

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES AND FIRE DISTRICT OPTIONS IN OUTLYING AREAS (OUTSIDE TOMBALL CITY LIMITS AND CITY'S EXTRA-TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION), HELD BY TOMBALL CITY COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2004, AT 6:30 P.M., AT CITY HALL, 401 MARKET STREET, TOMBALL, TEXAS 77375

1.0 PUBLIC HEARING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:00 P.M. BY MAYOR HARRINGTON.
OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:

COUNCILMAN MARTIN
COUNCILMAN GATLIN
COUNCILMAN STOVALL
COUNCILMAN FORD
COUNCILMAN HOLLAND

OTHERS PRESENT:

CITY MANAGER – BEN GRIFFIN
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER – MARY COKER
CITY SECRETARY – DORIS SPEER
CHIEF OF POLICE – MICHAEL BLAKE
FINANCE DIRECTOR – SHERRIE MATTSON
ACTING FIRE CHIEF – ERIC HOFFMAN
HARRIS COUNTY FIRE MARSHALL – MICHAEL MONTGOMERY

INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED BY BEN GRIFFIN REGARDING COSTS FOR TOMBALL TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS. HE ASSURED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT, WHATEVER ACTION IS TAKEN BY THE CITY OF TOMBALL, MUTUAL AID CALLS WILL CONTINUE AND NO ONE WOULD BE LEFT WITHOUT FIRE PROTECTION.

RECOMMENDATION WAS MADE BY BEN GRIFFIN THAT THE CITY CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION WITHIN THE CORPORATE CITY LIMITS, WHICH WOULD NOT INCLUDE THE EXTRA-TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION AREA OR THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF HARRIS COUNTY, AND THAT THE CITY RENEW THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH HARRIS COUNTY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2004.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED:

LADY/BROWN ROAD	- OPPOSED TO CITY REDUCING SERVICE AREA
RALPH STERLE 23503 STEUBNER AIRLINE	- REQUESTING INFORMATION REGARDING CREATING AN ACTION COMMITTEE TO PURSUE AN ESD

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- BEN GRIFFIN
- MIKE MONTGOMERY, HARRIS COUNTY FIRE MARSHALL, WILL MEET WITH CONCERNED CITIZENS FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS CREATING AN ESD
- MIKE MEADOR
13311 LA FOUCHE COURT
(BOUDREAUX ESTATES)
- IN FAVOR OF EXTENDING CONTRACT WITH HARRIS COUNTY; COULD ESD CONTRACT WITH TOMBALL FOR FIRE PROTECTION?
- CLIFFORD PARKER
10715 HUFSMITH ROAD
(HUFSMITH)
- CAN ENTIRE AREA BE ONE ESD; IF SO, CAN SERVICE BE PROVIDED BY MORE THAN ONE FIRE DEPARTMENT. CAN SEPARATE ESDs BE SET UP?
- MIKE MONTGOMERY
FIRE MARSHALL
HARRIS COUNTY
- VARIOUS OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE. SINGLE ESD CAN CONTRACT WITH MULTIPLE FIRE DEPARTMENTS (SPRING, ROSEHILL, KLEIN, ETC.) INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY'S FIRE RATING WOULD BE THE SAME AS THE ESD FURNISHING FIRE PROTECTION
- JOE ZADIK
26015 BOURGAIN
(BOUDREAUX ESTATES)
- FIRE STATION WAS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED FOR BOUDREAUX ESTATES; WHAT HAPPENED TO IT?
- BEN GRIFFIN
- THE PROPOSAL FOR A FIRE STATION DIED DURING THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS
- MARY HARVEY
405 S. WALNUT
- OPPOSED TO CURTAILING FIRE PROTECTION AREA
- DAVID MARTIN
- THE ISO RATING OUTSIDE TOMBALL IS '2'; IF AN ESD CONTRACTS WITH CITY FOR FIRE PROTECTION, THE ISO WILL REMAIN A '2'.
ROSEHILL FD – ISO IS '9' TOWN CLASS
KLEIN FD – ISO IS '5' TOWN CLASS
SPRING FD – ISO IS '5' TOWN CLASS
- NORMAN WALKER
10530 HUFSMITH
- OUTLYING AREAS PAY SALES TAX AND BENEFIT CITY AND ITS CITIZENS

- H. G. HARRINGTON - CITY RESIDENTS PAY SALES TAX AND PROPERTY TAX; PROPERTY TAX IS USED TO SUPPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT, POLICE DEPARTMENT, ETC.
- MICHAEL GATLIN - IT IS HARRIS COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION TO COUNTY RESIDENTS; HARRIS COUNTY CHOOSES TO CONTRACT WITH CITY OF TOMBALL TO PROVIDE FIRE PROECTION. CITY IS SEEKING WAY TO PROVIDE FIRE PROTECTION OUTSIDE OF TOMBALL WITHOUT CREATING UNDUE BURDEN ON ITS CITIZENS
- DAVID MARTIN - ALL OTHER FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN THE AREA ARE SUPPORTED BY AN ESD TAX
- DEREK TOWNSEND - HAS CITY EXPLORED BILLING INSURANCE COMPANIES FOR FIRE PROTECTION? PROPERTY OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS NEEDS QUICK RESPONSE IN EMERGENCIES.
- BEN GRIFFIN - IF CITY BILLS INSURANCE COMPANIES, HOMEOWNERS RATE MAY GO UP, INSURANCE MAY BE CANCELED.
- LINDA ELLENA
STONEBRIDGE RANCH ESTATES - CURRENTLY, TOMBALL VFD ANSWERS WHEN THEY CALL; IF ESD IS FORMED, WILL TOMBALL STILL ANSWER?
- BEN GRIFFIN - YES, MUTUAL AID WILL CONTINUE
- MIKE MONTGOMERY - COUNTY RESIDENTS NEED TO:
- (A) PETITION COMMISSIONERS COURT FOR AN ELECTION
 - (B) HOLD ELECTION TO FORM ESD OR INCORPORATE INTO AN EXISTING ESD, OR
 - (C) VOLUNTARILY PAY A FEE TO CONTRACT FOR PROTECTION WITH FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THEIR CHOICE

CORBIN STERLE
607 MALONE

- NO WRITTEN AGREEMENT FOR MUTUAL AID EXISTS BETWEEN FIRE DEPARTMENTS. THE IDEA OF ESD WAS SHELVED IN 1997; WHY IS IT BACK NOW?

DIANE HOLLAND

- IDEA HAS BEEN CONSIDERED FOR YEARS, DURING BUDGET PLANNING. FINANCIAL PRESSURES HAVE NOW BROUGHT PROBLEM TO THE FOREFRONT. CITY OF TOMBALL IS WILLING TO ASSIST COUNTY RESIDENTS IN FORMING AN ESD.

JOHN MULREY
23703 INDIAN HILL CIRCLE
(POWDERMILL ESTATES)

- CURRENTLY COVERED BY ROSEHILL; IF THEY CONTRACT WITH TOMBALL FIRE DEPARTMENT, WILL ROSEHILL STILL RESPOND AS WELL?

MIKE MONTGOMERY

- YES, SERVICE SHOULD NOT BE NOTICEABLY DIFFERENT

DAVID MARTIN

- ESD BOUNDARIES CAN BE CHANGED BETWEEN NEIGHBORING ESDs.

MAYOR HARRINGTON ADJOURNED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:20 P.M.

(signed) Doris Speer
DORIS SPEER, TRMC
CITY SECRETARY

(signed) H. G. Harrington
H. G. HARRINGTON
MAYOR