

**MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
120 EAST CANEY STREET
WHARTON, TEXAS 77488
Monday, January 11, 2021 –5:30 p.m.**

City Manager Andres Garza, Jr., declared a meeting of the City Council Finance Committee duly open for the transaction of business at 5:40 p.m.

Committee Members present were: Mayor Tim Barker and Councilmember Russell Machann.

Committee Member absent was: Councilmember Alice Heard.

City Council Member present was: None.

Staff members present were: City Manager Andres Garza, Jr., Assistant to the City Manager Brandi Jimenez, Finance Director Joan Anandel and City Secretary Paula Favors.

Staff member absent was: None.

Visitors: None.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider Ordinance: An ordinance approving an amendment to the City of Wharton Budget October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020. Finance Director Joan Anandel presented to the Committee the amendment to the City of Wharton Budget for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. After some discussion, Councilmember Russell Machann made a motion to recommend to the City Council the approval of the amendment to the City of Wharton, Texas, Budget for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. Mayor Tim Barker seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The second item on the agenda was to review and consider Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council implementing the second phase of City Employee Salary Adjustments and authorizing the City Manager of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said implementation. Finance Director Joan Anandel stated to the Committee that the City Council approved in the FY2021 Budget employee salary increases. She stated that the City Staff had evaluated the revenue for the period of October 2020 thru December 2020 and that the amount received is very comparable to the same period last year. After some discussion, Mayor Tim Barker made a motion to recommend to the City Council to implement the second phase of the City Employee Salary Adjustments. Councilmember Russell Machann seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was to review and consider Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council amending City of Wharton Resolution No. 2020-39 for the continuation of the City of Wharton Temporary Policy and Procedures: HR 6201 Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and Emergency Paid Sick Leave (ESick) Act & Emergency Family and Medical Leave (EFMLA) Expansion Act and setting an effective date. City Secretary Paula Favors presented to the Committee the draft policy to continue to provide guidance and instruction to employees on

how to manage time away from work if a leave of absence is needed in accordance with the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act (ESick) and the Emergency Family and Medical Leave (EFMLA). She stated that the current policy expired on December 31, 2020 and she requested that the City Council consider allowing the policy to continue until March 31, 2021. She stated that the qualifications would remain as stated in the policy that expired on December 31, 2020. They were as follows:

1. Employee is subject to a Federal, State or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19;
2. Employee has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to concerns related to COVID-19;
3. Employee is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and is seeking a medical diagnosis;
4. Employee is caring for a family member who is subject to (1) or (2);
5. Employee is experiencing any other substantially similar condition specified by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Labor.
6. Employee is caring for a son or daughter of such employee if the school or place of care of the son or daughter has been closed, or the child care provider of such son or daughter is unavailable, due to COVID-19;

She stated that since April 13, 2020, the City had paid over 1,200 hours of Esick to those employees who qualified. She requested to continue this temporary policy until March 31, 2021 to allow those employees who may be affected by the Coronavirus and that meet the qualifications to have a continuation pay up to 80 hours of pay for full time employees and up to *60 hours of paid leave for part time employees at the regular rate of pay. She stated that the time would be calculated from April 13, 2020 and those that have not used the full designated amounts of leave would still have the time available. After some discussion, Councilmember Russell Machann made a motion to recommend to the City Council to amend City of Wharton Resolution 2020-39 for the continuation of the City of Wharton Temporary Policy and Procedures: HR 6201 Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and Emergency Paid Sick Leave (ESick) Act & Emergency Family and Medical Leave (EFMLA) Expansion Act. Mayor Tim Barker seconded. All voted in favor.

The fourth item on the agenda was adjournment. Councilmember Russell Machann moved to adjourn. Mayor Tim Barker seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.



Andres Garza, Jr., City Manager