aware of the delinquent status of the CJ's Country Junction and Dan Bowling residence utility bills. Kathy Koranek spoke on the "unfair practices by the City of Flatonia" and also questioned who was aware of the delinquent status of the CJ's Country Junction and Dan Bowling residence utility bills. Robert Mica presented a

petition to Council with 39 signatures on it stating "To the Mayor: City of Flatonia SWORN TO by our following signatures; we the following registered voters of the City of Flatonia, Texas, ask for the firing of the City Manager of Flatonia, Texas by the current city council of the City of Flatonia. And then, we ask for the resignation of the following city council members including: Carlene Carlock, Eric Tijerina, Steve Morrill and Kenneth Freytag. We city gross abuse of power possible corruption, mismanagement and poor judgement, by all the above. THIS WE DEMAND!!!". Chris Kubesch had signed up to speak but stated that his questions had been answered. Elizabeth Warren spoke concerning the delinquent status of the CJ's Country Junction and Dan Bowling residence utility bills. She stated that she understood that a mistake had been made, but that Mr. Wood needs to go. Warren further stated that she liked Mr. Wood as a person that he was an animal lover, but that he still needed to go. Baylen Fishbeck spoke also concerning the delinquent status of the CJ's Country Junction and Dan Bowling residence utility bills.

## **Reports**

### **Mayor's Activity Report**

Mayor Berger had nothing separate from the agenda to report.

### **Council members' Activity Report**

Eric Tijerina spoke thanking everyone in the City of Flatonia for their support during his tenure. He stated that he would have liked to stay on but personal and professional duties have called him and he will be starting law school in the fall.

Carlene Carlock expressed her frustration with the situation also and stated that mistakes are made by humans and that she'd like to meet with anyone who didn't make mistakes.

Steve Morrill asked that the council be made aware by the City Secretary at the regularly scheduled monthly meetings if any other utility accounts become delinquent, especially to this extent.

### **Police Chief's Report**

Police Chief Leonard Cox reported on the activity for the police department for the month of April 2003. Cox reported that we only had one reserve officer currently working

## **City Manager's Report**

for the City of Flatonia. Councilman Tijerina asked if we had or were planning on advertising for this position. Cox reported that we'd never before had the need to advertise.

City Manager Wood reported that the city had completed the wastewater project on the east side of town. The contractor hooked up 32 homes and two businesses and the city was able to hook up 6 homes and two businesses and is trying to get a couple of additional homes hooked up who currently do not have sewer service. He also informed the Council that he had received word that the city had been awarded another Texas Community Development Program grant in the amount of \$250,000. This grant is to be used to replace and upgrade water lines in the city. Wood further reported that there were two training sessions coming up and to let the city secretary know if they were interested in attending either session. Wood also reported that the city had received notice from the appraisal district that the appraised value for properties for the city has increased approximately 7%. City Engineer Gene Kruppa has completed the engineering portion of the USDA grant application and we should know something toward the end of the summer as to whether we have received it.

## **Planning and Zoning Commission**

No report was presented because there was no meeting held this month.

## **Consent Agenda**

Minutes of April 8, 2003 Regular Meeting  
April 2003 Financial Report

Carlene Carlock motioned to accept the consent agenda with the correction of and increase of \$12.00 per 2000 KWH used, not \$1.20 as reported last month. Steve Morrill seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **Deliberation Agenda**

- 5-1. Fayette County Precinct 3 Judge Tommy Tipton swore in Steve Morrill and Larry Branecky to their two-year terms.

- 5-2. Len Waska presented the Hotel Occupancy Report from the Flatonia Chamber of Commerce. Eric Tijerina motioned to accept the Hotel Occupancy Report from the Flatonia Chamber of Commerce. Steve Morrill seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.
- 5-3. City Manger Wood gave an update on the status of the Lynn-Ray Inc. bankruptcy and the Bowling personal bankruptcy. No action was taken on this item.
- 5-4. Eric Tijerina motioned to authorize the City Manager and the Chief of Police to apply for the tobacco compliance grant in the amount of \$8000 for local law enforcement agencies. Steve Morrill seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.
- 5-5. Eric Tijerina motioned to authorize the City Manager and Chief of Police to apply to have the Cops in Schools Program in the Flatonia ISD, contingent on the Flatonia ISD School Board agreeing to pay 50% in the fourth year. Carlene Carlock seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.
- 5-6. Carlene Carlock motioned to authorize the City Manager and Chief of Police to apply for the homeland security overtime grant in the amount of \$25,000. Steve Morrill seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion carried.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.**

**Signed**

Lori Berger  
Mayor

**Attest**

Melissa Brunner, TRMC  
City Secretary

Approved this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2003.