

HEWITT TEXAS

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING

November 15, 2021 at 6:00/7:00 PM

Hewitt City Hall, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, TX 76643

MINUTES

Steve Fortenberry, Mayor, Ward 3

Michael S. Bancale, Mayor Pro Tem, At-Large – **Charlie Turner**, Council Member, Ward 1

Wilbert Wachtendorf, Council Member, Ward 1 – **Bill Fuller**, Council Member, Ward 2

Bob Potter, Council Member, Ward 2 – **Erica Bruce**, Council Member, Ward 3

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Steve Fortenberry

Mayor Pro Tem Michael Bancale

Council Member Charles D. Turner

Council Member Bob Potter

Council Member Wilbert Wachtendorf

Council Member Bill Fuller

Council Member Dr. Erica Bruce

The meeting was streamed live on the city's website at www.cityofhewitt.com/790/Hewitt-TX-TV.

WORKSHOP MEETING – 6:00 PM

Mayor Steve Fortenberry convened the Workshop Meeting to order at 6:00 PM and noted that all members of the Council were present with the exception of Mayor Pro Tem Michael Bancale. Mayor Pro Tem Bancale arrived at 6:03 PM.

- 1. BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING REVISED EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK.**
City Manager Bo Thomas prefaced the discussion by reminding Council that the draft Employee Handbook was extensively reviewed by Human Resources, Department Heads, City Attorney Mike Dixon, and Assistant City Attorney Amy Thomas who was present in the absence of Mr. Dixon. He noted changes made by Ms. Thomas were made in RED, the BLUE designated changes recommended by Human Resources, and the PURPLE denoted changes made by Mr. Dixon. Human Resource Manager Jessica Higgins finalized the presentation of the proposed changes of the handbook. Final approval will be placed on the next agenda – December 6, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Turner to adjourn the Workshop at 6:17 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Fuller

AYES: Bruce, Turner, Fuller, Potter, Wachtendorf, Bancale, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM and noted all Council Members were in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Steve Fortenberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City Council invites citizens to speak on any topic not already scheduled for a public hearing. The Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the Council from discussing, responding, or acting on any comments or items that have not been properly posted on the agenda. [Note: Prior to the meeting, the citizen must complete a “Public Comment Form” and present it to the City Secretary.]

Mayor Steve Fortenberry inquired if anyone had requested to address the Council. City Secretary Lydia Lopez noted no one submitted any public comment forms. No one appeared.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1, 2021.

MOTION: Council Member Turner moved approval of the meeting minutes as presented but to allow for corrections.

SECOND: Council Member Potter

AYES: Bruce, Turner, Fuller, Potter, Wachtendorf, Bancale, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

2. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT FROM CITY ENGINEER MILES WHITNEY, P.E.

- Update on pending utility projects.
- Update on pending street projects.
- Update on pending drainage projects

- 3. BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2021.** City Manager Bo Thomas advised that Finance Director Lee Garcia previously sent the October Financial Statements electronically on November 4, 2021, and inquired if Council had any questions. There were no questions or concerns raised. No action required.
- 4. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE PARKS & BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE.** Mayor Fortenberry recognized prospective applicant Vernon Bailey who volunteered his service to the Parks and Beautification Committee. Mr. Bailey introduced himself and expressed his interest in serving the community.
MOTION: Council Member Turner moved to approve the appointment of Vernon Bailey to the Parks and Beautification Committee with a term expiring in December 2022.
SECOND: Council Member Potter
AYES: Bruce, Turner, Fuller, Potter, Wachtendorf, Bancale, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
- 5. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION CONCERNING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AWARD FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY CONNECTIVITY FUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$184,231.** City Manager Bo Thomas briefly introduced item and asked Library Director Waynette Ditto to present a detailed presentation. Mrs. Ditto recognized Library Board Members, Friends of the Library, and Library staff who were present in support. She highlighted that acceptance of this grant award in the amount of \$184,231 from the Federal Emergency Connectivity Fund would provide critical online resources to students, staff, and library patrons, by addressing the needs for remote learning. She further noted a number of policy changes written to comply with Federal guidelines. Mayor Fortenberry complimented staff for the quality service provided to the residents of Hewitt.
MOTION: Council Member Fuller moved approval and acceptance of the Federal Emergency Connectivity Fund Grant in the amount of \$184,231.
SECOND: Council Member Turner
AYES: Bruce, Turner, Fuller, Potter, Wachtendorf, Bancale, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
- 6. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 2021-10 APPROVING UPDATED MASTER FEE SCHEDULE.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented the updated Master Fee Schedule that included the new Hotspots and Chromebook fees.
MOTION: Council Member Turner moved to approval of **Resolution No. 2021-10** approving the updated Master Fee Schedule.
SECOND: Council Member Wachtendorf
AYES: Bruce, Turner, Fuller, Potter, Wachtendorf, Bancale, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Turner moved to adjourn at 7:30 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Fuller

AYES: Bruce, Turner, Fuller, Potter, Wachtendorf, Bancala, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

Approved: 12-06-2021

ATTEST:



Lydia Lopez, City Secretary



Steve Fortenberry, Mayor