



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY – APRIL 22, 2019 – 6:30 PM
2801 Ranch Road 1869 - Liberty Hill, Texas

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of Liberty Hill was called to order by Mayor Rick Hall on Monday – April 22, 2019 at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers located at 2801 Ranch Road 1869 in Liberty Hill, Texas. Invocation was given; Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge were recited.

Council Members Present: Rick Hall; Liz Rundzieher; Liz Branigan; Troy Whitehead; and Ron Rhea. **Staff & Guests Present:** Dottie Palumbo – City Attorney; Greg Boatright; Sally McFeron; Becky Wilkins; Wayne Bonnet; Barbara Zwernemann; Zach Gil; and Nancy Sawyer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Hall introduced Jamie Etzkorn and members of Brownie Troop 2306. Ms. Etzkorn stated the troop had toured downtown Liberty Hill and Veterans Memorial Park back in November and had written letters to Council expressing their thoughts on what downtown is in need of. Three Brownies spoke before Council. Anna asked Council to consider adding a hospital and a pet store. Hailey asked if red poppies could be planted in Veterans Memorial Park. Allison asked that the flowers beds around Memorial Park be planted with more flowers, and she asked for more traffic lights. Following the presentation, the letters from all of the Brownie Troop girls were collected and handed to Mayor Hall.

REPORTS TO CITY COUNCIL

Finance Department Report

Becky Wilkins – Finance Director presented. The general fund has around \$7,000,000. Cash totals are \$13,774,936. Investments total \$8,957,628.

Administrator's Report

Greg Boatright – City Administrator presented.

- Special guest Casey Cobb was introduced; he will be interning with the City as part of a program (Care Coalition Internship) that transitions military personnel to civilian workforce. Mr. Cobb is a Sr. Chief with the Navy. The City is bringing him in as a 90-day employee.
- Met with the engineers today on the wastewater plant. Bids go out in one (1) week. They are waiting on proposals from Microdyn for the equipment. He expects to bring the bids to Council at the May 13th meeting.
- Trails – Application was turned in. This trail will be from downtown to Hwy. 29 past Foundation Park.
- May 18 is the Art Festival. The City is pushing to have the Fowler Building complete by then. Barbara Zwernemann – City Secretary and her team have done a really good job putting this together.
- The City is working on two development agreements; should be ready in May.

- Troy Whitehead – Council member asked if he was aware of any improper benefits of any staff or Council member with regard to the Stubblefield extension. The City Administrator stated to the best of his knowledge no one on staff or Council stands to benefit from the Stubblefield extension. Council Member Whitehead asked if there was reason to investigate this; Greg Boatrith responded there was not.

CONSENT AGENDA

Outcome: On motion by Ron Rhea and second by Troy Whitehead, minutes from April 8, 2019 were approved as amended. Liz Branigan – Council Member commented that she had actually stated Mayor Hall and Lance Dean should meet with the City of Liberty Hill librarian to discuss future sponsorship of the Library Summer Program. **Motion passed on vote of 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, and 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

REGULAR AGENDA

Discuss and Consider appointment to the position of Alderman – Place Four (4) to fill the unexpired term of Wendell McLeod beginning May 1, 2019 and ending May 1, 2020; providing for consideration of Tony DeYoung to fill said position (Attachment). **Outcome:** Mayor Hall stated in the past, this has been discussed in Executive Session. Troy Whitehead – Council member responded he would rather discuss in open session. Liz Branigan and Ron Rhea agreed. Ron Rhea – Council Member presented. Dr. Rhea made a motion for Tony DeYoung to fill the unexpired term of Alderman – Place Four. Dr. Rhea stated he believes Tony would be an excellent replacement. Liz Branigan seconded the motion stating Mr. DeYoung is in favor of building the community to its highest level. She stated someone mentioned several members going to the same church, but in actuality, Mr. DeYoung is starting a new church. Mayor Hall asked the attorney if following the election there were three new Council members elected, would this appointment stand to which Dottie Palumbo, City Attorney stated the official vote of the current Council would be binding. **Motion passed on vote of 3 AYES, 1 NAY, and 0 ABSTENTIONS.** Liz Rundzieher did not approve the motion.

Discuss and Consider appointments to the Liberty Hill Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors from applications on file with the City Secretary (Attachments). **Outcome:** Ron Rhea – Council Member presented stating there are two positions open with the EDC. Dr. Rhea made a motion recommending himself, stating he had said he would only serve six years with the Council but still wants to serve the City. He used to be the second-largest employer and founded the Ministerial Alliance. Dr. Rhea also included a recommendation for John Clark in his motion. Troy Whitehead seconded the motion. During discussion, Liz Rundzieher – Council member stated EDC wanted to have Mr. Snell, LHISD Superintendent on the Board. She stated Council agreed a few years back it would be in the City’s best interest to have a school employee on the board. Liz Branigan – Council member stated she favored Mr. Snell to maintain a smooth relationship with LHISD. Ron Rhea – Council member stated when someone else comes off the EDC Board, Mr. Snell can come on. **Motion passed on vote of 3 AYES, 1 NAY, and 0 ABSTENTIONS.** Liz Rundzieher did not approve the motion.

Discuss and Consider Federal Legislative Issues and Federal Funding Requests (No Attachment). **Outcome:** Dottie Palumbo – City Attorney presented stating she learned that there was

a meeting with Representative Carter and some Council members and wanted to know if Council wanted to discuss and consider Federal legislative issues and Federal funding requests. She cited an issue regarding the SRO last year as well. Ron Rhea – Council member stated he talked with Mr. Alvarado, the point person for Representative Carter. Dr. Rhea believes when there are meetings like this in which discussion of federal government assisting the City, Council members should have the opportunity to attend. Dottie Palumbo – City Attorney stated that in general, the City would post a Notice of Possible Quorum for any meeting Council members might attend. She stated it is not mandatory for Council members to attend but, typically, Council is invited to articulate how they feel. Liz Branigan – Council member stated she would like to have been there. The City attorney asked if Council wanted to direct staff to work on Federal funds. Greg Boatright – City Administrator stated it was a private citizen at this meeting that suggested this. The Congressman did not relay any information regarding Federal funding. The City is currently applying to be part of the CAMPO (Capital Area Municipal Planning Organization). The Mayor pushed for the City to get involved with CAMPO to move toward federal funding. The City is working through the process of eligibility. No action was taken.

Discuss and Consider approval of an Amended Agreement for Foster San Gabriel Investments (Attachment). **Outcome:** Sally McFeron – Director of Planning presented stating this is for consideration of an extension of the commercial property agreement of MUD 13 in Summerlyn. The extension is for 15 years and can be renewed at the end of each period. On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Troy Whitehead, Council approved an Amended Agreement for Foster San Gabriel Investments for fifteen (15) years. **Motion passed on vote of 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, and 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

Discuss and Consider a Resolution by the City Council of the City of Liberty Hill, Texas appointing a Capital Improvements Advisory Committee for the 2019 Impact Fee Update. The purpose of the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee is to look at the Land Use Assumptions, Capital Improvements and Impact Fees and make recommendations for amendments. Chapter 395 states that the Capital Improvements Advisory Committee shall have at least five members, appointed by a majority vote of the governing body of a political subdivision. At least 40 percent of the Advisory Committee must be representative of the real estate, development, or building industries, who are not employees or officials of a political subdivision or governmental entity (No Attachments). **Outcome:** Greg Boatright – City Administrator presented stating the City has five (5) names to present for Council’s approval for the committee. They are: Mayor Rick Hall; Greg Boatright; Brian Williams – member of Planning and Zoning; Joe DiQuinzio with the Santa Rita Ranch neighborhood; and Jimmy Jacobs – developer and builder of the Highland Oaks neighborhood. Ron Rhea made a motion to approve stating he supports the Mayor and Greg Boatright and trusts their expertise in this area. Troy Whitehead seconded the motion. **Motion passed on vote of 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, and 0 ABSTENTIONS.**

CONVENE - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Rick Hall will convene City Council to Executive Session for Consultation with Legal Counsel pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.071 – Consultation with Legal Counsel. City Council will entertain discussion related to the matter shown below. No action will be taken in Executive Session.

- Consultation and follow-up with Legal Counsel concerning response to the Burkett Claim. (*Consultation with City Attorney Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code §551.071*).
- Consultation and follow-up with Legal Counsel concerning Municipal Utility District No. 13 concerning the City's utility rate study. (*Consultation with City Attorney Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code §551.071*).

RECONVENE - REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Rick Hall will reconvene City Council to Regular Session following Consultation with Legal Counsel pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.071 – Consultation with Legal Counsel. Council will entertain discussion related to the matter shown below.

- Consultation and follow-up with Legal Counsel concerning response to the Burkett Claim. (*Consultation with City Attorney Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code §551.071*). No action was taken.
- Consultation and follow-up with Legal Counsel concerning Municipal Utility District No. 13 concerning the City's utility rate study. (*Consultation with City Attorney Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code §551.071*). No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Liz Rundzieher and second by Ron Rhea, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Outcome: Motion passed on vote of 4 AYES; 0 NAYS; and 0 ABSTENTIONS.

PASSED & APPROVED on the 13th day of MAY, 2019 by the City Council of Liberty Hill on vote of __ AYES; __ NAYS; __ ABSTENTIONS.

MAYOR

CITY SECRETARY