

**MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2023**

Mayor, Tim Barker, declared a Special Meeting duly open for the transaction of business at 6:06 P.M. Councilmember, Russell Machann, led the opening devotion, and Mayor, Tim Barker, led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmembers present were: Mayor, Tim Barker and Councilmembers, Terry Freese; Burnell Neal; Russell Machann; Don Mueller; Larry Pittman, and Steve Schneider.

Councilmembers absent were: None.

Staff members present were: Finance Director, Joan Andel; Assistant City Manager/City Secretary, Paula Favors; Assistant to the City Manager, Brandi Jimenez; Director of Planning and Development, Gwyn Teves, Public Works Director, Roderick Semien; Utility Superintendent, Harold Matula and Finance Accountant, London Davis.

Visitors present were: Kristi Kocian; Debbie Folks, and Wharton Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Ron Sanders.

Roll Call and Excused Absences.

All Councilmembers were present.

Public Comments.

Mayor, Tim Barker, called for Public Comments. No comments were made.

Wharton Moment.

Mayor, Tim Barker, thanked City Staff for their hard work on the Employee Appreciation Event that took place in July.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council authorizing and ratifying the water well emergency rework through Alsay Incorporated at the Valhalla Site to include a camera survey and pump rental and authorizing the City Manager of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said purchase. Public Works Director, Roderick Semien, stated that on Saturday, July 29, 2023, the water well at the Valhalla Site was checked and the well had pumped approximately 13,000 gallons in comparison to 500,000 gallons as expected. Utilities Superintendent, Harold Matula, stated that on Sunday, July 30, 2023, the pump reading was the same so on Sunday, the City Staff began making calls and working to get a resolution to have the well become operational as soon as possible since this was an emergency.

Public Works Director Semien said that it was decided on Monday, July 31, 2023, by contacting Quiddity Engineering, that the City would need to hire a contractor to perform emergency rework at the Valhalla Well Site. Mr. Semien said that Mr. Pace was informed at the time and the City Staff was instructed to contact a contractor to get the well operational. Alsay Incorporated was contacted and was able to be on-site on Monday to address the situation. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2023-64, which read as follows:

**CITY OF WHARTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-64**

A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING THE WATER WELL EMERGENCY REWORK THROUGH ALSAY INCORPORATED AT THE VALHALLA SITE TO INCLUDE A CAMERA SURVEY AND PUMP RENTAL AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF WHARTON TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID PURCHASE.

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton had a pump failure at the Valhalla Water Well; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton had to make emergency repairs; and,

WHEREAS, The Wharton City Council ratifies the emergency rework through Alsay Incorporated at the Valhalla Site to include a camera survey and pump rental and wishes to authorize the City Manager of the City of Wharton to execute all documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS as follows:

Section I. The Wharton City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to emergency rework at the Valhalla Well Site through Alsay Incorporated.

Section II. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 7th day of August 2023.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____
TIM BARKER
Mayor

ATTEST:

PAULA FAVORS
City Secretary

Councilmember, Don Mueller, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The second item on the agenda was Budget Workshop: the City of Wharton 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget:

A. Funding Request:

1. Women's Crisis Center.
2. Wharton Chamber of Commerce.
3. SPOT.
4. Friends of Wharton Animal Control.
5. Just Do It Now.

B. Five-year Vehicle & Equipment Capital Needs:

1. Code Enforcement Department.
2. Airport Department.
3. Fire Department.
4. Emergency Medical Services Department.
5. Emergency Management Department.
6. Police, Animal Control & Communications Departments.
7. Municipal Court.
8. City Secretary.
9. Civic Center.

C. Five-Year Capital Infrastructure Improvement Program:

1. Transportation Systems.
 - A. Streets.
 - B. Major Thoroughfares.
 - C. Sidewalks.
2. Drainage System.
3. Flood Reduction Project-Levee.
4. Water and Sewer Utility System.
5. Garage.
6. Parks & Facilities Department.

D. General Fund.

E. PEG Fund.

F. Hotel Motel Fund.

G. Narcotics Seizure Fund.

H. Debt Fund.

I. Capital Improvement Fund.

J. Water & Sewer Fund.

K. Solid Waste Fund.

L. Emergency Medical Services Fund.

M. Civic Center Fund.

N. Airport Fund.

Finance Director, Joan Andel and Finance Accountant, London Davis, presented the City Council the Capital Improvements Projects. After some discussion, no action was taken.

Finance Director, Joan Andel, stated the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget would include a 10% increase in water and sewer rates and a 5% increase in solid waste rates.

Finance Director, Joan Andel, and Finance Accountant, London Davis, presented the City of Wharton 2023-2024 fiscal year budget. Mrs. Andel stated the budget would be presented at a future meeting for possible City Council approval. After some discussion, no action was taken.

Adjournment.

There being no further discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, moved to adjourn. Councilmember, Don Mueller, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: *Tim Barker*
TIM BARKER
Mayor

ATTEST:

Paula Favors
PAULA FAVORS
City Secretary

