

**MINUTES  
OF  
CITY OF WHARTON  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
120 EAST CANEY STREET  
WHARTON, TEXAS 77488  
Monday, November 28, 2022–6:30 p.m.**

City Manager, Joseph R. Pace, declared a meeting of the City Council Finance Committee duly open for the transaction of business at 6:31 p.m.

Committee Members present were: Mayor, Tim Barker; Councilmember, Larry Pittman and Councilmember, Russell Machann.

Committee Member absent was: None.

City Council Member present was: Councilmember, Terry Freese.

Staff members present were: City Manager, Joseph R. Pace; Assistant to the City Manager, Brandi Jimenez and Finance Director, Joan Anandel.

Staff member absent was: None.

Visitors: None.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider minutes from the meeting held November 14, 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 Proposed City of Wharton Write Offs:

- A. City of Wharton EMS.
- B. Utilities.

Finance Director, Joan Anandel, stated to the Committee that Ms. Debra Medina from Prudentia was recommending that any account that is self-pay and had not had any activity in a year be written off. She presented the Committee the list that represents those accounts. She stated that the City Staff had checked the utility billing system to see if there were any accounts that could provide current addresses to enable Prudentia to seek further collection on any accounts that were returned with bad addresses. She stated that all of those accounts had been transferred to Linebarger, Goggan, Blair, and Sampson LLC for collection efforts to begin from our outside collectors. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council that the total amounts be written off of the Emergency Services Accounts Receivable and should any future collections be received, the write-off would be reversed and the payment applied. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Finance Director, Joan Anandel, stated to the Committee that the Utility Department was requesting that uncollected balances from October 2021 through September 2022 be written-off due to non-payment. She stated that the uncollected balances were mainly due to customers who have moved away without finalizing their accounts. She stated that the City had applied the customers' deposit to the account but the balance remains unpaid. She stated that each of these customers had received a final bill and that the customer is not allowed to open a new utility account in the future until all utility bad debts owed to the City have been cleared. She presented the previous years' write-off for utility accounts as follows:

2017-2018	\$52,654.92
2018-2019	\$23,177.44
2019-2020	\$32,417.02

2020-2021	\$24,049.55
2021-2022	\$37,022.97

After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to approve the utility write-offs as presented. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.



Joseph R. Pace, City Manager