

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 9, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ray Schultz
Mayor Pro tem Lori Shierry
Councilmen Jeffrey Pogatshnik and Brad Wynn
Councilwoman Stephanie Wooten
Councilwoman Sherrie Williams (via zoom)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

PERSONNEL: Jerry Flemming, City Manager
David Sherrill, Public Works Director
Steve Davis, Police Chief
Jason Griffin, Parks and Recreation Director
David Owen, Economic Development Director (via zoom)
Andy Payne, Fire Chief
Becky Ferguson, Director of Finance
Amie Schultz, Library Director
Janice Newman, City Secretary

VISITORS: Dolores Hamilton (via zoom) Steve Smith
Michael Baker Billy England

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Invocation.

The Mayor gave the invocation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Recognition of Special Guest(s)/Action(s).

There were no recognitions at this time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Citizens' Input.

Mr. Steve Smith inquired about the bid specifications for the City owned commercial property located at 711 West Highway. He wanted to know why there were so many requirements and restrictions including the minimum size of the commercial building of 5,000 square feet and the minimum bid of \$50,000.00. He also wanted to know why the City changed from having an auction to now having a bid process. He feels something is not right and wants answers as to the changes in the way the City is disposing of this property. The City Manager stated that the Council

discussed this item in executive session and came out in open session and voted in favor of the bid specifications.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: General Consent.

- A. Acceptance and Approval of the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 26, 2021.
- B. Acceptance and Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors Meeting of August 3, 2021.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Wooten accepting and approving the general consent agenda as presented. Motion carried with four ayes. (Unanimous)

Councilman Wynn arrived at this time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Public Appearance.

- A. A Public Appearance by Mr. Bill England of 600 North Bell Road to Discuss Concerns of Drainage on Bell Road North.

Mr. Bill England voiced his concern over the housing development along the west side of North Bell Road that could potentially flood the area. His aunt, who lives at 1209 North Bell, has been flooded out once and is afraid it will happen again due to the new development. It was explained that developments must have a drainage plan prepared by professional engineers.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Election Business.

- A. Order the City Council Special Election for Tuesday, November 2, 2021.

It was noted City Council declared City Council Place 3 vacant after the resignation of City Councilman Andy Payne. Council appointed Jeffrey Pogatshnik to fill the vacancy until a special election is held at the next uniform election date, which is November 2, 2021. Motion was made by Councilwoman Shierry and seconded by Councilman Pogatshnik ordering the City Council special election for Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Motion carried with five ayes. (Unanimous)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Resolution.

- A. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Iowa Park, Texas, Setting a Date, Time, and Place for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Annexation of Certain Property by the City of Iowa Park, Texas, and Authorizing and Directing the Mayor to Publish Notice of Such Public Hearing.

A resolution for this annexation had already been approved, however, the School Superintendent had requested it be postponed until now. Motion was made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Wooten approving and adopting Resolution Number 21-14 setting a date, time and place for a public hearing on the proposed annexation of certain property by the City of Iowa Park, Texas and authorizing and directing the Mayor to publish notice of such public hearing. Motion carried with five ayes. (Unanimous)

AGENDA ITEM O. 9: City Manager's Report.

- A. Discuss and Consider a Quotation From B. W. Sinclair in the Amount of \$22,500.00 for the Fabrication of a New Grit Wash Conveyor and Auger Assembly for the Wastewater Plant.

The current budget includes \$30,000.00 for this item. Motion was made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Wooten approving a quote from B. W. Sinclair up to \$30,000.00 for the fabrication of a new grit wash conveyor and auger assembly for the Wastewater Plant. Motion carried with five ayes. (Unanimous)

- B. Discuss and Consider Street Construction (Concrete, Asphalt, Slurry) Projects for 2021.

The Public Works Director stated he is short on employees with experience in the Street Department, but they are training others to fill in. He stated that Park Place and West Smith at the landfill entrance will need to be rebuilt with concrete.

- C. Discuss and Consider the Local State of Disaster for Public Health Emergency Adopted by the City Council on March 23, 2020.

The City Manager stated the COVID-19 cases have been doubling every week. There are now 540 active cases in the County with 51 of those in the 76367 zip code.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Budget Workshop.

- A. Discuss and Approve a Proposed Tax Rate and Schedule Public Hearings.

The City Manager briefed the Council on the proposed budget. Staff based this proposed budget on a \$0.7200 per \$100.00 valuation. It includes a four percent across the board raise for all employees, a new pickup for Code Enforcement, Street Department and Wastewater as well as a police vehicle and a fire rescue truck. Building and structure improvements include patrol room flooring, overhead doors at the kennel, painting of the Library stairwell and painting the Johnson Road Pump Station. Other machinery and equipment include a zero-turn mower, three tasers for the Police Department, a dispatch accessible workstation, digital radios & SCBA for the Fire Department and a chemical analyzer for the Wastewater Plant. Other Systems Improvements are

two computers at City Hall, two computers at the Police Department, two computers at the Library, and one at the Wastewater Plant. The Fire Department's Systems Improvements include a Lucas CPS Device and rescue air bags. Street Construction has a proposed budget of \$171,540.00 in the Street Department and \$10,000.00 from Sanitation. There is a proposed increase to the water rates due to the 4.81 percent increase received from the City of Wichita Falls. There are no proposed sewer rate increases.

It was noted the current tax rate is \$0.75 per \$100.00 valuation. Council discussed leaving the tax rate the same at \$0.75 and also a \$0.73 per \$100.00 valuation in order to keep the current programs and add to the street construction budget. The Council also would like to see a five percent across the board increase for all employees. Motion was made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilwoman Wooten for a \$0.74 tax rate. Motion carried with five ayes. (Unanimous)

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 23rd day of August, 2021.

Mayor Ray Schultz

ATTEST:

City Secretary Janice Newman