



**CITY OF HEDWIG VILLAGE, TEXAS  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 10, 2020  
11:00 A.M. - 955 PINEY POINT ROAD**

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Muecke called the meeting to order at 11:16 a.m.

Present: Mayor Brian T. Muecke

Councilmember Dane Johnson  
Councilmember Susan Mathews  
Councilmember Shirley Rouse  
Councilmember Matt Woodruff

Kelly Johnson, City Admin./Secr.-Treas.  
David Gott, Police Chief  
Lisa Modisette, Assistant City Secretary

Absent: Councilmember Harry Folloder (arrived at 11:20 a.m.)

**2. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION on the City of Hedwig Village's Paving and Drainage Report.**

Mayor Muecke introduced Jeff Cannon, City Engineer with LJA Engineering, Inc (LJA). The City contracted with LJA Engineering, Inc. in 2016 to conduct an analysis on the drainage issues within the City. Mayor Muecke requested Jeff Cannon give an updated presentation to City Council for the benefit of the newer Councilmembers as well as to answer any questions.

Jeff Cannon stated the topography within the City encourages surface water to flow from west to east in Hedwig Village. He stated the Piney Point Faultline also affects the flow of water. The water flows into Soldier's Creek or into Hunters Branch. He stated not only does water fall in the City during a rain event, but water flows into the City from the west past Bunker Hill Road and from the north past Interstate-10.

Jeff Cannon gave an overview of the various drainage projects the City had completed over the years to minimize flooding and to direct the flow of water. The City completed a paving and drainage project in partnership with Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) in 1988. The East/West Mobility Project phases were completed in 2009, with funds received from METRO, to relieve the paving and drainage issues. Any work resulting from this current paving and drainage analysis will build on to the previous projects.

The analysis and computer modeling completed by LJA show that most of the surface water within Hedwig Village flows into Hunters Branch. HCFCD maps show water flowing into Soldier's Creek. City drainage projects cannot move water from one watershed into another watershed without costly mediation. LJA will present, with Council approval, the analysis to HCFCD to show the water flows into Hunters Branch, not Soldier's Creek.

Councilmembers asked several questions regarding water flowing toward the east; drainage pipe capacity citywide, specifically drainage pipe capacity and street flooding south of the high school, partnering with neighboring Villages, ongoing area construction, and lowering the streets. Two

areas discussed for further evaluation is the Dunbeath/Lochtyne areas and the Memorial Villages Estates.

Jeff Cannon stated the City worked toward an interlocal drainage agreement with the City of Bunker Hill Village, City of Houston, TIRZ 17, and HCFCD during the mid-2000s but was unable to complete the agreement. The agreement, if completed, would have improved conditions on the west side of the City. In regard to pipe capacity, he stated the water would flow over land if the drainage pipes are at capacity. He stated the updated analysis includes the current construction along I-10 near Bunker Hill Road. He stated the area south of the high school is probably a low spot where ponding occurs. He stated Soldier's Creek would improve water flow if it were properly maintained.

Councilmember Johnson asked if the current drainage system could handle additional water from any new system put in place based on this analysis.

Jeff Cannon stated the current drainage system was designed to accommodate water from the west side of the City.

Councilmember Woodruff asked for assurance that any drainage work completed for this project would not adversely affect anyone's property.

Jeff Cannon stated state law prohibits adversely affecting neighboring property when doing drainage construction. A person or entity cannot move water from their property onto a neighboring property.

Jeff Cannon recommends LJA conduct a detailed survey to determine any low spots in the City and corrective action for those low spots.

Jeff Cannon stated the next steps for LJA include the City approving the analysis and report, presenting the report to HCFCD for review and approval, enter into an agreement with the City for the preliminary design and a cost estimate, final design and specifications, and construction of project.

Mayor and Councilmembers asked questions regarding right-of-way easements to alleviate water ponding in several areas of the City, the scope of work for this analysis, and tying in any drainage work into the renovation work being done at the high school.

Jeff Cannon stated part of the possible scope of work for any upcoming agreement could include looking into getting the easements. He stated the current agreement consisted of an analysis from Echo Lane toward the west side of the City.

Jeff Cannon stated the HCFCD review and approval of the report could take approximately three months, the preliminary design could take approximately nine months, final design could take approximately nine months, and construction could start in 2022 with completion of the project in 2023.

Mayor Muecke asked if the cost estimate received by the City after the preliminary design would be accurate enough for the City to prosecute its financing process.

Jeff Cannon stated the cost estimate would be accurate to start the funding process but may change due to the cost of materials such as concrete and/or steel.

Gary Schenk, Hedwig Village resident and Vice President of the Memorial Villages Water Authority (MVWA) Board of Directors, stated the MVWA may be interested in sharing the construction cost of adding drainage on Magdalene. The MVWA has plans to upgrade their pipes in that area of the City.

Jeff Cannon stated a project manager would be assigned to the project to ensure minimal delay in the construction. He stated the specific details would be worked out during the design phase of the project but would include public meetings with the residents and traffic control to ensure ingress and egress.

Jeff Cannon stated Atlas 14 is a “rolling” average of rainfall for an area over a period of time to determine a baseline for a 10-year or 100-year rain event. Harris County is working with FEMA to possibly change the FEMA Flood Plain Maps based on the updated Atlas 14 data.

Councilmember Mathews asked if there was anything the City could be doing in the interim until the project gets started.

Jeff Cannon recommends maintaining the existing drainage pipes.

Ralph Kerr, resident on Duart Drive, thanked the City for the work to improve the west side drainage and urged the City to expedite the project.

Mayor Muecke stated Councilmembers can submit any additional questions for Jeff Cannon. He stated the City could retain LJA to develop the preliminary design. The City has funds available for the service. He stated the City needs an accurate estimate of construction costs in order to raise funds.

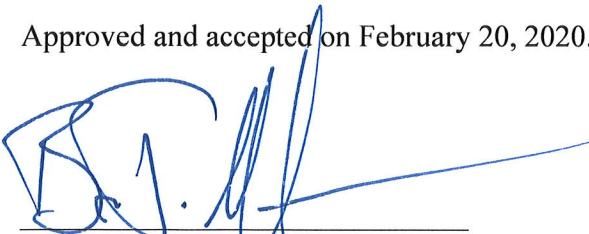
Jeff Cannon stated there are funds available in the form of grants.

### 3. ADJOURN


Motion was made by Councilmember Folloder and seconded by Councilmember Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 1:17 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Approved and accepted on February 20, 2020.

  
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Brian T. Muecke, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Lisa Modisette, Asst. City Secretary