



Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at 6:30 PM
8301 Westview Drive, Houston, Texas 77055

This meeting was held in person at City Hall with remote attendees present.

1. CALL TO ORDER Mayor Buesinger called to order the Regular Council Meeting at 6:30 P.M.

1.A. The **invocation** was given by Mayor Pro Tem Maddock.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

1.C. Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Bob Buesinger
Council Member Mike Gordy
Council Member Andy Carey
Mayor Pro Tem Paul Maddock

Also present were City Administrator Blevins*, Assistant City Secretary Stephens, Spring Valley Police Chief Schulze, Spring Valley Police Captain Lane, City Attorney Bounds, City Engineer Him, City Engineer Vasquez*, and Alternate Fire Commissioner Presswood

*Present remotely

ABSENT

Council Member Justin Crawford
Council Member David Schwarz

2. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS None

3. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

3.A. Police Report: Captain Lane said that there were 195 business checks, 33 public relations, and a total of 272 calls for service. He stated that there were 16 traffic violations issued.

Captain Lane said that there was a forced entry of a contractor's vehicle in June. He stated that the Flock cameras were able to identify the vehicle's license plate and it was posted on the watch list. Officers were able to stop the vehicle in Spring Valley the next day.

Captain Lane also said that there was an accident at the 1100 block of Glourie Drive where a driver exiting a driveway struck a parked vehicle.

- 3.B. Building Official's Report:** Assistant City Secretary Stephens said that there were a few upcoming new construction projects. She stated that the generator permits have slowed down and that last month there was one (1) red tag issued.
- 3.C. Engineer's Report:** Engineer Him stated that the City of Houston will allow a partial survey of the right-of-way for the **Wirt Road Safety Project**, significantly reducing the cost. These requirements will be incorporated into the Interlocal Agreement. He said the permitting review will be processed internally with City of Houston instead of the normal contractor procedure.

Engineer Him asked if there was a desired timeline for executing the interlocal agreements with the City of Houston and Harris County. Council Member Gordy said that he would like to see a new budget estimate since the scope has been reduced. He stated that the communications with both City of Houston and Harris County have indicated that they are ready to proceed.

Council Member Gordy said that the budget should include an addendum for the ramps that the City of Houston requires to cross Wirt Road at each intersection. He stated that there are currently no traffic controls and that ramps can be added at the time a traffic signal and crosswalk are installed. Engineer Him said that the ramps will be part of the discussion with the City of Houston in the design phase.

Council Member Gordy said that it would be good if the design can be completed in the next three (3) to four (4) months. Attorney Bounds suggested proceeding with the City of Houston Interlocal Agreement without a specific project cost, instead including a statement that the City of Hilshire Village assumes financial responsibility. He said it could take a month to make it through their City Council.

Engineer Him said that he was notified of high levels of ammonia in the water from the Pine Creek Lane Meter Vault. He said that HDR Engineering is coordinating with the City of Houston to get the residual levels corrected. He stated that this has happened before but not at this meter site. Engineer Him said that there is a meeting at Pine Chase Grove with the City of Houston and he will discuss this issue with Engineer Telley Dennis at that time. Engineer Him said that he is coordinating with Inframark on a Nitrification Action Plan for the City.

Engineer Him said that this issue is caused by the way that the City receives its water as well as the prolonged outside heat creating bacteria in the water. He stated that the City receives water directly whereas other cities have subsurface storage tanks that can be treated with chemicals.

- 3.D. Fire Commissioner's Report:** Alternate Fire Commissioner Presswood stated that there was not a commission meeting this past month but on June 22nd they had an orientation for the new members. He said during the last election caused a lot of turnovers, and that half of the commissioners are new to the position.

Alternate Commissioner stated that the City is the Chair of the commission, but with the resignation of former Commissioner Byrne, the Vice Chair is now in charge.

Commissioner Presswood said that the City of Hedwig Village is the last Memorial Village to vote on the Village Fire Department's Budget and that it is on their August meeting agenda.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

4.A. Discussion and approval to allow for the proposed home construction at 1210 Ridgeley Drive to construct a walkway and brick retaining wall within a portion of the existing finger of the ravine by providing mitigation by earthen cut to offset the filled area.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Maddock, Seconded by Council Member Carey.

Engineer Karl Breckon, who designed the plan said that the flow rate in the proposal is the same as the current conditions. He said that they evaluated cross sections throughout the ditch to confirm this.

Engineer Him said that this property has been through multiple owners who have tried to develop it but have not been successful for one reason or another. He stated that the design presented includes a retaining wall on the house side of the ravine which would encroach on the bank. Engineer Him said that this section of the ravine is an overflow reservoir and does not necessarily have a flow. He stated that this design includes widening the opposite side of the ditch to accommodate for space lost to the retaining wall feature.

Rick and Janet Wourms, 8201 Burkhart Road, were in attendance and expressed concern about future rain events and how this change affects the way water flows down to their property. They stated that they have had issues in the past with previous owners and want to make sure that the proposed changes will not be detrimental to surface water flow.

Engineer Him stated that because the finger of the ravine is a reservoir area, and the fact that the developer will widen the ravine bank on the opposite side, there should not be an issue. Engineer Him recommended approving the design for the encroachment and excavation of the front finger ravine.

Council Member Gordy asked Engineer Him to review the culvert size under the driveway as it appeared to have been reduced in these plans.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock

The motion carried 3-0.

4.B. Discussion and approval of a LED Replacement Agreement with CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Maddock, Seconded by Council Member Carey.

Council Member Carey said that he read through the provided agreement but was unclear about the cost. Administrator Blevins said that no costs or comparisons have been provided. Attorney Bounds said that he read through the agreement and said there was not enough information provided to determine a cost. He said CenterPoint should be able to provide better estimates based on the current inventory.

Council Member Gordy said that LED is a better option for longevity and cost-effectiveness while improving safety for the neighborhood. He said the information provided by CenterPoint does not specify if or how much money will be assessed after the installation, but that it appears the City of Pearland was able to work out an arrangement with them.

Janet Wourms, 8201 Burkhart Road, asked if the Council was discussing upgrades to the existing light poles or new ones. Council Member Gordy confirmed at this time the discussion is limited to existing equipment.

Ron Presswood, 8202 Burkhart Road, said that there is a street light near his house that is blocked by a tree. Council Member Gordy said that each light will have to be evaluated individually and that after installation CenterPoint will come back and make adjustments as needed.

The Council agreed that it is important to assess the current inventory and research lamp color tones, including what has already been installed in the surrounding City of Houston streets.

Mayor Pro Tem Maddock amended his motion to table this item until the next Regular Council Meeting, seconded by Council Member Carey.

Voting Yea to the Amended Motion: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock

The motion carried 3-0.

5. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

5.A. Mayor Buesinger's Report: Mayor Buesinger said that Harris County Commissioner Ramsey expressed support for access to Hickory Shadows Park, including the addition of a dog watering station and a dog waste station, during their meeting.

Alternate Fire Commissioner Presswood stated that this sounded like a good project for Eagle Scouts and that he would have them work on a budget and project proposal to also include planting greenery.

- 5.B. City Administrator's Report:** Assistant City Secretary Stephens said that the complaint log is in good shape. She said that the City has received a \$20,000 bond issuer check for the closing of the loan approved by the Hilshire Village Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation.
- 5.C. City Treasurer's Report:** Administrator Blevins will be scheduling budget workshops. She also recently had a meeting with Council Member Crawford on investment strategies.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Maddock, Seconded by Council Member Gordy.

- 6.A. Approve Disbursements
- 6.B. Approve the Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting, June 21, 2022
- 6.C. Approve the Check Registers
- 6.D. Approve the Quarterly Investment Report

Council Member Gordy asked about the invoice for the Flock cameras in the disbursements. Administrator Blevins said that this invoice is for the initial setup cost.

Mayor Pro Tem Maddock asked for an update on the Lift Station Generator. Council Member Gordy said the estimated time frame is October or November.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock

The motion carried 3-0.

7. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council convened into Executive Session at 7:59 PM.

- 7.A. Discuss the appointment and duties of the Fire Commissioner
- 7.B. Discuss and possibly appoint a Fire Commissioner

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Maddock, Seconded by Council Member Gordy.

Council discussed appointing the current Alternate Fire Commissioner, Ron Presswood, to the position.

To advertise for a replacement Alternate, Administrator Blevins will put out a public notice and interview candidates in coordination with Commissioner Presswood.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock

The motion carried 3-0.

8. ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Gordy gave an update on the repairs of City Hall and items that did not make it into the budget. He stated that the City obtained quotes for new carpet, tile grout cleaning, interior paint, exterior paint, and gutters on the east side of the building. He said that an electrician is being sought to add plugs underneath the dais and clean up the network cables in the main office as well as some other small electrical items. Council Member Gordy said that the lighting in City Hall points upward and is inefficient. He said that the fixtures being considered are down lighting and will provide a better working environment. Council Member Gordy said that the budget for city hall repairs is estimated to be \$1,000 over budget. He said that one option is to split the lighting upgrades for the main office and council chambers between two fiscal years, and another option is to seek alternate fixtures.

Council Member Gordy said that the photocell controlling the exterior lights at City Hall also needs to be replaced.

9. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Maddock, Seconded by Council Member Carey.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock

The motion carried 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Robert Buesinger, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan Blevins, City Secretary