

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 11, 2024

MINUTES OF THE PLUM GROVE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR OPEN MEETING HELD ON THE 11th DAY OF MARCH 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

Rodney Walker-CM 2

Lee Walker-CM 4

Kevin Lee-CM 5 Mayor Pro-Tem

Melissa Pouncey-Secretary/Disaster Relief

Jillian Frazier-Court Administrator

Frank Longoria-Police Sgt/Security

**Absent-**

Deborah Bell-CM 1

Danielle Enloe-CM 3

3. Pledge of Allegiance-Mayor Arrendell
4. Invocation-Jeremy Wright
5. Public Comments

**Maria Acevedo**-I just wanted to comment that there are other entities that are investigating what is going on here in Plum Grove. I was trying to get some feedback, I didn't want to pick up the phone and reach out to you guys but I wanted to know if you guys have been communicating with the EPA, Army Core of Engineering, the Department of Justice. I know you guys have a pending lawsuit and Michael reached out to me and he had said pretty much his attorney unfortunately has passed away, but I am trying to make sure that I connect everybody. We are trying to rectify and resolve what is going on with Colony Ridge, Plum Grove, and the consumer. So what Plum Grove is not realizing is that they need to go a lot further than the investigation on the drainage and the flooding. Today the property has not been de-annexed correctly. There are a lot of things that you guys are overlooking I don't want to wait until it's too late and we are in court in Washington DC or here Harris County but there are a lot more things that are pending. The property on how it was de-annexed, we never had a vote first of all and number two it was not de-annexed properly. I think that is a thing Plum Grove needs to look into because a lot of property would still belong to Plum Grove, the plats are not done correctly, and the surveys were not done correctly the metes and bounds. I say this from experience, thirty years as a land developer in Florida and the everglades working with the EPA on beach property. Then working here with the Army Core of Engineers when I say I come with thirty years of experience how do you think I exposed all of this because they stole my dirt. They should have never stole my dirt. Everybody thinks that this is personal they destroyed my life, they destroyed my marriage, they destroyed my credit. The only thing I have of value to date is my word and I gave my word in 2020 to Plum Grove and the people back there that I will expose it all. Why do you think Glen Beck showed up here, why do you think the Daily Wire showed up here because there is something. If there was nothing it wouldn't have gone this far. I will continue to expose it and I'm telling you guys to please look into it. There's a lot of property that still belongs to Plum Grove that was not de-annexed correctly you guys are overlooking

a lot. In all reality that property belongs to you guys. You need the paperwork I'll just reach out to the Attorney General and give it to you guys they have everything. That's all I have to say.

CM Lee Walker- I have a question? When you say de-annexed you meant the people that live in your community.

Maria Acevedo- When I say de-annexed, I mean whatever pertained to Plum Grove prior.

Secretary Pouncey- So the Valero and Family Dollar would be in our city limits.

Maria Acevedo- Yes, prior to the de-annexation.

CM Lee Walker- There was a 45-year agreement.

Maria Acevedo- It does not matter, fraud does not have a statute of limitations.

Secretary Pouncey- They should have voted?

Maria Acevedo- Yes, they should have voted. I don't care who owned the property, it was under an agricultural exemption which means he had no vote because he paid no taxes, he gets it prorated. So, when I say that plus he took his name off the property/entity in 2017 because he was awarded the MMD. So, he had no right to do all of the transactions he should never have done that. Also there's a lot of things that accumulate to the problem. So, before you create a monster you have to know how to destroy it, good thing is thirty years of land development with metes and bounds, I figured this out and that's why we are where we are today.

Mayor Arrendell- Thank you.

**Michell Ramsay**- Hello my name is Michell Ramsay, I grew up in this area from Casey Ridge. I just want to know that all of y'all are proud of Lee Ann and Maria for the jobs that they have done. To bring the corruption of what Colony Ridge has done to the community. I hope that y'all know Congress and the Department of Justice are very proud of y'all. Plum Grove and Colony Ridge are now household name in this area and that is hard to see.

Mayor Arrendell- Thank you.

6. Motion to approve February 2024 Financial Report made by CM L. Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM R. Walker, passed unopposed.
7. Motion to table minutes for February 12, 2024, CM L. Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Lee, passed unopposed. CM L. Walker-I would like to table this until Ms. Bell and Danielle are here to go over this because I was absent from the last meeting, and I am not sure what was said.
8. Motion to table a small tow yard storage facility located on CR 349 by CM Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM R. Walker passed unopposed.

**DISCUSSION**- Mayor Arrendell- Which one of you guys? CM L. Walker- Where is this? Secretary Pouncey- Riverside Plaza. CM Lee- I thought that it was shut down that tow yards cannot be so close

to a river or a creek. I think that the EPA or TCEQ needs to be involved in this. I am not trying to be a horse's butt, but I think we need to look further into this. Mayor Arrendell- This is up to you guys we can have a discussion. Secretary Pouncey-He is not as close to the river as Smith Towing. He is close to Orange Branch. CM Lee- Yes, that area is lower than Smith towing is. It would be under water before the one by the river. Mayor Arrendell- Would that be EPA or TCEQ or the River Authority thing Maria?

Maria Acevedo- Yes, he would need to contact both entities, especially with all of the investigations that are going on. This is because of all the sandpits in the area and flood plains and flood zones. Mayor Arrendell- Which causes a big concern not just a Harvey rain but an Imelda or just a couple of inches

of rain. It rises so quick you can't get here and move vehicles fast enough. CM L. Walker- How many vehicles would you store there at the facility? AM Jeff Johnson- My idea here was to have vehicles there less than 48 hours. It would be a small satellite office. So, it would be a small yard I have a primary yard on south end of the county. So, in full disclosure I need a lot on this north end. I have full intentions of privacy fencing the whole area with security cameras. It would be a satellite branch for my business.

Mayor Arrendell- I think this needs to be investigated a little further. What do y'all think? CM Lee- I'd

like to table this until next month so he can bring some more information to us. AM Jeff Johnson-Can I get some guidelines as to what you need and want? Secretary Pouncey- Have you looked into a elevation certificate? AM Jeff Johnson- I have one. I have it with me. CM L. Walker- That was my next question also. My question is in Liberty County allowed a RV park by the river bridge. I don't know I wasn't here. I can't imagine how quick they moved them out. Secretary Pouncey- They actually moved them pretty quick the wreckers showed up and was helping. AM Jeff Johnson- I can have all the vehicles moved in an hour. Mayor Arrendell- Ok so Kevin made a motion to table this until next month.

9. Motion to approve TXDOT Municipal Maintenance agreement made by CM Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM R. Walker, passed unopposed.

10. Motion to approve the 2020 financial audit made by CM L. Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Lee, passed unopposed.

**Discussion**-Mayor Arrendell-There are these two that are complete, and we have two more years to finish. Is that correct Missy? Secretary Pouncey- Yes. CM L. Walker-How much guys? Secretary Pouncey- I have already paid one bill for \$4,000.00, I am sure there will be more. CM L. Walker-Elections are horrible times and people say a lot of things that they do not know what they are talking about. During election time I had someone call me out for instituting a tax on the city of Plum Grove, but I did not have a vote I was the mayor it was the other 5 council that did, but I definitely was all for it. I was told the other day the tax has gone down how much missy from what to what? I was told we would reduce the taxes over time, and we have but the reason why Plum Grove had to have a tax is what you are looking at this right here to pay for audits. The reason why you have to have a audit is to qualify for disaster relief. Mayor Arrendell- Or grants. CM L. Walker- or grants am I right on that? Secretary Pouncey- Well if you don't pay taxes, you don't get a grant either. CM L. Walker-and so everybody thought we just thinking everyone was rich and that was not the deal it was to reduce the taxes over time. Nobody wants a tax, nobody wants to pay all of that, but in order to do that you get this. So how much was this, Missy? Secretary Pouncey- I have already paid one bill for \$4,000.00 and there will be more bills coming in. It has taken almost two years to get these two audits complete. So, we have two more years after these two that will make us current. Mayor Arrendell-we have two more years that are going. CM L. Walker- So at the time. Secretary Pouncey-The company will let us pay things out. CM L. Walker- At the time prior to the task we operated off of \$24,000.00 in our budget you can see just an audit alone took a big portion of that. So that is one of the main reasons this little fella right here is what gets road repairs and drainage. So glad to see this, Missy. Mayor Arrendell- OK y'all want to make a motion to approve the 2020? CM L. Walker- Since this is the first time that I have seen this, and I would like to table it for the special meeting. Secretary Pouncey- The GLO is waiting for the 2021 Audit tomorrow. CM L. Walker- guys I feel like I'm in congress and I have to pass a bill. Secretary Pouncey- They have been waiting on this for a year. CM L. Walker- well tell me all about it. Let's take a minute to talk about this. Tell me what this is. Secretary Pouncey- Basically that everything is within the budget. CM L. Walker- Everything looks good? Mayor Arrendell- Yes. Secretary Pouncey- Yes. CM L. Walker- So this would have been the first year with taxes? Mayor Arrendell- No that was 2019. CM L. Walker- so if we approve this then we are approving what I did. So, I want to take a really good look at this so if somebody says that I did something that I did not do on this audit. Mayor Arrendell- Well CM L. Walker-Missy when is our deadline on this with GLO? Secretary Pouncey- Last week. Mayor Arrendell- Yes, last week. Secretary Pouncey- I have been after the CPA for over a year now about this. CM L. Walker- guys I am here until Friday, can I have 3 days for that to look at this and read it. This is the first time I have seen this. Secretary Pouncey- I sent everything Friday afternoon. CM L. Walker- I am sorry I did not spend my weekend looking at this. I actually have work and family. So, this is the first time I had internet service and time to look at this. So, Mary it's up to you can we put this off until later this week. Secretary Pouncey- Can 4 people be here? Ms. Bell is gone on vacation until next Monday, it is Spring Break. They need 2021 by tomorrow. However, to get 2021 done they had to start with 2020 to move forward. CM L. Walker- Guys what do you think? Mayor Arrendell- Go ahead and take your time. CM L. Walker- Missy, was there FEMA Reimbursement in this one? Secretary Pouncey-

FEMA reimbursement for? I don't think that was until 2021. CM L. Walker- What about the fire department? What did we fix for them after Harvey? Secretary Pouncey- The driveway? CM L. Walker- Yes. Secretary Pouncey- That went pretty quick that might be in the 2019 Audit. CM L. Walker- Mary I make a motion pending that y'all haven't screwed anything up. Mayor Arrendell- We didn't do this the CPA did. AM Diana Chunn- That's a good one.

11. Motion to approve the 2021 financial audit made by CM L. Walker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Lee, passed unopposed. **Discussion-** CM L. Walker- How much money are we getting for these audits y'all talk to me about that? Secretary Pouncey-I think close to \$380,000.00 to start the Orange Branch cleanup project. CM L. Walker- Is this one all good? Are we red flagged for anything? Secretary Pouncey- No, there are some receipts missing. That would be the only problem is a lot of receipts missing from the previous court clerk, not Jill there a lot of receipts missing. CM L. Walker- Was that 2021? Secretary Pouncey- Yes, the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022. CM L. Walker- We know it was not you Jill. Secretary Pouncey- No, it was not Jill at all. There are receipts missing for some purchases, other than that, there are no issues. CM L. Walker- Do they understand that was the first time to start things up for court and nobody is perfect. Secretary Pouncey- Yes, they understand, I explained everything. CM L. Walker- so we are in 2021 there will only be two left? Secretary Pouncey- Yes, then another then another one in October.
12. Motion to table updating ordinance 1020 approving provisions regulating itinerant vendors, merchants or peddlers and mobile food trucks and restaurants in the city made by CM L. Walker. 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM Lee, passed unopposed. **Discussion-** Secretary Pouncey- The Ordinance is in the back of your binders. Mayor Arrendell- Let me finish. As Missy was explaining, we have a City of Cleveland Ordinance and application. CM L. Walker- I have a question here we already have a mobile vendor. What is wrong with it? We signed it when Stephanie Denman was secretary, I was the mayor, we signed it and put it into place. What is wrong with it? Mayor Arrendell- It needs amendments and pricing. If someone is violating it there are no fines for enforcement that need to be amended. So, say the first offense then the second offense there needs to be fines. If we set the fines, then our officers can enforce it. CM L. Walker- We need to put the fines inside the Ordinance? Mayor Arrendell- Yes. CM L. Walker- Well I have never made any ifs, ands, or buts about it as a developer. Every city that I have ever built in I am required to do everything perfectly to get my occupancy I have to have floors, drainage, sewage, lights, 3 sinks, hot water, the right type of way of getting rid of food so that stray dogs and rats don't show up. I am not a fan of food trucks. You want to be in this city, build a building. I say that in every city that I am in. I may not sit on every council that I am in but from someone who actually builds cities for a living it really irritates me to build a massive shopping center and for me need acres to bring in Chilis, On the Border, or Salt Grass and they pay their money. They pay for permits they come in and see Missy they pay all the money for permits and do everything right, Bureau Veritas inspects them and check off everything on the list and do things right. They pay property taxes and the people who pay property taxes are the people we appreciate. Not taco stands, not German food stands, not French roast none of the above. We can't track them; we can't even track what we have going on up here at the store and they don't listen. Mayor Arrendell- nope he is not. Secretary Pouncey- I send him an email every week. CM L. Walker- So I'm with you, let's put some fines on it I don't like it and it's not because I'm racist they say oh that's racist. No, it's not that I don't like pizza trucks either. So, I can't be racist about that I don't want a German food truck either. So, I am not picking on taco trucks. I don't like food trucks and I don't like the little park that they do in Cleveland. So that day everyone that pays property taxes and has to deal with inspectors coming in and saying oh a drain not right or I found slime in the ice machine or rats in here they are not doing that to the food truck people. They are undermining real business and commercial property in our city when we start allowing that. I said it in 2015 I ran on it and I'm saying it again in 2024 I don't like it of any sort. I don't like any temporary food. We have food inside the store. I would love to have an El Burrito at Karen Cox's old place. Mayor Arrendell- Someone bought that house and flipped it. CM L. Walker- I would love to have restaurants in buildings. As far as mobile food units then we get down to God rest his soul Kevin Kadlecek was gone 4 years ago last week and he could not stand to see a goat being butchered and put on a pit. He wanted to know where it came from. Remember if Kevin was here right now, he would tell you he does not want food trucks. Secretary

Pouncey- So we want to table this? CM L. Walker- So how do we set the fines Mary? Mayor Arrendell- That can be viewed on any point just depends on what you want to do. CM L. Walker- What has the attorney said? Mayor Arrendell- We have not involved her yet until you guys come up with what y'all want to do. Secretary Pouncey- We have to discuss it in the open so it's legal. Court Administrator Frazier- We need to call and see what the maximum amount is that can be charged. Mayor Arrendell- That's what I've been saying too. Also, on the original ordinance the time frame on how long the permit is good for. That needs to be amended also. I think it's good for a month or you can get one for 3 months. CM L. Walker- I am saying not any. I know we have 2 that our grandfathered in. Secretary Pouncey- No they moved the yellow bus up by Reed's meat locker. It is no longer grandfathered in. CM L. Walker- We do not need any of them in the city, we do not want them. This is not Tram Road, and this is not Tarkington. Secretary Pouncey- But we need to set some fines into place. CM L. Walker- Do you think that will help. Mayor Arrendell- We are going to have to that is the only way to shut this down. Secretary Pouncey- Yes, because I send an email every week to the store owner asking him to please help us find a peaceable solution and the food truck needs to come and get permits from us and nothing changes. CM L. Walker- You are being to nice Missy. We have come to a peaceful solution. Mayor Arrendell- No, she's doing her job how she is supposed to. CM L. Walker- Which officer would deal with this because for me it's a complete cluster. Mayor Arrendell- We have to have code enforcement and fines added to some of these Ordinances. CM L. Walker- This is also a traffic thing. I mean in any city any commercial business requires parking spots. He has just enough parking spaces for the store. He does not have any extra parking other than for what businesses are there. He is overcrowding the parking lot which can cause traffic back ups into the road. Mayor Arrendell- So what do you want to do on this? Do you want to say no or do you want to come back and reword it. Secretary Pouncey- You can't just do away with an ordinance. A resolution is easy to do away with an ordinance is not. CM L. Walker- Where is our ordinance. Secretary Pouncey- The one that is in your binder Ordinance 1020 is the one you and Stephanie signed. AM Maria Acevedo- Let me help you guys out, look into house bill 2127 it can apply to Ordinances, please have your attorney look into that. CM L. Walker- If we are going to do this guy here is all I ask. Not long ago I told everyone in Plum Grove we were all going to come back to this. Whatever we do let's just stand on it. If we are not going to have it then let's not have them. Secretary Pouncey- Look at all the stores around, not one of them have this in the parking lot. CM L. Walker- face it we are the synergy. With time we are going to break out and go crazy. We are going to have to set an example with them if we get another store we are going to have more vendors in their parking lot. Mayor Arrendell- We have been serving stop work orders to the vendors. Secretary Pouncey- Every single officer has served the vendors at the store stop work orders. Sergeant Longoria- We serve them, and they don't leave, it is the store owners' property. CM L. Walker- What do they say? Sergeant Longoria- They accept the order and that is it. Mayor Arrendell- That is why it falls back on the city. It is our responsibility to get some rules into place. Secretary Pouncey- Maybe look at what was from the city of Cleveland and maybe find some other cities to look at and bring that information to the attorney. CM L. Walker- Yes, I am watching this y'all. Mayor Arrendell- We are all watching it, that is why I keep putting this on the agenda. This needs to be addressed. CM L. Walker- We are friends with them it hurts their business every time they allow the BBQ trucks into Cleveland. It hurts their business, and she has to pay property taxes. Are we even collecting sales taxes from these guys? If not they are nothing more than a leach on our city. Mayor Arrendell- Missy, the one at Hazel and Bills old place. Secretary Pouncey- They are not really open anymore. Mayor Arrendell- But didn't they get approved? Secretary Pouncey- No, they did as they pleased. Mayor Arrendell- I thought they were. Secretary Pouncey- No they were approved for a fruit stand inside the downstairs portion of the house. CM L. Walker- It was just for produce. Secretary Pouncey- He had it set up really nice he had shelves. The taco stand was never approved. Mayor Arrendell- Ok so a motion to table CM L. Walker- with the intent of finding stricter rules. Secretary Pouncey- We can place it on the agenda for next month. CM L. Walker- Are we all on the same page with this? Secretary Pouncey- Everyone in the city is on the same page with this.

13. Motion to approve interlocal contract with DPS for the failure to appear and authorize the Court Administrator to sign the contract made by CM Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM R. Walker, passed unopposed.
14. Receive reports, discuss, and provide input on reports from City staff, including:
  - a. the Plum Grove Fire Department Report included.

- b. the Plum Grove Police Department Report.

**February 2024 updates**

CALLS 57

W- 21

**OFFENSE CASES**

ASSAULT WITH BODILY INJURY-1

THEFT- >\$750.00 < \$2500.00

RESISTING ARREST- 1

DWI- 3

ASSAULT WITH BODILY INJURY FAMILY MEMBER- 1

FAILURE TO STOP AND GIVE INFORMATION- 1

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT- 2

- c. Plum Grove Municipal Court report included.

- d. GLO and AG Grant Updates **Discussion-Secretary Pouncey-** Councilman Lee has meet with Manuel from LJA to go over some issues with the road before paving due to soft spots in various places. The traffic is coming off the pavement and then speeding up when hitting the gravel and if someone is turning onto 347 south. **CM Lee-** Yes, and they have been using a water truck to fix some of the obvious soft spots. The other question I have is the grant going by state specs? **Secretary Pouncey-** That is going to be a Manuel question. You can email him or call him. **CM Lee-** It is getting harder out there, but the soft spots will come back unless this is done correctly. **Mayor Arrendell-** Missy will you make a note to email Manuel to have him call Kevin or what is best time to call you Kevin. **CM Lee-** After 4 pm. **Mayor Arrendell-** That way you can have a more up to date on with the road. If he cannot answer your questions, then Missy, what was the supervisor's name? **Secretary Pouncey-** Vietnam. **Mayor Arrendell-** yes, or you can talk with Vietnam. **CM Lee-** They agreed something needs to be done. But I don't want them not fixing the issues. **Mayor Arrendell-** They're not. It's also supposed to rain this week. **CM Lee-**It seems to be drying out now, so even next winter when it starts to be wet again the soft spots are going to come back. Especially if they do not fix this right. **Mayor Arrendell-** That is why I called you to come meet with them. **Secretary Pouncey-** For the AG grant we just approved the 2020 and 2021 audit so this should move forward with finishing that contract for Orange branch. **CM L. Walker-** I have a question for GLO and AG grants the computers remember we are supposed to have a grant for them. We ended up having to pay for them. **Secretary Pouncey-** That was COVID grant. **CM L. Walker-** Where are they? **Secretary Pouncey-** Most of them are in my office. **CM L. Walker-** Why aren't we using them? **Secretary Pouncey-** We need an It Person to look at them. I am not sure what is going on with them. **CM L. Walker-**The reason that we got those Mary is one we was not supposed to have to pay for them and two we did not have an office and we needed to be able to zoom one another. **Secretary Pouncey-** Yes, the grant was supposed to pay for them but fell through. **Mayor Arrendell-** That's correct. **CM L. Walker-** Since 2020 that every city has the ability to watch and receive zoom and are not required to be at the meetings. **Mayor Arrendell-** I have checked into that and that goes back to the decorum policy. **Secretary Pouncey-** and social media policy. **CM L. Walker-** The decorum policy has nothing to do with letting people see what is going on in the meetings. **Mayor Arrendell-** According to our attorney it does. **Secretary Pouncey-** and TML. **Mayor Arrendell-** You just can't turn it on, there have to be policies put into place. **CM L. Walker-** It has to be a policy that we agree on not some generic policy that you give the attorneys. **Mayor Arrendell-** I did not do the decorum policy you did. **CM L. Walker-** I am a little bit older than everyone else and have been fighting for freedom of speech since 1992 and Bill Clinton tried to speak politically incorrect. **Mayor Arrendell-** Ok we need to move on **CM L. Walker-** No, we are going to talk Mary. Money was spent

by this city, their tax money was spent and they were told that they were free and then they were not free, and they ended up costing the city \$3700.00. So now that \$3700.00 was spent and they are sitting in there in a room not being used. We are not able to use them the way that we are supposed to all because of a decorum policy. Mayor Arrendell- You can use them just not on a zoom, but you can't even get into the laptop. CM L. Walker- Now let's tell them what happened with the decorum policy. Now when we got on here when I came back. The new council came on here. The decorum policy was presented to me and told me that I had approved it. Yall don't know this about me, but I have a pretty good memory that's what makes Lee Ann, Lee Ann. I told them then no I did not that was never signed and Mayor Arrendell- And what did I tell you? CM L. Walker-We were told then I didn't sign the document, but Melissa Pouncey did. Then you told me Missy signed the document, I have a copy of it. You told me it had been approved but I did not sign it. Mayor Arrendell- Right, and CM L. Walker- and then you argued with me. Mayor Arrendell – and then I came back to you and CM L. Walker- Then I had to prove to you that Mayor Arrendell- Then I watched the video. CM L. Walker- after I sent it to you Mary me I sent it. Mayor Arrendell- Actually no I already had the video Lee Ann. CM L. Walker- then why are you arguing with me that I just didn't sign it. Mayor Arrendell- It looked that way and even the city attorney agreed with me that it had passed. CM L. Walker- no she agreed with me. Mayor Arrendell- no at first, she said yes and then she said no. CM L. Walker- so that was never approved so now we are still not able to use those computers Mayor Arrendell- no you can use the computers they don't even have internet, but you can use them. CM L. Walker- Ok well we will get back to that we are getting off point lets go to number e.

- e. FEMA Updates, CM L. Walker- we do have FEMA news. Maria, you heard it didn't you. I didn't listen to it because sometimes my blood pressure gets a little bad sometimes, I need to be out of reaching distance of everybody so I can't put the fear of God Mayor Arrendell- Lee Ann CM L. Walker- No we are going on with number e. I will go get the recording and play that for you next. Mayor Arrendell- you recorded it in there when we had the FEMA meeting with Mr. Whitmire. CM L. Walker- Mary you need to listen and let me speak. Mayor Arrendell- I have already heard about that. It is all over the internet. CM L. Walker- Years ago Missy and I started on our first FEMA project after Harvey. Missy entered everything in she quit her job as a council member so she could get paid. Secretary Pouncey- Not at first, I did not move to a paid position until late 2018 CM L. Walker- So Missy started getting paid its neither here nor there. We started our FEMA portal and we were the top city to get everything done because we had a little bit better computer literacy than everyone else. Then in the middle of our rolling and going. We got sat down Melissa and I by two FEMA representatives. This all better be word for word in the minutes Missy I want he minutes to say exactly verbatim what I say next. So, we get called in and we get told something has gone wrong with our portal and we sit down, and, in the process, we get scolded by the FEMA representative one from Virginia and one from Pennsylvania we were going through the back door on our computers. You have to understand that Liberty County embezzled so much damn money from hurricane Ike that every time that liberty county has any FEMA work, we are automatically red flagged because the old judge embezzled a couple of million dollars. So, anytime Liberty County has FEMA we are all red flagged just by breathing and walking into a meeting. So, Missy and I are sitting there and Missy and I have already done something a little worse than red flagged as Liberty county we have been red flagged as a city. Now they tell us we have went in the back door on our computers well hell we didn't even know at that moment that our portal had a been up before with T.W Garret for a small little project. For whatever reason T.W. Garret the former mayor thought that it would be kosher to giver every Tom, Dick, and Harry around the county backdoor access to our FEMA portal. I can't imagine why anyone as a mayor would allow just anyone access to their FEMA portal but T.W allowed it. So, Missy and I are sitting there, and we get to the wash out you know

the wash out, out here it is a first responder nightmare since 2017. We get sent and we get told that we had somebody enter in the back door of our portal at the wash out. What were we doing and what had we done wrong? They looked at us like we were criminals. Missy was sitting there she knows she had to give her id and basically her first born child and all of her information so that she could keep being an administrator on the portal. So, they ask us at that time if we even knew anybody that would know that we had a back door, and did we want our portal locked? I replied absolutely we do, and we want to know who in the hell was in our portal. Well, you know big computers and stuff with the government can give you that information. So, Andrew got on the phone and called FEMA and FEMA got back with us and told us that Texas A and M agricultures services had been in our portal. Why we still do not know, and we may never know we had enough shit going on back then, that was the least of our worries. But I knew Alexis A Cordova and Ernest Bailes had been messing around in our portal. Why we still don't know, but I can tell you from that moment on that inventory number has not been touched. They tried to burn me the old fire department guy Joe Johnson there was a death down in Huffman sometime in 2018 and he blamed me that sorry ass Mayor won't get that road fixed people are dying at her expense. Man, I'm doing all that I can do Missy is doing all that she can do we can't push it any harder than we are pushing. We ain't got no money. Well, thank God for Dr Wolf went in and he talked to Ernest Bailes and now that recording is all over the internet. Ernest let us all know at around 55 minutes in the recording that, that wash out is never going to be fixed because the powers that be in Liberty County had decided right off the bat that they did not want that road fixed because they don't want Harris County to get any commercial build out or development on there side. So if they don't fix the wash out they are going to cut Harris County's throat. Now this did not come out of my mouth this came out of State Representative Ernest Bailes mouth. My question is to the powers that be especially when you have a county Judge who also sits on the Houston Area Galveston Council that is the powers that be for Liberty County. Then we flash forward I leave, and Missy is in charge of it, and I am running for county Judge. So, Stephanie Denman, the former city secretary who was sitting at Missy's desk who helped orchestrate with Colony Ridge the de-annexation which is now under investigation by the Department of Justice and the MMD along with all the other de-annexations. She went to Austin now Maria its pretty hard to know what room to go to in Autin isn't it? If you are going to make one of them hearings, you have to be in the know. They change their building every ten minutes. So lucky enough for us the old city secretary Stephanie Denman by God somehow found out that Senator Nichols was going to be at a meeting in Austin and she showed up to complain about the roads and the wash out. Yall know what we got when they came back, I sat here and watched them they were going to fix the wash out and hell they were going to widen the road. Then you have people like Mayor Arandall they will buy her property. Mayor Arrendell- My last name is Arrendell girl CM L. Walker- There property was now involved, and they are going to move it from where it is now to straighten it into their property. So, you see the powers that be Mr. Bailes let us know they never intended to let us open it. They seized the opportunity for that piss poor drainage from Colony Ridge to shut down that road forever and reroute traffic that would change the face of Plum Grove forever. Ernest Bailes admits all of this in the recording, or you can open request me and I'll send you the recording and I'll let you know where to play this. That's FEMA I sat for 72 meetings 3 road and bridge repairs, and they never intended to fix the building to fix the road. How many meetings has she sat through I guess around 3 to 400. So that they powers that be in Liberty County and HD District 18 have waisted Plum Groves money and resources knowing that they never wanted us to fix that road. Now because of people like Maria Acevedo and my complaining and people like Morgan Lutrell, Marvin Green and people who hear us now they know that we need that road open. If y'all know what that's called that road it's a hurricane evacuation route for Harris County it is one of the main major throughfare with getting out of Houston in an F4 category. So, Maria bitched and I am going to ask Missy now they heard

us about us bitching didn't they Maria so now they gonna get that road fixed WHEW there's money isn't there mayor there's a million dollars Mayor. How much is FEMA going to give us to fix that road. Secretary Pouncey- Um no its nowhere near a million dollars. They have not given us a real dollar amount. Mayor Arrendell- You was sitting in the same meeting we were. Secretary Pouncey- We only heard about this about a month before you were there for the meeting. CM L. Walker- But it's a lot of money to fix that road. Mayor Arrendell- Right and the reason was we needed more information to inform people. Secretary Pouncey- We only heard about it about a month before you was there for the meeting. CM L. Walker- that was December. Secretary Pouncey- No that was November. CM L. Walker- Ok so it's March and still the people don't know about the money. Mayor Arrendell- We have discussed this at several meetings. Secretary Pouncey- Yes almost every meeting since this has been discussed. CM L. Walker- now did we or did we not. Secretary Pouncey- We involved David so he could explain that he does not have the equipment to fix the road. CM L. Walker- Didn't we ask for these letters years ago. So, because of the leaking of this recording by the way there are 100s of recordings like that. The leaking of this recording the powers that be was still, well we are going to find out who the powers that be our when we go to the depositions in D.C. it has stopped the repairing of this road. Mayor Arrendell- (Bangs Gavel) We need to move on CM L. Walker- No, we have letters now from first responder groups saying that we need to get the road fixed who all sent letters in? Mayor Arrendell- One from Harkness, one from Radar, one from the Fire department, possibly one from the Ambulance company, and one from our PD Secretary Pouncey- Not the ambulance service yet. CM L. Walker- is the ambulance service going to send one. Secretary Pouncey- Brandon was going to talk to them but as of now I do not have one. CM L. Walker- Well its 2024 and Maria Acevedo and Lee Ann Penton Walker we are going to get that road fixed. I made a promise in 2017 and we are not going to widen roads, we are not going to but property to straighten out roads, we are going to fix the roads that we already have. I don't know when or how it's going to get fixed but it's going to get fixed. Ernest Bailes said that it wouldn't happen, it must be hell to get your back cut every time you turn around. Mayor Arrendell- We need to move on and move forward.

- f. Discussion of Local, County, and State Updates. Secretary Pouncey- we have had a Dollar General contact us to place one on 1010 in the city limits. They are getting an elevation certificate and contacting an engineer because I told them most likely they are going to have to have a retention pond. CM L. Walker- At Reeds where by the meat market. Secretary Pouncey- Yes on the main road. They have 4-5 acres up there that they are looking to develop. CM L. Walker- Which side? Secretary Pouncey- I am not sure they did not give me an address. Mayor Arrendell- It could be beside Reeds where the property is for sale in the Burton pasture. CM L. Walker- Where is the site plan and where is the elevation certificate. Secretary Pouncey- I have asked them for this and explained that they will need to have all of this for the council to look at. CM L. Walker- Well local for me is I want those cameras on because I want everybody in the city to hear what is being said here. If y'all had, had had those cameras on then we would all know that in 2022 money was missing from the city, you would have known in 2022 money was missing from the court we would have known what was going on. If you don't come to the city and you don't get to watch it, then you don't know. Kinda like back in the day before zoom and covid and I would go over to the county and J. Knight would say one thing then the media would come out and they would lie and say no it happened this way. Mayor Arrendell- Ok let's move on CM L. Walker- No, Mary when can we expect for you to turn our TV's on so we can see everything that happens. Mayor Arrendell- You have just as much right to do research and call TML and ask them about this and see if we can just turn them on. You are a council member you do not need us to do this for you call TML. CM L. Walker- I did not spend all this money for this technology what are we waiting on. Mayor Arrendell- We have to have a decorum Policy, that is what I have been told. Call TML and ask them these questions CM L. Walker- We need a decorum policy on here that we can agree on. Mayor

Arrendell-Again that was the one that you came up with. CM L. Walker- No it wasn't I didn't approve it. You're not going to put something on me that you didn't have to sign. Mayor Arrendell- ok CM L. Walker- so we tabled it. I didn't lie to everybody and say that I did this, Mayor Arrendell- I did not lie to everyone. CM L. Walker- you gave it to me and to Danielle and said this has been signed. Mayor Arrendell- Just like you told me about the other one that it was worthless and it was signed and it was not worthless the minutes proved it. CM L. Walker- Which one? Mayor Arrendell- Which one was that Missy oh its ordinance 2021. CM L. Walker- Ok going forward in a text message speaking of local. You said in the deal in the minutes you said that Bob Steely did not ask for the Audit on this deal it's in the minutes. That the Mayor ok Missy can you provide me the agenda where that expense was voted on and approved to do in the minutes where it was approved? Secretary Pouncey- For what expense? CM L. Walker- For the Audit. Secretary Pouncey- For what audit? CM L. Walker-The court audit. Mayor Arrendell- She did that on her own time because she is supposed to. CM L. Walker- When did it get approved? When did the council tell her to do the audit? Secretary Pouncey- Addresses Diana Chunn in audience when did you ask Jill to preform the audit. CM L. Walker- Not her. Secretary Pouncey- Yes, her she is the one who asked. She is the one who asked to start this. Court administrator Frazier-Yes, she asked. Mayor Arrendell-Yes, her and then I pushed for it to be finished. CM L. Walker-and there is money missing. Mayor Arrendell- Jill would you like to answer these questions? CM L. Walker- No, I want Jill. You said that the, it says in there that the the DA and the AG will not take the case that the DA has to take it? Do I understand this right? The DA can't take this case? Court Administrator Frazier- That is not what I said CM L. Walker- What did you say? Court Administrator Frazier- The AG will not take the case the AG has to be invited by the DA. So, I have contacted the DA and there is also an ongoing investigation, and we are not going to talk about this at this time. CM L. Walker- Ok so the DA the last I recall what little I know about the law. There is a conflict of interest, and the DA can't accept this case because she represented Barbara Norris and a family member. Barbara Norris is somebody that is being investigated so therefore the DA should tell y'all sorry but there is a conflict of interest. We cannot take this case in Liberty County nor can anybody in her office because everybody in her office is an arm of her. So, we have to go to a different county. Mayor Arrendell- But we have to go through Court Administrator Frazier- Hold on, hold on I did not know that. What was brought to me was we want the AG to investigate it. So, I contacted the AG and the AG said no you have to go through the DA the DA has to invite us in so that is exactly what I have done. I did not know that piece of information. CM L. Walker- So you have talked to the DA. Court administrator Frazier- No, I have talked to one of the whoever answered the phone. CM L. Walker- Little bitty county like Liberty County I think one of the first questions should have been has our DA represented anyone involved because if she has then that would be a conflict of interest. Court administrator Frazier- Like I said I did not know this information now that I do, I can go back and ask this. CM L. Walker- Ask her Lee Ann says this is a conflict of interest on her part. If she has forgotten I will be happy to pull out the court documents where she represented the former mayor and other people that were sitting on council. She also has a Bergman letter against our police chief and that is a conflict of interest all the way around. So, you can tell her Lee Ann wants to know does she want us to go to Montgomery County, Hardin County, or do I need to go on to Austin and take this to Bell County. I understand that a DA can take information on any county in the state of Texas. Court administrator Frazier- I can tell you that I have talked to Montgomery County, and they will not touch it until I go through Liberty County first because that is where the incident happened. That is before I knew this information, but I still have to go up my chain of command. I have done everything that has been asked and I have gone to the AG like I was told, and I went to the DA like they said, and the AG will not accept this until the DA invites them to. CM L. Walker- Nobody can dance the dance better than I do there will be no statue of limitations that will run out on this. I know everyone is thinking we will let two years go by and no man in the state of Texas

there is no statute of limitations on fraud and theft. We can do this dance another year. We won't make it another year Jill you should know I want this answer right away. Court administrator Frazier and I cannot give you any other answer than what I have right now. CM L. Walker- Then you call the DA and ask, and I will take this to Bell County. If you did not know this Jill, then I am teaching you something else. If your DA will cooperate you can go to Austin and the DA in Bell County, and they will take this case anywhere from the state of Texas. Because of DAs like we have now that drag their feet and act like they can take the case when they cannot. Barbara Norris was represented by Jennifer Bergman and Barbara Norris was around the missing money. Therefore, Jennifer Bergman cannot do an investigation into this case. I have finally said it I can retire. Next

**15.** Motion to adjourn @ 8:08 P.M. made by CM Lee, 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM L. Walker passed unopposed.