



MINUTES

PRESENT

Chairwoman Jorja Clemson
Council Member Junior Ezeonu
Council Member Jacquin Headen

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Clemson at 3:01 p.m.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS

1. Grand Prairie Fire Department annual update

Fire Chief, Robert Fite presented a video on the 2022 Community Report. There was a discussion on the costs, uses, and number in use of fire trucks versus the fire engines. Councilmember Ezeonu asked how the change in work schedule hours to forty-eight on and ninety-six off for fire fighters was received. Chief Fite stated it is going well with current personnel and has assisted greatly in recruitment.

2. One year Via service update presentation

Shayla Law, Transit Coordinator presented a review of the first year of the Via rideshare program. She highlighted the community involvement, senior mobility on demand, and the explosive early growth. Some challenges were wait times, pick up/drop off locations, and cancellations. The year two vision is improving accessibility to seniors, safe rides home from Epic Central, cashless fares, community involvement, extended hours on Friday and Saturday, and rides to major hospitals in Arlington and Mansfield. There was discussion on the proposed remedies to solving some of the challenges and opportunities to increase operating hours on weekends with the opening of Epic Central. Councilmember Headen asked how much of the program is federally funded. Ms. Law stated that currently the program is 100% federally funded, and hopes this will continue. Deputy City Manager, Cheryl DeLeon stated we would have to start building in the budget as federal funding could be decreased anytime.

AGENDA ITEMS

3. Minutes from February 6, 2023, Public Safety, Health, and Environment Committee meeting

Councilmember Headen motioned to approve item three; seconded by Councilmember Ezeonu; Approved 3-0

- 4. Ordinance Amending Chapter 13, Article XX “Automotive Related Business Regulations” of the Grand Prairie Code of Ordinances to Clarify Definitions and Operating Requirements, Update Grounds and Procedures for Revocation, and Make Other Minor Changes; Repealing all Ordinances in Conflict, Providing a Savings Clause, a Severability Clause, and a Penalty Clause; and Providing an Effective Date after Passage, Approval and Publication**

Jody Cason, Environmental Quality Manager stated the changes to the ordinance are to address automotive related businesses that would rather pay a fine than correct violations. The city is proposing to update grounds for revocation of automotive related business permits for continued non-compliance, clarification of definition of motor vehicles to include watercrafts, motorcycles, and off-road vehicles, clarify parking lot, screening and garbage collection requirements, and document retention requirements related to catalytic converters. Councilmember Headen stated she is glad we are addressing these issues and problem businesses.

Councilmember Ezeonu motioned to approve item four; seconded by Councilmember Headen; Approved 3-0

- 5. Annual Contract for Gas Well Inspection services with Modern Geosciences for an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for one year with the option to renew for four (4) additional one-year periods totaling \$1,000,000 if all extensions are exercised**

Cindy Mendez, Public Health and Environmental Quality Director stated we sent out a request for bid on this item and only received one response from Modern Geosciences. This contract is for inspections, monitoring, and consulting. Gas well operators pay for the inspections and monitoring through reimbursement to the city. Councilmember Ezeonu asked who provides oversight of the contract. Ms. Mendez stated we are sometimes on-site and work with the vendor on gas wells.

Councilmember Headen motioned to approve item five; seconded by Councilmember Ezeonu; Approved 3-0

- 6. Approve application to the Department of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant to accept allocation of \$220,600 for energy conservation projects**

Jody Cason, Environmental Quality Manager stated this grant is deigned to implement strategies to reduce energy use, to reduce fossil fuel emissions, technical assistance, energy audits, building retrofits, electric vehicles and charging stations, and equipment for renewable energy. Councilmember Ezeonu asked if we are going the grant route or the voucher route. Mr. Cason stated the voucher route would have less administrative costs therefore we are considering this option.

Councilmember Ezeonu motioned to approve item six; seconded by Councilmember Headen; Approved 3-0

- 7. Annual Contract for disposal of household hazardous waste in the amount of \$81,100 annually through a Master Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fort Worth. This contract will be for one year with the option to renew for four one-year periods totaling \$405,500 if all extensions are exercised**

Cindy Mendez, Public Health and Environmental Quality Director discussed the annual contract renewal with the City of Fort Worth for hazardous waste disposal. She states this program has been ongoing since 1997. There was a discussion on the hazardous waste items included in the disposal, costs per household, and how we notify citizens of the disposal dates.

Councilmember Ezeonu motioned to approve item seven; seconded by Councilmember Headen; Approved 3-0

8. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 25 “Traffic” of the City of Grand Prairie Code of Ordinances to Add Section 25-59.5 to Require All Vehicles Stopped, Standing, or Parked on a Public Street to Display Valid and Current Registration, and Amend Subsection 25-60 to Authorize the Chief of Police to Designate Employees to Enforce On-Street Parking Regulations through the Removal of Illegally Parked or Abandoned Vehicles

Ryan Simpson, Assistant Director of Police Operations Support Bureau discussed this item as an amendment to the traffic ordinance by adding a provision for parked cars without proper registration and clarifying positions of authority to impound vehicles.

Councilmember Headen motioned to approve item eight; seconded by Councilmember Ezeonu; Approved 3-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

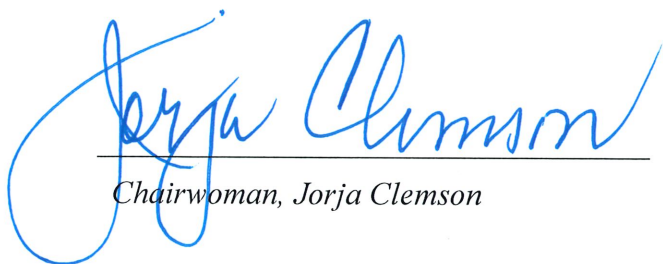
No executive session

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24p.m.



Chairwoman, Jorja Clemson