

City Council
September 19, 2022

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, September 19, 2022 at 6:30 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

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

City Manager Michael Scott reviewed the following agenda items:

- Item 5c, event application for Stampede of Speed Week: Cattle Drive and Pre-Stage Fan Fest to be held October 7 & 13, 2022.
- Item 5d, event application for Big Al's Down the Hatch 5 Year Anniversary event to be held October 8, 2022. Mr. Scott noted the applicant is requesting to change the location of his event from Railyard Park to the street area in front of his business. He referenced the support letters from the adjacent property owners and the Downtown Merchants Association.

The Council discussed establishing a policy and process for approving street closures downtown to remain consistent and to treat all requests fairly.

- Item 5e, event application for North Texas Olds Club Zone Show to be held October 22, 2022 at Singleton Plaza.
- Item 5f, street closure request for 26th Annual Texas Country Report Festival to be held October 29, 2022.
- Item 6, recognize September Honorary Council Member Anna Carter.
- Items 7, 8, and 9, present Proclamations for Constitution Week, Rebecca Boyce Chapter NSDAR Week, and Motorsports Week.
- Item 10, the Waxahachie Arts Council will present their annual report and request a one-year extension to continue their 3-year contract.

Chad Tustison, Finance Director, reviewed the following items:

- Item 5g, noting the proposed updated contract with the Ellis County Tax Assessor-Collector provides a variety of services including, but not limited to, receiving the Certified Appraisal Roll, providing tax roll and payment data to mortgage companies and property owners; processing property tax payments; and calculating required rates and notices as part of Truth-in-Taxation. This contract also adjusts the assessment and collection fee from \$1.00 to \$1.25 per parcel to help offset the cost of adding a new County employee dedicated to property tax.
- Item 11, during the budget process, staff discussed using existing debt service capacity to defease or retire a portion of the City's outstanding debt. He explained 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.

Thomas Griffith, Emergency Management Coordinator, reviewed Item 5h, requesting approval of a 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.

Gumaro Martinez, Executive Director of Parks and Leisure Services, reviewed Item 12 requesting to ratify and authorize funding from the Waxahachie Community Development Corporation for the Gateway Monument Project in the amount of \$625,000.

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

Mr. Martinez explained the request for funding would begin the process to bid the project before final approval by City Council.

3. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
City Secretary