

**The City of Kurten
City Council Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2008**

Regular City Council Meeting

1. Mayor Vitulli called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Aldermen Lindahl, Estes, Bouse and Klintworth were present.
2. Citizen's Comments: None.
3. September 30, 2008 minutes with the revision of Item #13 and the October 28, 2008 minutes were reviewed. Motion by Alderman Klintworth to approve both. Alderman Bouse seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Motion by Alderman Klintworth to approve financial report. Alderman Bouse seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Consider and take action on the following bills:

Ck #2057 Brazos Cty. Road & Bridge (blading)	\$ 97.00
Ck #2058 Bruchez , Goss, etc. Atty's. (annexation)	\$ 684.00
Ck #2059 U.S. Post Office (P.O. Box annual)	\$ 38.00
Ck #2060 Kurten Vol. Fire Dept. #2 (taxes)	\$3,957.06

Tax payments were deposited. BTU is now drafting out of account. Alderman Klintworth motioned to authorize Mayor Vitulli to pay these bills, seconded by Alderman Bouse. Motion passed unanimously.
6. In a discussion with Donald Lampo about the speed limit on Oak Lake Road, Alderman Bouse was informed that a discussion with TXDot has to occur before anything can be done. TXDot will have to perform a survey. There has to be a joint effort between the City of Kurten and the County for the speed limit of the ¼ mile section in the City. Alderman Bouse will discuss this with Richard Vance, County Engineer and report his findings at the next scheduled Council meeting. The Council agreed they would like the speed limit to be 40 mph and would like for it to also extend from Democrat Rd. to FM 2038.
7. Approval of Resolution to approve Brazos County Emergency District budget will be discussed at the next scheduled Council meeting.
8. Communication Efforts to Citizens:
 - a. Website is up. Council would like for a process for the agenda and minutes to be added to the website.
 - b. Other items Council would like to see on the website:
 - i. Calendars
 - ii. Information on local cemeteries
 - iii. City of Kurten news
 - c. Mayor Vitulli will have ready for the Council to review at the next scheduled meeting a draft of a newsletter that will contain interests to the community such as information on the First State Bank of Bedias, the Kurten Volunteer Fire Department, the Zion Church, and any other interests of the community.
9. Discussion of Annexation:

- a. Mayor Vitulli will clarify with the attorneys the following concerns regarding annexation:
 - i. Alderman Klintworth would like clarification if the City can only annex one time of year.
 - ii. Is annexation to be used for one piece of property at a time?
 - b. Sample letter and petition was drafted by attorneys.
 - c. Attorneys notified Mayor Vitulli that after a petition is received there is a 5 day wait and after the 5th day there is a time frame of 5-30 days for annexation to take place. After everything is completed, the attorneys will send to the Justice Department.
 - d. Regarding community meeting of annexation, attorneys do not want it to be called a meeting. The Council was advised to have an informational gathering. Mayor Vitulli would like to have one or two Council members attend along with a notary (only one or two, there cannot be a quorum).
 - e. Alderman Bouse recommends to add to annexation letter:
 - i. Deadline for petition to be signed, notarized, and returned to the City of Kurten.
 - ii. Date and time of informational gathering.
 - iii. A notary will be provided at no charge to petitioners at informational gathering.
 - f. Mayor Vitulli would like authorization to send letter out on December 26th or 27th and the informational gathering to take place on Thursday, January 22, 2009.
 - g. Motion by Alderman Estes to send letter out on December 26th or 27th with the inclusion in the letter that a notary will be provided to petitioners at no charge and that the informational gathering will take place on Thursday, January 22, 2009. Alderman Lindahl seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
10. Road Maintenance: Roads have been graded and everyone happy.
11. Planning and Zoning Commission: No report at this time.
12. Kurten Post Office Report:
- a. Mayor Vitulli received a call about a rumor of the Kurten Post Office being permanently closed. Mayor Vitulli contacted Houston Post Office regarding rumor and asked why the new Kurten Post Office structure had not been constructed. The Houston Post Office had not heard the rumor of the closing of the Kurten Post Office and did not know anything about the construction of the new structure.
 - b. The Council understands that the Kurten Post Office has been condemned and thought there was a time frame for destruction of the old structure and occupancy of the new one.
 - c. Mayor Vitulli has asked Diana Kurten to chair a committee to save the Kurten Post Office. Steps need to be taken now for action to take place once there is notification of the closure.
 - d. Mayor Vitulli recommended the City Council spearhead the effort to save the Post Office and keep the citizens informed.

13. Future agenda items: Regular items
14. Set regular meeting for January 27, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
15. Motion to adjourn regular meeting at 7:55 p.m. made by Alderman Bouse, seconded by Alderman Estes. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted.

Signed: _____

Joy Ramsey, City Secretary