

City Council
February 5, 2024

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie was held at the Waxahachie Civic Center, 2000 Civic Center Lane, Meeting Rooms A and B, Waxahachie, Texas, on Monday, February 5, 2024 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
Terry Welch, 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

City Manager Michael Scott gave the invocation. Mayor Pro Tem Chris Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Public Comments

Darlene Miller, 240 Parks School House Road, Waxahachie, Texas, requested assistance from the City and County to provide low cost spay and neutering services for animals and an improved animal shelter.

Ann Montgomery, Ellis County District Attorney, provided an update on improvements and enhancements to the District Attorney's Office since being elected to office in 2020.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes of the City Council meeting of January 22, 2024
- b. Minutes of the City Council Work Session of January 29, 2024
- c. Consumer Price Index adjustment to the Garbage and Trash Collection effective April 1, 2024
- d. Resolution accepting Victims of Crime Act (V.O.C.A.) Grant Awarded to the City of Waxahachie to provide for a Mental Health Program for First Responders and their families

RESOLUTION NO. 1357

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE TO OPERATE THE "FIRST RESPONDERS MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM" FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024.

Action:

Billie Wallace moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda as presented and authorize the City Manager and/or Mayor to execute all associated documents as necessary. Motion was seconded by Chris Wright and carried unanimously (5-0).

6. Introduce Honorary Council Member

Mayor Pro Tem Chris Wright introduced Ken Roberts as the Honorary Council Member for February. Mr. Roberts is a lifelong resident of Waxahachie and began his radio career at KBEC in October 1980 during his senior year at Waxahachie High School (WHS). Since then, he has been an air personality, sports play by play announcer, music director, program director, operations manager, vice president, and currently serves as general manager. Ken covered the Waxahachie City Council for KBEC radio from 1985-2005.

Ken was named Outstanding Citizen of the Year in Waxahachie in 2013, served on the board of directors for the Texas Association of Broadcasters 2015-2018. He was inducted into the WHS Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016, and was a 2021 nominee for the Texas Radio Hall of Fame. Mayor Pro Tem Wright thanked the “Voice of Waxahachie” for his participation as Honorary Council Member.

7. Recognize Utility Department team members for achieving highest level of water and wastewater systems operator license

Senior Director of Utilities Kumar Gali recognized the following team members from our Utilities department for achieving the highest level of water and wastewater systems operator license:

- John Conley - Water Operator License Class A
- Wesley Vonheeder - Water Operator License Class A
- Peter Watkins - Wastewater Treatment License A

Mr. Gali thanked City Council and City Management for support in continuing education.

City Council and staff congratulated the team members for their accomplishment.

8. Public Hearing on a request by Brad Yates, for a Zoning Change from a Commercial zoning district to a Planned Development-Multi-Family-2 (PD-MF-2) zoning district, located at 600 S Rogers Street, (Property ID: 298309) – Owner: Billy K. Pruitt (ZDC-150-2023)

Action:

Billie Wallace moved to continue the Public Hearing for ZDC-150-2023 to the February 19th City Council meeting. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (5-0).

9. Consider approval of ZDC-150-2023

No action taken.

10. **Consider proposed Ordinance ordering an election to be held for the purpose of electing At-Large Council Members Places 1, 2, and 3, providing for the filing of applications for official ballots for said elections; designating the Elections Judge and providing for clerical personnel for said elections; designating the time and place of said elections; designating the polling location(s) for said election; and providing for a run-off election, if needed; and providing for an effective date**

The Item was presented by City Secretary Amber Villarreal.

ORDINANCE NO. 3448

AN ORDINANCE ORDERING AN ELECTION TO BE HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING AT-LARGE COUNCIL MEMBER PLACES 1, 2, AND 3; PROVIDING FOR THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS FOR OFFICIAL BALLOTS FOR SAID ELECTIONS; DESIGNATING THE ELECTIONS JUDGE AND PROVIDING FOR CLERICAL PERSONNEL FOR SAID ELECTIONS; DESIGNATING THE TIME AND PLACE OF SAID ELECTION; DESIGNATING THE POLLING LOCATION(S) FOR SAID ELECTION; AND PROVIDING FOR A RUN-OFF ELECTION, IF NEEDED; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Action:

Billie Wallace moved to approve an Ordinance ordering the May 4, 2024 General Election as presented. Motion was seconded by Chris Wright and carried unanimously (5-0).

11. **Consider a Resolution accepting a petition to create the Haven Ranch Public Improvement District and calling a public hearing on the creation of the Haven Ranch Public Improvement District**

The Item was presented by City Manager Michael Scott.

RESOLUTION NO. 1358

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS, ACCEPTING A PETITION TO CREATE THE HAVEN RANCH PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Action:

Billie Wallace moved to approve a Resolution accepting a petition to create the Haven Ranch Public Improvement District and calling for a public hearing and providing an effective date. Motion was seconded by Patrick Souter and carried unanimously (5-0).

12. **Convene into Executive Session for consultation with City Attorney to seek legal advice as permitted under Section 551.071, Texas Government Code**

Mayor Hill announced at 7:23 p.m. the City Council would convene into Executive Session for consultation with City Attorney to seek legal advice.

13. Reconvene and take any necessary action

The meeting reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

No action taken.

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

Deputy City Manager Albert Lawrence recognized the rarity of Class A licenses in the State of Texas. He noted most cities have one or two team members with that license and the City of Waxahachie has eight team members who have achieved the certification.

Council Member Billie Wallace thanked the citizens and District Attorney Ann Montgomery for their attendance at the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Chris Wright thanked Ms. Montgomery for her update on the District Attorney's Office. He acknowledged the concerns of the citizens regarding animal services and noted budget discussions will begin in the spring. Mr. Wright thanked Ken Roberts for his participation, Melissa Ballard and Jimmy Poarch for providing samples of Public Improvement District closing disclosure documents, and announced Matt Pittman, Meat Church, will be on the Jimmy Fallon show on February 5, 2024.

Council Member Patrick Souter encouraged citizens to continue advocating for animal care improvements. He recognized Mayor David Hill for earning the Certified Municipal Official designation and Award of Excellence.

Mayor David Hill recognized Assistant City Secretary Jami Bonner for earning her Texas Registered Municipal Clerk designation noting his appreciation for staff continuing their education and exceed expectations.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
City Secretary