

**MINUTES  
OF  
CITY OF WHARTON  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
120 EAST CANEY STREET  
WHARTON, TEXAS 77488  
Monday, July 25, 2022–5:30 p.m.**

City Manager, Joseph R. Pace, declared a meeting of the City Council Finance Committee duly open for the transaction of business at 5:30 p.m.

Committee Members present were: Councilmember, Larry Pittman and Councilmember, Russell Machann.

Committee Member absent was: Mayor, Tim Barker.

City Council Member present was: Councilmember, Don Mueller; Councilmember, Terry Freese and Councilmember, Clifford Jackson.

Staff members present were: City Manager, Joseph R. Pace; Assistant to the City Manager, Brandi Jimenez; Finance Director, Joan Anandel; City Secretary, Paula Favors; Assistant to the Finance Director, London Davis; Civic Center Manager, Makyla Monroe; Public Works Director, Anthony Arcidiacono and Director of Planning & Development, Gwyn Teves.

Staff member absent was: None.

Visitors: Mr. Ron Sander; Mr. Burnell Neal; Mr. Chad Faucet and Ms. Debbie Folks.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider minutes from the meeting held June 13, 2022. Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The second item on the agenda was to review and consider Wharton Chamber of Commerce request for the FY2023 Budget. Mr. Ron Sanders presented to the Committee information on how the use of the funds given to the Chamber in FY2022 were spent. He requested \$52,000 for FY2023 from the Hotel/Motel Fund. After some discussion, no action was taken.

The third item on the agenda was to review and consider Outside Agencies request for the FY2023 Budget. Finance Director, Joan Anandel presented the requests from outside agencies for the FY2023 Budget. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council that SPOT receive funds in the amount \$3,000, Friends of Wharton Animal Control receive funds in the amount of \$5,000 and The Crisis Center receive funds in the amount of \$7,000. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fourth item on the agenda was to review and consider Weedy Lots Liens Amnesty Program – Reduction/Payment Plan Agreement. City Secretary, Paula Favors, stated to the Committee that the City Council had approved a Liens Amnesty Program on June 13, 2022, to help clear up over \$300,000 in outstanding liens. She stated that since that time, the City Staff, had been in contact with several of the property's owners regarding their liens. She stated that many of the owners did not realize their property had a lien(s) on it. She stated that some of the owners had found that their liens go into the thousands of dollars and they were unable to pay the full amount of the liens before the September 15, 2022 deadline. She stated that the City Staff was requesting in an effort to collect some of the outstanding lien debt, that

the City Council consider approving a reduction in those liens over \$1,000. She stated that the recommendation is that the liens from \$1,000 to \$2,000 be reduced in half and then those over \$2,000 be reduced by 75%. She stated that there was a recommendation that the City Council consider approving a payment arrangement agreement with property owners. She stated that the agreement would be for those owner's having originally \$1,000 to \$2,000 in lien debt, a six (6) month payout agreement and those over \$2,000, a twelve (12) month payment agreement, ending no later than December 31, 2023. She stated that the property owners would have to pay their lien and the \$26 lien release fee to have it released by the City. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to approve the Weedy Lots Liens Amnesty Program-Reduction/Payment Plan Agreement. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fifth item on the agenda was to review and consider Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council awarding a contract for the Wharton Regional Airport Paving Project and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said contract. Finance Director, Joan Anandel, stated to the Committee that a proposal was received from Sylva Construction Company for the continuation of the Wharton Regional Airport Paving Project in the amount of \$43,230. She stated that the first section of this project was completed in August 2021. She stated that this project encompasses widening the hangar driveway area as well as the office area to include paving, replacing car stops and restriping. She stated that the City would be responsible for only one-half of the cost of this project. She stated that the remainder would be reimbursed through the Routine Airport Maintenance Program (RAMP) with the Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Division. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to approve awarding a contract for the Wharton Regional Airport Paving Project. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The sixth item on the agenda was adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

  
Joseph R. Pace, City Manager