

City of Blooming Grove
Council Minutes – Grant Workshop
July 1, 2024

The City Council of the City of Blooming Grove held a special grant workshop meeting on Monday July 1, 2024, at City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Ashley Mahone.

Members present were Mayor Ashley Mahone, Council Members Bill Carroll, Renee Watson, James Jones, Haley Ehly, Sarah Southard, and City Secretary Sharon Settlemyer.

Grant Workshop Minutes -

Mayor Mahone explained the details of each of the grants the city is working on.

Texas Water Development Board – Asset Management Program for Small Systems (AMPSS)
GIS mapping of wastewater. Especially looking at old sewer lines. Up to \$500,000 interest free loan; no match required, but 80 hours of volunteer staff time must be documented. Staff time can be meetings, computer work, etc. Ardurra is Engineer.

Haley Ehly asked about the volunteer hours on the AAMPS grant. Bill Carroll explained there had been a phone call with the engineers, and each manhole will have to be opened to see the type of sewer line, so the 80 hours will be no problem. Renee Watson asked if the timeline was for the length of the grant. Bill Carroll answered yes. Bill Carroll stated the pumps will have to be inventoried, which will also take time. The sewer was built in the 20's or 30's, so it is beyond its useful life. Renee Watson asked if the city is updating and repairing, as necessary. Bill Carroll stated in 2018 there was a grant that replaced a lot of clay pipes in the city.

Elevated Tank Rehab

Community Development Block Grant. Grantworks is the management company. They tell us what to do and when. STV is the engineering firm. Elevated tank not out of service during school hours. Plans to be reviewed and changes submitted. Drawings reviewed then submitted to TCEQ. Bidding will probably take place in winter 2024. Work won't start until 2025. \$500,000 grant; city matching funds \$10,000 (Improvement Fund-money is already there).

Bill Carroll stated the elevated tank rehab will take electronic bids and all the packets will be sent out electronically. Then the bids will be opened just like a regular bid opening on the computer. Renee Watson asked about the lead coating and how it is done. Bill Carroll stated there is a type of coating that is applied over the lead paint, then the tank will be shrouded and sandblasted. The sand will be tested for contamination, and all sand must be hauled off to an official site.

Navarro County Hazardous Mitigation Plan – North Central Texas Council of Governments
Started in November 2021 and is ongoing. To get grants, this had to be an action item. Stakeholders are the school and fire department. Final draft sent to FEMA. Once FEMA approves, then Council will need to approve.

Bill Carroll explained that WUI stands for Wildfire Urban Interface, which the city will need to implement around all facilities.

Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) – Hazard Mitigation

Generators for Water and Sewer System. Three generators, 80 KW each. This is critical, due to TCEQ requirements. Still waiting for FEMA to award a grant to the city.

Sharon explained that Congressman Jake Ellzey’s staff has not talked to him about the generator grant. They are still trying to get more information.

Resilient Community Planning

Grantworks is management company. This grant will update core maps, ordinances, building codes, and zoning. It will look at the future of city. Public Notices and meetings will have to be held. 2010 was the last year this was done. \$72,000; no matching funds from the city.

Bill Carroll retrieved the previous study book and explained that the maps are incorrect. Some of the streets show they are closed, and they are not, and some show they are open, and they are not. He started making changes but has not finished. The study looks at the future growth in the city.

Police Department Car

New and fully equipped police car.

Haley Ehly asked if the car was ready. Sharon stated that it is not. Nothing has been done for the radio, radar, camera or striping. Renee Watson stated that the council needs to light a fire under the Police Chief.

Haley Ehly made a motion and Sarah Southard seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Mayor Ashley Mahone

Attest:

City Secretary Sharon Settlemyer