

**City Council
Agenda Memo**



**City Council
Meeting Date: 11/6/14**

TO: David A. Vela, Interim City Manager
FROM: Megan R. Santee, Director of Public Works
**SUBJECT: Oral Resolution – Application/Permit to Drill and/or Operate an Oil and/or Gas well –
Sojourner Drilling Corporation: “City of Abilene No. 3”, Permit No. 785008**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Chapter 21, Oil and Gas, of the City Code requires a permit for drilling and operating oil/gas wells within the city limits. As part of the review process, the City Council is to conduct a public hearing and then approve or deny the permit.

Sojourner Drilling Corporation of Abilene, Texas has submitted an application to drill the “City of Abilene No. 3” well on property owned by Ambler Charitable Bingo RE, Inc., located northwest of the intersection of Ambler Avenue and Mimosa Drive, as shown on the attached map. This well is being drilled under the applicant’s 23.45 acre “City of Abilene Unit”, comprised of multiple property and mineral interest owners as detailed within the supporting documentation for the permit application. The applicant is requesting a variance per sections 21-26 and 21-27 of Chapter 21 of the City of Abilene Code of Ordinances, Oil and Gas, to drill within 200 feet of an existing (unoccupied) building on Ambler Charitable Bingo RE, Inc.’s property, and the applicant has provided Ambler Charitable Bingo RE, Inc.’s written consent to the drill site location. Additionally, the applicant was requested to provide, and has provided a mineral interest title opinion verifying that the City of Abilene owns no mineral or royalty interest in/under the streets and alleys within the 23.45 acre unit area. This application has been reviewed and approved by City Staff. All owners of real property within 500 feet of the proposed drill site have been notified of this application and of the City Council meeting to consider its approval, as required by City ordinance.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Because all prerequisites and requirements of Chapter 21, Oil and Gas; have been met, including no anticipated adverse effect on the health, safety and welfare of the public, staff recommends that the City Council vote to approve the application for this drilling permit and authorize the Mayor to execute permit # 785008 for Sojourner Drilling Corporation.

ATTACHMENTS

Site Map

The Application/Permit to Drill and/or Operate an Oil and/or Gas Well, including all supporting documentation, is on file with the City Secretary.

Prepared by: Name: Travis McClure Title: City Land Agent	Item No. <u>7.6</u>	Disposition by City Council <input type="checkbox"/> Approved Ord/Res# _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ City Secretary
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**SOJOURNER DRILLING CORP.,
23.45 AC. "CITY OF ABILENE UNIT" (YELLOW)
AMBLER CHARITABLE BINGO RE, INC.,
B. SENTER PROPERTIES, LTD., ET AL,
SURFACE AND MINERAL INTEREST OWNERS**

Sojourner Drilling Corp.
"City of Abilene #1"
Drilling Permit approved by
City Council on 3/10/2011

**SOJOURNER DRILLING CORP.
"CITY OF ABILENE #3" LOCATION**

Sojourner Drilling Corp.
"City of Abilene #2"
Drilling Permit approved by
City Council on 4/11/13

Ambler Ave.

Mimosa Dr.

