

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 14, 2024

MINUTES OF THE PLUM GROVE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR OPEN MEETING HELD ON THE 14th DAY OF OCTOBER, AT THE PLUM GROVE CITY HALL, 9485 PLUM GROVE ROAD, 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.

Mary Arrendell-Mayor

Deborah Bell

Froy Ortiz

Danielle Enloe

Diana Chunn

Kevin Lee

*** 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

Kevin Lee-Mayor Pro-Tem

Deborah Bell-CP1

Froy Ortiz-CP2

Danielle Enloe-CP3

Diana Chunn-CP4

Melissa Pouncey-Secretary

Frank Longoria-Police Chief

Jillian Frazier-Court Administrator

Jeremy Dodson-Officer

Absent-

3. Pledge of Allegiance lead by Mayor Mary Arrendell
4. Invocation lead by Mayor Mary Arrendell
5. Public Comments- NO PUBLIC COMMENTS
6. Motion to approve following minutes.
 - a. September 9, 2024, made by CM Enloe, 2nd by CM Chunn, passed unopposed.
 - b. Budget Hearing made by CM Enloe, 2nd by CM Chunn, passed unopposed.
 - c. Tax Hearing made by CM Chunn, 2nd by CM Enloe, passed unopposed.
 - d. September 27, 2024, made by CM Enloe, 2nd by CM Chunn, passed unopposed.
7. Motion to approve September 2024 financial report made by CM Chunn, 2nd by CM Enloe, passed unopposed.
8. Discussion on Mayor Arrendell attendance of the groundbreaking ceremony for Liberty County.

Discussion-**Mayor Arrendell-** I was invited by the Contractor which was White Construction company. It is for the Liberty County Annex for Constable, Sheriff and permitting office and hopefully one day a tax office. As a public figure I did attend. With this being said back when I was appointed back in 2023 it was asked that I always take a council member or staff with me to any public relations, so I did. So, I am still

looked down upon because I attended an event in Colony Ridge. I was invited to help with Unity to show Plum Grove can get along with people. I was not invited by Colony ridge I was invited by Liberty County. We depend on Liberty County for so much and we only pay them a measly little \$500.00 a month. They asked me to come out, so I went. **CM Enloe**- Who went with you? **Mayor Arrendell**- Missy Jo did, Jill was invited also but she had to pick up her children from school. **CM Chunn**- The mayor in any city is your public face person. **Mayor Arrendell**- I am going to ask Missy, was anything spoken about that was not supposed to be? **Secretary Pouncey**- No, all we talked about was our kids. **AM Cynthia Silva**-I can tell you nothing was done wrong I was there. It was so freaking hot. **Secretary Pouncey**- And the wind was blowing sand in our faces. **AM Cynthia Silva**- I am not sure what emails that you are talking about, but I believe **CM Enloe**-The email is me asking why she was even out there as we are in a lawsuit with Colony Ridge. **Mayor Arrendell**- The emails contain a picture of myself and everyone else. **CM Enloe**- That I got off the Bluebonnet. **Mayor Arrendell**- No, it was before the article was even published. I received an email at 8:44 that morning. So, with that being said there is more to this situation that will be the next agenda item. We have here on CR 352, Kevin Lee knows about this I have called him about it. We have trailer houses that have moved in, so I included a photo of them. People are so worried about me going out to Colony Ridge they are turning a blind eye to what is going on in their community. **CM Enloe**- What is going on with the trailers and what does that have to do with you being in Colony Ridge? **Mayor Arrendell**- Well there is a lot of work that needs to be done in the city of Plum Grove instead of being worried about the Mayor going to a public event. Then as for the County they pay only so much for us. **CM Ortiz**- So what is going on with this are we not supposed to be talking to Colony Ridge? **Mayor Arrendell**- No, we can talk to them all day long. They just don't want me to talk to them because they think I am leaking information. That there is absolutely no information to leak anyways. One other question is where have you been for the last nine sessions that we have had executive sessions on? **CM Enloe**- I have been here. I was told we cannot talk about that out here. **Mayor Arrendell**- We are not talking about that. I am asking where were you? **CM Enloe**- Anytime I have asked about Colony Ridge in that office right there has been oh this is only about Quadvest. **Mayor Arrendell**- We can't go into detail with. I can talk about the topic if that makes sense to you. So, it seems that after the last executive session, the last meeting I know some of y'all have seen some Facebook posts. There was information that was put on Facebook that should not have been there. So, somebody that was in executive session apparently leaked out the information. **CM Enloe**- Who was that and what information? **Mayor Arrendell**- Ok we can go back to that one, but it is there on Facebook. **CM Enloe**- I am not allowed to ask questions? That's what this boils down to every single time. I want that listed in the minutes. **Mayor Arrendell**- I am just waiting for you to turn red. Also there have been rumors spread about me having an affair with certain people because of your followers. **CM Enloe**- My Followers? **Mayor Arrendell**- with the Harris brothers is ridiculous and very laughable. People that truly know me know that I would not have an affair. **CM Enloe**- When did I say that you had an affair? **Mayor Arrendell**- I did not say you but your but your friends. **CM Enloe**- You did say me. **Mayor Arrendell**- No, I did not go back and listen to your recording. **CM Enloe**- and my friends are all

part of this community. My friends are the same friends as everyone else's friends.

Mayor Arrendell- So it amazes me that Facebook warriors are always no shows at the council meetings. We need to move on, does anyone on council have any discussion about where I go or who I talk to? **CM Enloe**- I am not allowed to ask questions. So, it doesn't matter. **Mayor Arrendell**- I have not said that you cannot ask questions or discuss. You want to talk about stuff that we were told not to talk about. It says it right there on the email. You want to talk about that on the open floor and Jose said that we cannot do that on an open floor. Read it. **CM Enloe**- My only question has been why you were out there when we have an open lawsuit with them. This is twice that you have been in a picture with them. **Mayor Arrendell**- No it's been I went to the Fire department open house, this and I also went but was not invited but got on the bus with all of the state representatives so I could hear and find out what was going on back there. **CM Enloe**- As you have been recused from the lawsuit before. **Mayor Arrendell**- I told everyone I was going on the tour. Missy knew I was there, and I told Cynthia that day as we were standing out and waiting for it to start. **CM Enloe**- I love Cynthia, I love her, and she knows that, but she is not part of our city council or our city. **Mayor Arrendell**- What did I tell you Cynthia, I am not invited. I may get kicked out, but I am going in anyways. **AM Cynthia Silva**- I don't remember having a conversation with you. I'm not saying it didn't happen; I just don't remember. However, in my opinion since we are all talking out loud here, I believe everyone should have been there. However, it was not (directed to CM Enloe) I love you, but it was not a Colony Ridge event. **CM Enloe**- We were not invited. **AM Cynthia Silva**- Wait, ok it was a public event not just for the press. I didn't even know I was going to be there until that morning. I want to shed some light on this this county annex is not just for us. We love our constables. We have had this conversation before, even if we are not there in support of Colony Ridge moving forward, we should understand that this building is for all of us. **CM Ortiz**- We will benefit from this too? **AM Cynthia Silva**- Oh absolutely having the Constable and the Sheriff right here is great. It will be a lot easier for us to be able to help as well. Like when we have events or distribution. It will be a plus for everyone. **CM Ortiz**- I mean moving forward are we trying to mend things between us and them? **Mayor Arrendell**- yes, I don't know what Danielle thinks. **CM Enloe**- My problem is nothing to do with Colony Ridge. I have been out there for events and things to do with you, Cynthia. But, as a mayor that has been recused from a lawsuit before with them that you couldn't have anything to do with and now going back out there and meeting with the Harris family looks terrible. **Mayor Arrendell**- It does look terrible? **CM Enloe**-Yes. **Mayor Arrendell**- I don't think so. **CM Chunn**-She is the face of this city. **CM Ortiz**- She is the face of this city. **CM Enloe**- That her city has a lawsuit against them. **CM Chunn**- If she is not discussing the lawsuit. **CM Enloe**- That is the whole point how do you know she is not discussing it? **CM Chunn**-That is why she takes someone with her. I have been with her and so has Missy. **AM Bryanna Arrendell**- Would you have gone with her, and would you have shown up? **CM Enloe**- Yes, had I been invited to it. **Mayor Arrendell**- Mam you did not sign up to speak. **CM Enloe**- You need to be quiet you did not sign up anyways. **Court Administrator Frazier**- So may I make a suggestion. Anytime that you get something from the public we send out an email that everyone is invited you would have to post something? **Mayor Arrendell**- Possible Quorum **CM Chunn**- You will

need to respond and let Missy know that you plan to attend. **Court Administrator Frazier**-I know at the fire department that there was a personal invite from the fire department, and it was to everybody, and we made a post about it and everyone was invited. **Mayor Arrendell**- I do know it would be just like me saying Danielle you can't talk to Cynthia. **CM Enloe**- I don't have a problem with that. **Mayor Arrendell**- It does not matter. It is against the law. **CM Enloe**- Let's move on. **Mayor Arrendell**- No, we are not going to move on. **CM Ortiz**- As far as the city itself that would exclude all of us from going back there for anything. **Mayor Arrendell**- Exactly that is my point. **CM Ortiz**- You talk to Cynthia? **CM Enloe**- Yes. **Mayor Arrendell**- I mean you are representing the city just as well as I am. But it is ok with you. **CM Enloe**- I don't speak to the Harris family. **Mayor Arrendell**- I'm not just talking about Cynthia. When you go back there where do you go? To the community center? **CM Enloe**- Whenever she has invited me down to go help. **Mayor Arrendell**- But are you in the community center? **CM Enloe**- Am I talking to anybody from Colony Ridge? **Mayor Arrendell**- How do we know that, how do I know that? **CM Enloe**- Because they ain't there. **Mayor Arrendell**- How do I know that you are still back there? It is the same difference. **CM Enloe**- OK, me and you can discuss this later. **Mayor Arrendell**- No we won't. **CM Chunn**- They can show up and we cannot do a thing about them showing up. **CM Ortiz**- Can they come to our meetings? **CM Chunn**- Yes, anyone can walk in it is a public meeting. **AM Cynthia Silva**- This is a public meeting. Just like any disaster relief that is offered is open to the public unlike here, people from my community are turned away. In my personal opinion I get where you are coming from and I don't know anything about the lawsuit. At the end of the day, we are one community. Whenever it comes down to disasters, we are one community that works together. It is just as important to get along. I don't know what the rules are. **Mayor Arrendell**- There really are no rules. **Secretary Pouncey**- May I speak? **Mayor Arrendell**- Yes go ahead. **Secretary Pouncey**-When she was recused from the lawsuit before she chose to do that. Nobody made her do that, she made that decision. **CM Chunn**- That is correct. **Mayor Arrendell**- Wait a minute I tried to recuse myself from it this time and Jose told me no. **CM Chunn**- That is exactly right. **Mayor Arrendell**- If you don't believe me please ask him send him an email, you tag him in everything else. **Court Administrator Frazier**- So moving forward if the mayor is invited the whole council has to be invited to events? Is what I am hearing? **CM Ortiz**- If it's a public event why should we be invited? **Court Administrator Frazier**-No, Cynthia what I am saying is they may not see it so we need to send them that invite and say hey guys this is what is going on in our community. **CM Ortiz**- What if we all show up to an event? **Secretary Pouncey**- That is why you do a possible quorum posting. They also need to respond that they are going to attend so we know there is a possible quorum. **AM Cynthia Silva**- What if there is a God forbid a funeral and its someone that everyone loves and you want to be with the family. **CM Chunn**- There still has to be a possible quorum post. **Mayor Arrendell**- Just like me and Danielle were at the same funeral the other day. **Court Administrator Frazier**- Do you still have to post a possible quorum at an event? **Secretary Pouncey**- Yes, if a quorum is going to be present. You still have to post. **Mayor Arrendell**- I receive invitations all the time nine time out of ten I am not going to go because it's too far and I have a full time job like you guys do. From now on I will send them all to you guys and y'all can

pick out who you want to go and represent our city. Maybe you will get a shovel and a hard hat too. We need to move on now, do y'all have anything else to say? **CM Ortiz**- I want a shovel. **CM Bell**- I do too. **Mayor Arrendell**- Ok, we will go ahead and take the emails back so we can move on. **CM Chunn**- Are we moving to number nine because I am curious who and what this one pertains to. **Mayor Arrendell**- Yes number nine.

9. Motion on Council Correspondence amongst themselves Council made the decision to place a verbal warning In Council member Danielle Enloe's file to no longer Blind copy the council in emails that if she needed an email sent to everyone on council to follow protocol and send it to the Mayor or city secretary to avoid the open meeting act being broken made by CM Chunn, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.

Discussion-**Mayor Arrendell**-There was an email that was about me I don't know how many of you guys received it. Yall was Bcc'd in this email that means that you was blind copied in the email and that can be illegal. If you was to respond to that email it could have been a walking quorum. So, if you see that someone has sent it and you are BCCd or several other members that person may respond and it could turn into a walking quorum or a daisy chain. It is always important to cc so everyone can see so you don't accidentally reply all. Also, you read that you cannot reply and make decisions like that in an email. **CM Chunn**- If you need it sent to everyone on council you need to send it to Missy so she can send it. **Mayor Arrendell**- Do y'all have any questions on this? I am also going to ask how many of y'all was included in this email? **CM Enloe**-Everybody but Ms. Chunn. I will answer that question. **CM Bell**- Everyone of us but Ms. Chunn. **CM Chunn**-That is a walking quorum right there. **CM Ortiz**-How do we do this then? **CM Enloe**-It comes back on me you didn't reply. **CM Ortiz**- How do we safely send out emails? **Mayor Arrendell**- The safest thing to do is you contact Missy Jo and and she will send out the email. **Mayor Arrendell**- Ok, so do y'all want to take an action on this. **CM Chunn**- Also when you get emails you can't call this council person and speak to them about it then call another council person and talk to them about the same topic because that can go into becoming a walking quorum also. **Mayor Arrendell**- You can only talk about the subject it needs to be in a council meeting. **CM Ortiz**- Our emails are private? **Mayor Arrendell**- No they are all public record. **Secretary Pouncey**- Unless they are involved in a lawsuit then it has to go to the attorney general for them to approve the redactions. **Mayor Arrendell**- Also if the attorney gives us advice that also has to go through the AG. Did y'all just want to do a verbal warning or take any action on this. **CM Chunn**- Can it just be a verbal warning this time and placed in her file as a record? **Mayor Arrendell**- Yes.

10. Motion on the following items for Glo Grant CDBG-DR19# 24-067-033-E221 Orange Branch Drainage
- a. Resolution 2024-1014RA Adopting a Procurement Policy in Relation to Federal Grants made by CM Chunn, 2nd by CM Lee, passed unopposed.
 - b. To Appoint Melissa Pouncey as Section 3 Coordinator made by CM Lee, 2nd by Cm Chunn, passed unopposed.
 - c. To Appoint Mary Arrendell as Labor Standards Officer made by CM Lee, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.
 - d. To Appoint Melissa Pouncey as Fair Housing Coordinator made by CM Chunn, 2nd by CM Lee, passed unopposed.

- e. Resolution 2024-1014RB Designating Authorized Signatures for Contractual Documents and Documents Requesting Funds Pertaining to the Community Development Block Grant CDBG Disaster Recovery Program Orange Branch Creek Drainage made by CM Chunn, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.
 - f. Resolution 2024-1014C Adopting the attached Policies in Connection with the City of Plum grove, Texas Participation in Federally Funded Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Projects and Adherence to the Regulations Described therein made by CM Chunn, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.
 - g. Publication of Civil Rights Notice (English & Spanish) in the Newspaper, with publisher's affidavit made by CM Lee, 2nd by CM Enloe, passed unopposed.
11. Motion to table Insurance for employees made by CM Lee, 2nd by CM Ortiz, passed unopposed.
 12. Motion on Disaster relief
 - a. To remove Melissa Pouncey made by CM Lee, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.
 - b. To Add Nicole Rose made by CM Lee, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.
 13. Discussion to employee handbook and related matters.
 14. Discussion on presentation by Traylor and associates for future grants. Justin Meyer was present for Traylor and associates and updated the council and audience on all of the grant opportunities that are coming up and was in attendance to update everyone on what Traylor and associates had to offer.
 15. Motion to approve Tuesday November 12, 2024, for November regularly scheduled meeting due to national holiday made by CM Lee, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.
 16. Receive reports, discuss, and provide input on reports from:
 - a. the Plum Grove Police Department Report,
78 Citations, 17 Warnings, 4 crashes, 3 warrants, 2 DWI, 1 Stolen Vehicle recovery, 1 PI. Chief Longoria would like to implement taking care of a few families in need of Thanksgiving dinner and would like to start the Blue Santa program.
 - b. the Plum Grove Fire Department Report, Included.
 - c. the Plum Grove Municipal Court, Included.
 - d. Discussion of Local, County, and State Updates
 - e. Ag grant
 - f. FEMA
 - a. Hurricane Harvey-No updates
 - b. May 3, 2024, flooding-There are meetings weekly
 - c. Hurricane Beryl- There is still nothing for this hurricane.
 17. Motion to adjourn @8:41 P.M. by CM Lee, 2nd by CM Bell, passed unopposed.