

City Council
March 1, 2021

A briefing session of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie, Texas was held in the City Council Conference Room at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas, on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: David Hill, Mayor, Council Member Place 1
Mary Lou Shipley, Mayor Pro Tem
Chuck Beatty, Council Member
Melissa Olson, Council Member Place 3
Doug Barnes, Council Member Place 2

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager
Tommy Ludwig, Assistant City Manager
Robert Brown, City Attorney
Amber Villarreal, Assistant City Secretary

1. Call to Order

Mayor David Hill called the meeting to order.

2. Conduct a briefing to discuss items for the 7:00 p.m. regular meeting

City Manager Michael Scott reviewed the following:

- 5g. and 5h. Staff reviewed event applications and recommended approval noting the events can be done in a safe manner.
- 5i. Staff recommended authorizing funding from the Park Dedication Fee Fund for the additional costs associated with the restrooms at both Chapman Park and Lions Park in the amount of \$48,000 plus up to 10% in contingency costs.
- 5j. The TIRZ Board recommended approval of funding for Ellis County Museum capital improvement project and for the rehabilitation of the new location for Farmers Market.

Planning Director Shon Brooks reviewed the following:

- Item 6. SUB-4-2021, staff recommended approval of the replat and approval of the petition of waiver.
- Item 7. SUB-5-2021, staff recommended approval of the replat and denial of the petition of waiver of park dedication fees in the amount of \$85,200.
- Item 8. ZDC-6-2021, staff recommended denial due to the Zoning Ordinance not allowing solar panels on the front elevation of the home. Council Member Melissa Olson noted the home is in a cul-de-sac and the neighboring property owners have submitted letters of support. Staff noted an approval could set a precedent.
- Items 10. & 11. ZDC-186-2021, the Public Hearing will be continued to the March 15, 2021 City Council meeting.
- Items 12. & 13. ZDC-07-2021, the Public Hearing will be continued to the April 5, 2021 City Council meeting.

Fire Chief Ricky Boyd reviewed Item 16. noting the proposed Resolution would allow the city to apply for the Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant which, if awarded, would provide 100% of the eligible costs for the first three (3) years of the performance period. Mr. Scott thanked City Council for their support of three (3) additional firefighters with our current budget to prepare staffing the future Station 4.

Parks and Recreation Director Gumaro Martinez reviewed Item 17. noting the proposed Ordinance will update cemetery fees for burial plots, cremation plots, establish columbarium niche pricing, and related cemetery fees. He explained an additional rule regarding permanent markers to be provided by the City Cemetery for graves that do not have a headstone after two years of interment and a \$500 non-resident fee is proposed. Staff and the Cemetery Board recommend approving the proposed Ordinance.

Council Member Doug Barnes inquired about the price comparison to neighboring cities and Mr. Martinez noted our cemetery lot prices were low and below market value. Council Member Melissa Olson thanked Mr. Martinez for his detailed work on this Ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Mary Lou Shipley inquired about whether General Regulations, paragraph 9 should use the word “proprieties” instead of “property.” Mr. Martinez noted that could be changed.

Utilities Director David Bailey reviewed Item 18. noting approval of the professional services with Plummer Associates, Inc. for the Howard Road Water Treatment Plant High Service Pump No. 5 will authorize engineering design, bid specification preparation, and construction support services. Mayor Pro Tem asked when the pump would be in service and Mr. Bailey explained it could take up to 18 months due to COVID.

3. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
Assistant City Secretary