

CITY COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 8, 2024

MINUTES OF THE PLUM GROVE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR OPEN MEETING HELD ON THE 8th DAY OF JANUARY 2024, AT THE PLUM GROVE CITY HALL, 9485 PLUM GROVE RD, CLEVELAND, TEXAS 77327, IN THE CITY OF PLUM GROVE, COUNTY OF LIBERTY, STATE OF TEXAS AT 7:00 PM.

The Council met in a REGULAR session with the following council members present.

CM denotes Council Member

AM denotes Audience Member

1. Call Meeting to Order at 7:00 P.M.
2. Roll Call

Present-

Mary Arrendell-Mayor
Deborah Bell-CM 1
Rodney Walker-CM 2
Danielle Enloe-CM 3
Lee Walker-CM 4

Melissa Pouncey-Secretary/Disaster Relief
Frank Longoria-Police Sgt/Security
Monica Palacios-Police/Security
Jillian Frazier-Court Administrator
Scott Francis-City Attorney

Absent-

Kevin Lee-CM5

3. Pledge of Allegiance-Mayor Arrendell
4. Invocation-Deborah Bell
5. Public Comments.

Diana Chunn-I would like to bring up again the petition that was given to this council prior to any decisions being made on John Joslin. During that meeting nobody looked at the petition or nobody read over it. I watched it and nothing was happening. We firmly believe that John Joslin's actions and inclusions on the Brady list make him an unfit and crucial position for our community. During his previous tenure his questionable decisions and lack of accountability have eroded trust between the law enforcement and the citizens. One significant reason we must prevent him from being the chief of police is due to the fact he is on a Brady letter. That means that Liberty County will have nothing to do with any cases that he touches. That means if someone hits you upside the head, they will toss the case if his name is anywhere on it. That means that you will get no action from Liberty County, and you can see that he continues to make these issues by listening to Channel 11 and looking at the Coffee City indictments he still continuing to make bad choices. The Brady list identifies officers whose credibility is called into question due to incidents of untruthfulness,

criminal conviction and incidents affecting their honesty yet he still continues. Liberty county refuses to take any action. So, we need to pay attention to this, he does not need to be our chief of police. You also have this on the agenda to remove me from running the website. I have graciously done this at no cost to the city because we did not have it in the budget, and we still do not have it in the budget to hire IT staff. That will be up to the council. You really need to start looking at how you are going to pay for things. John Joslin, it is not in the budget to pay that salary there is no way to pay it. You guys need to think this over very heavily while they are doing this investigation.

Stephen Missick-Hello I am Dr. Stephen Andrew Missick. I am running for Texas State legislative against Ernest Bailes. I want everyone to know that I am a local and I pastored a church in Cleveland on 1725. I used to live in Tarkington and on Plum Grove Road years ago. I am very concerned with Colony Ridge and how it is adversely affecting this community. Ernest Bailes, he created certain protections for Colony Ridge through House Bill 4341. I think its poor trust to put the needs of the citizens of our community of Liberty County before the needs and desires of greedy land developers. I am very concerned with the exploitation of illegal aliens they are human beings. This is of course just my opinion, but the Department of Justice is looking into this issue and there is more investigations out there and they need accountability. The drainage system just look at Bob Rehak's are indisputable scientific facts it's just carnage environmental damage and destruction all the way down to Humble Kingwood area. How can we stand for this. We need someone who is going to stand for the people and defend our way of life. They attacked us saying the reason why you have problems with Colony Ridge is because we are racist. No, they are the ones doing racial exploitation John and Trey Harris toward our federal government. We care about people, but we need to defend our community we are good people here. There is nothing wrong with preserving our culture and way of life. It's really disgusting for them to cast their versions on people that just want to have security, prosperity and a good future. This is out of control and that is not a good future for anyone. March 5th is election day and let's hold Ernest Bailes accountable for the harm he has done to our communities. Vote him out of office and put someone in there that is going to stand up and fight for you. At least hold this man accountable to the law. We have codes and regulations that are just ignored, and we need to clean this mess up at least a little bit. Right now, as long as Ernest Bailes is in office none of this is going to happen. I want to tackle the issue. I live in this community, and I care about people. I have thirty years of military experience, I served 2 years in Iraq and 4 years on the border, so I know about that issue. I am a Christian pastor, I care about everyone in this community and make a better life for everybody ad create safety and freedom of opportunity for all the residents of House District 18. I wanted to talk to you and let you know who I am and let you know what your options are, and I think it's time for change and accountability and thank you for your time.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION: the council will go into executive session under Texas Government Code -Section 551.071, to consult with the city's attorneys regarding the following litigation matters:

ADJOURNED- 7:09 P.M.

- a. Pending or contemplated litigation concerning cause number CV2016249 - City of Plum Grove, Texas v. Colony Ridge Development, LLC, including impact of pending DOJ litigation and related matters.
- b. Pending or contemplated litigation concerning cause number CV2016249 - City of Plum Grove, Texas v. Quadvest, and related matters.

RECONVENED-7:27 P.M.

7. Motion to proceed forward with respect to the CV2016249 made by CM L. Walker, 2nd by CM Enloe, passed unopposed.
8. Motion to table flea market located at 123 CR 343, Cleveland, TX 77327 made by CM Bell, 2nd by CM L. Walker, passed unopposed.

Discussion- AM-We are trying to build a basically a little storage area that we are trying to sell that what we are trying to do. Mayor Arrendell-is this at the end of Bohannon. AM- corner of Bohannon. CM Bell- I have a question, what driveway are you going to use. Where is the entrance and the exit going to come out on Bohannon Road? AM- We are trying to build a driveway that faces 1010. CM Bell- That causes a problem for trafficking exiting 1010 onto Bohannon Road. That is not going to work that is asking for wrecks and trouble. Mayor Arrendell- Don't we have an ordinance for no flea markets? CM L. Walker-Are there any plans that have been submitted. AM- How do we submit the plans? Mayor Arrendell- Missy. Secretary Pouncey-You need to give me a drawing of what you want to do and then I submit it to Bureau Veritas. You can draw it out, but you need to tell what materials and the dimensions the building will be. I need an elevation certificate for that property. You have to go 2 foot above your BFE that is the Base Flood Elevation. CM Bell- It does flood there. The roads flood going in and coming out. Mayor Arrendell- You need to come in and get a copy of the ordinance. Then we need to bring this back to the council. AM- When can I bring this in. Secretary Pouncey- I will be here tomorrow 9-4. CM Bell-Are you going to have animals or livestock? AM- No CM Bell-It floods like a lake is back there and comes on to the road. CM L. Walker-The building codes are pretty thick so we might need to review that. CM Bell-The ditch does not drain properly. Mayor Arrendell- The whole road does not drain properly. CM Bell- The whole road is a problem I've been here 20 plus years. Mayor Arrendell- Y'all want to table this?

9. Motion to table the removal of Diana Chunn from any administrative duties for the city made by CM L. Walker, 2nd by CM Enloe, passed unopposed.
10. Motion to table hiring IT to maintain city website made by Made by CM L. Walker, 2nd by CM Enloe, passed unopposed.
11. Motion to approve December 2023 Financial report made by CM Enloe, 2nd by CM R. Walker, passed unopposed.
12. Motion to table minutes for December 11, 2023, made by CM L. Walker. 2nd by CM R. Walker, passed unopposed.

Discussion- CM L. Waker-I will make a motion to approve this pending correction of one thing, correct me if I am wrong Mary. We were talking about, I think it is number ten the amount of money, and this does not discuss where former Chief Frazier walked up and told you goodbye and good luck and he gave you his keys, badge, and the top of his uniform. Pending that everything is correct. Brandon did hand you everything and walk out that day. Mayor Arrendell- Yes, he patted it and walked out the door. He did not say anything to me at all. CM L. Walker- Well that is quitting. When he said goodbye. Mayor Arrendell- He did not say goodbye, he did not say anything at all, he just patted his stuff. I took it more for safe keeping while he was being boggled. AM Sharron Reed- yes, he did say he quit. CM L. Walker- Well

I don't think he was boggled because at the door here when Joslin spoke to him, he said "Brandon nobody is wanting you to leave" he said "I am gone good luck". Mayor Arrendell- Yes, he left out of the door, but he never said he quit, and he still has not turned in a resignation to me. CM L. Walker- He was gone. If you go down to the reports, he was not here. He was not present to go over the police report. Mayor Arrendell- nope because he left because Sharron thought he left in a city police car, and I told her he left in his own vehicle. CM L. Walker- We all heard him say that he quit. We all seen him quit. CM R. Walker- Sounds like he quit to me. Mayor Arrendell- I will need to get with the Vindicator on that to see the video. CM L Walker- It does not matter what the Vindicator says, its what the council says. It only matters what the council heard. Danielle, what did you think? Mayor Arrendell-I understand that. But in my opinion y'all should have put him on the agenda prior. CM L. Walker- But he walked out, he quit, he told you goodbye. Mayor Arrendell- he did not say he quit to me. CM L. Walker- He said goodbye and he quit. Mayor Arrendell- he did not tell me goodbye. CM R. Walker-he turned his badge in. Mayor Arrendell-Yes, he did, and he patted it and walked out the door. He did not give me a resignation. CM R. Walker- he just wanted you to hold it? Mayor Arrendell- Yes, for safe keeping. CM L. Walker-No he quit Mary. Mayor Arrendell- He did not quit. AM Sharron Reed-may I speak now Mary? Mayor Arrendell- yes Ms. Reed you can speak. City Attorney Scott Francis- We need to change to public comments. CM L. Walker-It says right here the minutes, what did Brandon do? Did he quit where are his keys. Mary said yea he was in his own police car. Mayor Arrendell- Yes, he was in his own police car. AM Sharron Reed-I was here at the last meeting. Mayor Arrendell- Yes mam you were. AM Sharron Reed-He stood right there at your desk turned in his badge and said I quit. Mayor Arrendell- I did not hear him say I quit he patted. AM Sharron Reed-I heard it myself. Mayor Arrendell-ok, ok. AM Sharron Reed- I don't know what else to tell you but he did say that he quit. Mayor Arrendell-ok, ok. CM L. Walker-Its only going to come down to what the council heard Mary. Mayor Arrendell-Ok so how do you want to handle this situation? CM L. Walker-just short of changing her minutes everything just adding to the minutes that he handed I mean its not even in here it was pretty intense because he walked back in and he Mayor Arrendell-He did not walk back in. CM L. Walker- He did not hand it to you he slung at you. AM Sharron Reed- I was sitting right here he did. Mayor Arrendell- He did not sling it at me. City Attorney Scott Francis- We need to have only one person speaking at a time. There is no more than one speaker speaking at a time CM L. Walker-He slung his badge at you. So I am under the impression that he quit because of what he did. I asked people that were the well not to break the open meetings act. I asked two ex-council that were sitting here front row what did you see and both of them were under the opinion that he quit based on what he did. We can ask the council members at the table now not to break the open meetings act what do they think? Mayor Arrendell- Ok so let's move on with this. CM L. Walker- Just that that Brandon gave you the information he was on record you did hear him say it. Mayor Arrendell- No I did not, or I would agree with you if I had heard him. CM L. Walker- ok well I think we were all a little dismayed for the threats from the people in the crowd and we had the Emergency Management going back and forth wanting everyone to know that they quit, and they interrupted the meeting even though it wasn't their turn. Mayor Arrendell- That was after Brandon had left. CM L. Walker- I think that there was just a lot of electricity in the room for lack of a better word, but I was under the impression that he quit. Now we can ask the other council members I'm just telling Missy that her minutes are fine if she'll just go back to that point. Secretary Pouncey- So if I just add Brandon Frazier walked to the front of the room and laid his badge and Mayor Arrendell- And say that he quit? Secretary Pouncey- That's not going to be in any recording. CM L. Walker- A lot of things are not in recordings apparently by some of the minutes. He did quit, he quit in the door CM R. Walker- He turned his badge in. Mayor Arrendell- Yes, he turned his badge in CM L. Walker-and Joslin said don't just leave we can talk about you staying on at some capacity or something. Mayor Arrendell- I did not

hear all of that. CM L. Walker- it was right there, and he said no good luck and he turned and walked out the door. Mayor Arrendell- I did not hear that that is probably when I was talking to Sharron about the car situation. CM L. Walker- It was a lot of electricity in the room, and I was under the impression that he and my question has is he still working or is he still in the building. Mayor Arrendell- He is just sitting idle. He has not resigned. CM L. Walker- Well, I was under the impression that he quit that day and I am asking this council not to break the open meeting act what do you think. Mayor Arrendell- Ok so let's move forward. CM L. Walker- Can we put that in the minutes. Mayor Arrendell- ok so she wants CM L. Walker- just per that change we will approve the minutes. City attorney Scott Francis- they need to make a motion with specific language to add to the minutes. CM L. Walker- Chief Frazier approached the mayor and handed in his badge uniform and keys. He left the building and said goodbye and good luck and he did not stick around to discuss the police department with us. AM Bryanna Arrendell- So is this something that y'all can discuss with him. City Attorney Scott Francis- This is not public comment its still discussion did you sign up. Mayor Arrendell- she did. City Attorney Scott Francis- if her public comment was for this specific time. Bryanna Arrendell- Can't y'all just discuss this with him? Since there is so much electricity in the air when this meeting happened. There's a lot of discussion maybe y'all can figure out with him figure this out with him and that would stop some of the he said she said. CM L. Walker- Well there is no he said she said we were sitting here we are the council we saw it. There is no he said she said if the council member says that they saw it. Mayor Arrendell- ok we are going to move forward from this. City Attorney Scott Francis-There needs to be an action. The action is whether you approve the minutes or not approve. CM L. Walker- I make a motion that we approve the minutes based on that wording being added to the minutes because it seems like it has been omitted. City Attorney Scott Francis- The motion is if they will be approved as written. CM L. Walker- Yes if you add that one omitted part thing then we can approve it. If not, are we going to cancel the minutes again until the next meeting? City Attorney Scott Francis- I believe that if you want something added to the minutes then you would need to make a motion but that is not an agenda item. Language needs to be added to the agenda to do that. CM L. Walker- I make a motion that we table the minutes is that better? City Attorney Scott Francis-yes. CM R. Walker- I second that. City Attorney Scott Francis- Now we put it to vote.

13. Motion to remove Danielle Enloe from Checking Account No. XXXX-0710, XXXX-7302, XXXX-7272, and XXXX-6203 made by CM L. Walker, 2nd by CM R. Walker, passed unopposed.
14. Motion to approve adding Kevin Lee to Checking Account No. XXXX-0710, XXXX-7302, XXXX-7272, and XXXX-6203 made by CM Enloe, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.
15. Discussion on John Joslin employment and background investigation and related matters.

Discussion- Mayor Arrendell- Do y'all have anything that y'all would like to discuss? CM L. Walker- I prefer to table this until Kevin is here and at this time for this discussion. Considering everything that is going on. Until we have time, so I make a motion to table this on John Joslin employment. City Attorney Scott Francis- There are no motions. Mayor Arrendell-It is a discussion. CM L. Walker- I prefer we just wait. Mayor Arrendell-Ok I am going to speak on this. I have spent a lot of time trying to figure all of this out. In your packet you have emails from me to John Joslin pertaining to consent to release information and a personal history statement so his background check can begin. After the meeting on December the 6th or the 8th AM 11th Mayor

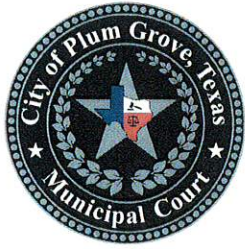
Arrendell- 11th I was told to give him Brandons keys and Brandons badge. I received another email from a council member telling me to do the same. According to TCOLE if I do that, I am breaking the law. TCOLE has requirements and you have copies of the requirements per appointment for someone to be hired. This all needs to be taken into consideration. With all of the new information that is out there to maybe have this on next month's agenda when Kevin is here. That maybe y'all can reconsider for the best interests of the city and our community. To think about maybe moving forward in a different direction. I am not going to do anything that will get. This was just a discussion and my opinion. Like I said I am not going to do anything to get myself into trouble or get the city in trouble because it is what comes first for me. CM L. Walker-well I mean Mary that sounds good. You broke the open meetings act with only three council members present at a special meeting. I mean we can't be self-righteous here. Mayor Arrendell- Are you talking about the one I came back and corrected? CM L. Walker-well you know you can rob a bank and give the money back. One of the things that I would like to ask is because I have not seen the TJ Vineyard email. This email I have not seen this email until today when I opened up this packet. One of the things that stands out to me would you consider this I sorry I don't remember your name. City Attorney Scott Francis-Scott. CM L. Walker- Scott I apologize. Would you consider this the TJ Vineyard email that was sent to David and Susan then forwarded to Mary. Would you consider that legal information, employee information or public information. When I asked about this email to Joslin in my conversation with him if he had seen this email, he told me no he had not. I said well that is odd to me because this will make the third email that shows it goes to Joslin or his attorney that has not been received. It says that it goes to his email address and then it was sent. I got a phone call back that said that no, the email had not been received. I found it odd that Mr. Vineyard wants to talk to us about coffee city. To be honest I don't care about coffee city it is 150 miles from here and there is enough corruption here in Liberty County. I don't want to worry about their county or their city. I noticed that the letter is addressed to the city of Plum Grove, and that TCOLE wants to talk about Coffee City. Again, I don't really care I don't have nothing to do with that nor does my city. Then we get down to the last paragraph and have you seen the letter sir? Attorney Scott Francis-I have seen the email. CM L. Walker- that last paragraph goes onto say he could be considered for civilian capacity. Well, you should know from that email right there that another department had hired him in that situation before and that other department was the city of Plum Grove. Ok and it was a unanimous decision with the charges that were pending on him at that time to hire him. Attorney Scott Francis-To hire him a civilian? CM L. Walker- and so it was a unanimous decision. Mayor Arrendell-an administrator yes. Attorney Scott Francis- and when was this? Mayor Arrendell-2020 AM Judy Carey- But he was hired as a Police Chief. CM L. Walker- As police chief. I am talking to him, Ms. Judy not you, thank you. When he talked about that he had done before that was with the City of Plum Grove and it was a unanimous vote that I did not have a vote on I was the mayor. Mayor Arrendell- She did appoint him. CM L. Walker- So, like what you said Mary lets. Mary, what did I tell you since I saw you last time what has happened? The department of justice has learned lots first in history predatory lending skills. The EPA has launched an investigation. Mayor Arrendell- This has nothing to do with John Joslin. CM L. Walker-There is going to be further

information I do believe that will come out in a month. So, I am with you, let's wait until Kevin is here and Joslin and his attorney have actually gotten the emails let's go over this again. Mayor Arrendell- I have been emailing him myself and I have not received a response. We can't do anything without his consent of release form and his personal history so we can move forward with his background, and this is per TCOLE. CM L. Walker- I agree I am not disagreeing. With the Brandon issue we are at maximum capacity right now who is our go to guy right now. Mayor Arrendell- You guys got this involved. That would be Brandon. CM L. Walker- That is something that we will need a special meeting on to discuss. I am with you we can wait until Kevin is here next month. Mayor Arrendell-I don't have all of the information for this.

16. Discussion on May 2024 election discussed the dates to sign up to run for Mayor, Position 2, and Position 4 for the May 4th election for the city. The council had the print out from the secretary of state.
17. Receive reports, discuss, and provide input on reports from City staff, including:
 - a. the Emergency Management Report, Resigned last meeting.
 - b. the Plum Grove Fire Department Report, not present.
 - c. the Plum Grove Police Department Report, chief not present.
 - d. the Plum Grove Municipal Court, report included.
 - e. GLO and AG Grant Updates,
 - f. FEMA Updates, and meeting Wednesday January 17th at 9 am at city hall to discuss possibilities to fix road closure.
 - g. Discussion of Local, County, and State Updates.

CM L. Walker- whoa, whoa, whoa, guys why do we not have the reports from the fire department. Mayor Arrendell- I don't know why. CM L. Walker- You are the mayor why did they not give you one. Did you ask for one? Mayor Arrendell- no I did not even think to ask them for one. I didn't even think about that until today. I am sure that they have one, but we will have to ask them for one. CM L. Walker- and the Plum Grove PD. That report should have on it that there was a highspeed chase and a 3-year-old was hospitalized because of a tailgate. We would like more information on that. We need to know about all of that there are multiple incidents now we had someone sent on care flight. These are multiple incidents. Now we have had a car totaled hitting a pole, a defendant tazed while in handcuffs but not arrested. Now we have an high speed chase over a taillight all the way to kingwood and caused multiple wrecks. Mayor Arrendell-Did our officer cause the wrecks? CM L. Walker- chasing him would be considered causing the wreck. well for a tailgate that Mayor Arrendell-isn't that what they are supposed. Attorney Scott Francis we need to keep a decorum and be respectful CM L. Walker- the taxpayers deserve to know the answers we will have a special meeting. Mayor Arrendell- Ok, Ok.

18. Motion to Adjourn @ 8:03 P.M. made by CM bell, 2nd by CM Walker, passed unopposed.



City of Plum Grove Municipal Court

PO Box 1358, Splendora, TX 77372

Phone: (281) 659-4300

January 2024 Update

Next court date is 01/22/24.

91 Cases paid on during the month of December.

127 Cases touched during the month of December.

Jillian Frazier
Court Administrator