

City Council
September 19, 2022

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie, Texas was held in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas, on Monday, September 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: David Hill, Mayor, Council Member Place 1
Chris Wright, Mayor Pro Tem, Council Member Place 3
Patrick Souter, Council Member Place 2
Billie Wallace, Council Member Place 4
Travis Smith, Council Member Place 5

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager
Albert Lawrence, Deputy City Manager
Robert Brown, City Attorney
Amber Villarreal, City Secretary

1. Call to Order

Mayor David Hill called the meeting to order.

2. Invocation

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor John Han, Ferris Heights United Methodist Church, gave the invocation. Mayor Hill led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Public Comments

Emily Glidewell-Finch, 504 Sycamore, Waxahachie, Texas, thanked City Council for the support of the Waxahachie Arts Council.

Paul Christenson, 110 Williams, Waxahachie, Texas, requested City Council review and reduce the City's budget. He spoke in opposition of unnecessary spending such as adding new City staff and improvements at Lions Park.

Melissa Chapman, 615 N. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas, on behalf of the Waxahachie Symphony Association, invited City Council to attend their opening weekend at SAGU on September 24th. She thanked City Council for the support of the Waxahachie Arts Council. Ms. Chapman requested assistance from the City's communications office to advertise events for organizations of the Waxahachie Arts Council. Ms. Chapman spoke in opposition to the street closure request for Big Al's Down the Hatch 5 Year Anniversary event and requested the City establish criteria, guidelines and a policy for approving street closures downtown.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the City Council meeting of September 6, 2022
- b. Minutes of the City Council briefing of September 6, 2022
- c. Event application for Stampede of Speed Week: Cattle Drive & Pre-Stage Fan Fest to be held October 7 & 13, 2022

- d. Event application for Big Al's Down the Hatch 5 Year Anniversary event to be held October 8, 2022
- e. Event application for North Texas Olds Club Zone Show to be held October 22, 2022 at Singleton Plaza
- f. Street closure request for 26th Annual Texas Country Reporter Festival to be held October 29, 2022
- g. Updated contract with the Ellis County Tax Assessor-Collector for the assessment and collection of ad valorem property taxes
- h. Multi-year Memorandum of Understanding with Ellis County Emergency Management for mutual assistance and response during disasters as it relates to animal/pet evacuation, sheltering, and care

Action:

Council Member Billie Wallace moved to approve items a. through h. on the Consent Agenda. Council Member Travis Smith seconded, All Ayes.

6. Introduce Honorary Councilmember

Mayor Hill recognized and presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Anna Carter, Honorary Council Member for September. Ms. Carter is a senior at Waxahachie Global High and commutes from Corsicana, Texas, where she was born and raised. She has been ranked #1 in her class since freshman year. Anna is the youngest of three sisters and raised by her mother, all of which are her biggest role models. Her hobbies include baking, watching movies, hanging out and attending church with her family. She is currently studying the pre-med route at Global High and her favorite subject is math. Ms. Carter plans to attend Texas A&M University after high school to major in biomedical science before attending Texas A&M Vet School to become a veterinarian, with the hopes to one day own her own practice.

7. Present Proclamation proclaiming September 17-23, 2022 as "Constitution Week"

Mayor Hill presented Proclamation proclaiming September 17-23, 2022 as "Constitution Week" and presented it to members of the Rebecca Boyce Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

8. Present Proclamation proclaiming September 25-30, 2022 as "Rebecca Boyce Chapter, NSDAR Week"

Mayor Hill presented Proclamation proclaiming September 25-30, 2022 as "Rebecca Boyce Chapter, NSDAR Week" in recognition of reaching 100 members and presented it to the Rebecca Boyce Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

9. Present Proclamation proclaiming October 7-16, 2022 as "Motorsports Week"

Mayor Hill presented Proclamation proclaiming October 7-16, 2022 as "Motorsports Week" and presented it to staff of the Texas Motorplex.

10. Request to appear by Elizabeth Tull, President of the Waxahachie Arts Council, to present Annual Financial Report for Waxahachie Arts Council and consider request to extend contract

Elizabeth Tull, President of the Waxahachie Arts Council, presented the 2021 Annual Financial Report for Waxahachie Arts Council and requested approval to extend the current contract. She thanked City Council for their continued support.

Action:

Council Member Billie Wallace moved to approve a one-year contract extension with the Waxahachie Arts Council, beginning January 1, 2023 and expiring December 31, 2025. Council Member Patrick Souter seconded, All Ayes

11. Consider proposed Resolution authorizing defeasance and redemption of the City's outstanding obligations and other related matters

Chad Tustison, Finance Director, explained during the budget process, staff discussed using existing debt service capacity to defease or retire a portion of the City's outstanding debt. He reported staff recommends using up to \$2,400,000 in debt service capacity in the Interest and Sinking Fund to defease and/or call a portion of the Series 2011 Certificates of Obligation. This action is in line with the City's overall debt management strategy to reduce the overall debt burden, save the City in interest costs, and creates additional bonding capacity for future projects outlined in the City's 5-year capital plan and projects identified as part of the ongoing comprehensive planning process.

Council Member Travis Smith clarified that the City has been good stewards of its finances allowing the remaining 2011 bonds to be paid early thus saving the City approximately \$400,000 and Mr. Tustison concurred.

RESOLUTION NO. 1333

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEFEASANCE AND REDEMPTION OF CERTAIN OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Action:

Council Member Billie Wallace moved to approve Resolution No. 1333. Council Member Travis Smith seconded, All Ayes.

12. Ratify and authorize funding from Waxahachie Community Development Corporation for Gateway Monument Project

Gumaro Martinez, Executive Director of Parks and Leisure Services, requested to ratify and authorize funding from the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation for the Gateway Monument Project in the amount of \$625,000. Mr. Martinez explained there is a triangular median downtown that was reviewed after road alignments and TxDOT rights-of-way. He presented the landscape palette noting the monument sign is double sided and will be clearly visible when leaving and entering downtown Waxahachie. The total probable cost of the project is \$625,000.

He explained authorizing funding will allow staff to move forward with the design and engineering phase of the monument sign to prepare for bid notice.

Council Members supported the monument design but expressed opposition with the overall projected cost.

City Manager Michael Scott explained at the value engineering stage, there may be modifications to the design providing additional cost savings.

Action:

Council Member Billie Wallace moved to deny the request for funding from Waxahachie Community Development Corporation for Gateway Monument Project. Council Member Travis Smith seconded, All Ayes.

13. Consider proposed Resolution accepting and supporting the Airport Master Plan Project for Mid-Way Regional Airport

Richard Abernethy, Director of Administrative Services, requested approval of a Resolution accepting and supporting the Airport Master Plan Project for Mid-Way Regional Airport. He explained on May 12, 2022 the Mid-Way Regional Airport Board authorized staff to move forward with updating the Airport Master Plan in the FY 22-23 Capital Improvements Plan allowing the airport to fund it as part of the 90/10 grant program through the Airport Project Participation Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). He noted the plan was last updated in 2012. He noted the total cost of the project is estimated to be \$200,000 and the grant will fund \$180,000 and the remaining \$20,000 will be funded through the airport's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to cover the local match. Mr. Abernethy explained TxDOT will advertise Request for Qualifications for a consultant firm to work with the airport to update the Airport Master Plan. In addition, TxDOT will also include, as alternative bid items, an update to the business plan, rates and charges, rules and regulations, and minimum standards. This component will require funding from another source and may come back to Midlothian and Waxahachie City Council to request funding in the future.

Mr. Abernethy introduced and welcomed new Airport Manager Sharlette Wright.

RESOLUTION NO. 1334

ACCEPTING AND SUPPORTING THE AIRPORT MASTER PLAN PROJECT FOR MID-WAY REGIONAL AIRPORT

Action:

Council Member Billie Wallace moved to approve Resolution No. 1334. Mayor Pro Tem Chris Wright seconded, All Ayes.

14. Consider professional engineering services contract with Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc. for Wastewater Treatment Master Plan update

David Bailey, Director of Utilities, requested approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for providing engineering services to update the Wastewater Treatment Master Plan in the amount of \$276,000 to be funded by wastewater impact fees.

Action:

Council Member Billie Wallace moved to approve a Professional Services Agreement with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for providing engineering services to update the Wastewater Treatment Master Plan in the amount of \$276,000 to be funded by wastewater impact fees. Council Member Patrick Souter seconded, All Ayes.

15. Consider professional engineering services contract with Freese & Nichols, Inc. for design and right-of-way acquisition services for new 8” water line project along MLK Blvd. from Clift Street to Young Street

Mr. Bailey requested approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Freese & Nichols, Inc. for design and construction oversight services associated with the MLK Jr. Blvd. 14” and 8” water main replacement in the amount of \$355,000.

Action:

Council Member Billie Wallace moved to approve a Professional Services Agreement with Freese & Nichols, Inc. for design and construction oversight services associated with the MLK Jr. Blvd. 14” and 8” water main replacement in the amount of \$355,000. Council Member Travis Smith seconded, All Ayes.

18. Comments by Mayor, City Council, City Attorney and City Manager

Council Member Travis Smith stated he is looking forward to the new fiscal year and budget. He reported the C10s in the Park and Downtown Party were amazing.

Council Member Billie Wallace thanked City employees for providing all the services for this past weekend’s events. Council Member Wallace also thanked Richard Abernethy and his team for hiring the new Airport Manager and noted she looks forward to working with her.

City Manager Michael Scott welcomed Sharlette Wright and thanked Honorary Council Member Anna Carter for her attendance. Mr. Scott announced Police Chief Wade Goolsby’s retirement celebration will be held September 29th from 3pm-6pm at the Civic Center and Assistant Chief Joe Wiser will be sworn in on September 30th at 9am in the City Council Chamber.

Mayor Pro Tem Chris Wright thanked Honorary Council Member Anna Carter for her attendance and recognized City staff for their work with the weekend events in Waxahachie noting the C10s in Park was very successful. Mayor Pro Tem Wright explained City Council will work with staff to provide written guidelines for downtown street closure requests.

Council Member Patrick Souter thanked Honorary Council Member Anna Carter for her attendance. Mr. Souter explained City Council considers input from staff and citizens on how they want tax dollars are spent and encouraged more citizens to provide input. Council Member Souter announced there are many upcoming events in the last quarter of 2022 noting the success is due to

collaboration from staff and citizens. He also expressed his support of the Waxahachie Arts Council.

City Attorney Robert Brown clarified City Council Briefings are held in the Council Conference Room and are posted meetings open to the public.

Honorary Council Member Anna Carter thanked City Council for inviting her to attend September's Council meetings.

Amy Borders, Director of Communications and Marketing, announced the Mayor's Coffee event will be held on Thursday, September 29th at 8:30 a.m. at the Waxahachie Civic Center.

Mayor David Hill thanked Honorary Council Member Anna Carter for her attendance. Mayor Hill also expressed thanks to the Garland and Richland Hills EMS for their assistance at an out of town event this past weekend when coming to the aid of a former City Council Member who was dehydrated.

16. Convene into Executive Session for deliberation regarding real property as permitted under Section 551.072, Texas Government Code

Mayor Hill announced at 8:31 p.m. the City Council would convene into Executive Session for deliberation regarding real property as permitted under Section 551.072, Texas Government Code.

17. Reconvene and take any necessary action

The meeting reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

Action:

Council Member Travis Smith moved to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into an agreement for the land discussed in Executive Session. Council Member Billie Wallace seconded, All Ayes.

19. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
City Secretary