## MINUTES OF CITY OF WHARTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 23, 2020

Mayor Tim Barker declared a Regular Meeting duly open for the transaction of business at 7:00 P.M at City Hall 120 E. Caney Street Wharton, TX. Councilmember Clifford Jackson led the opening devotion and Mayor Tim Barker led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmember's present were:	Mayor Tim Barker and Councilmembers Terry Freese, Clifford Jackson, Russell Machann, Don Mueller and Steve Schneider.
Councilmember absent was:	Alice Heard-Roberts.
Staff members present were:	City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. City Attorney Paul Webb, Finance Director Joan Andel, City Secretary Paula Favors, TRMC, CPM, MMC, Assistant to the City Manager Brandi Jimenez, EMS Director John Kowalik, Public Works Director John Plaia and Community Development Director Gwyn Teves.
Visitors present were:	Adraylle Watson, Ron Sanders, Executive Director of the Wharton Chamber of Commerce, Karen Vannerson, Consultant with Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP, Albert Villegas with the Wharton Journal Spectator and Natalie Frels-Busby with The County Gin.

## Roll Call and Excused Absences.

Councilmember Russell Machann moved to excuse Councilmember Alice Heard-Roberts. Councilmember Terry Freese seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

### Wharton Moment.

## **Public Comments.**

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

## **Public Hearing**

Mayor Tim Barker opened a Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

1. Proposed adoption of the Guidelines and Criteria for Granting Tax Abatements by the City of Wharton, Texas.

Finance Director Joan Andel stated adoption of the Guidelines and Criteria for Granting Tax Abatements by the City of Wharton, Texas had to be set. No further comments were given.

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 2 of 15

Mayor Tim Barker closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council of the City of Wharton, Texas, establishing guidelines and criteria for granting tax abatement in a reinvestment zone created in the City of Wharton, Texas. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a copy of a memorandum to him from Finance Director Joan Andel regarding a draft version of the revised tax abatement guidelines, application, and resolution if approved to be effective December 1, 2020. City Manager Garza stated the procedure for granting tax abatement requests was to first administratively approve the application and once the application was administratively approved, a public hearing must be held in accordance with guidelines and criteria for granting tax abatement. Mrs. Andel stated that once the public hearing had been held, an ordinance creating the Reinvestment Zone may be considered by the City Council, when the ordinance creating the zone was adopted by the City Council then they may consider an ordinance approving the actual agreement after giving notice of a meeting to be held at least 30 days before the scheduled time of the meeting. After some discussion, Councilmember Terry Freese moved to approve City of Wharton Resoltion No. 2020-123, which read as follow:

## CITY OF WHARTON RESOLUTION NO. 2020 -123

## A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR GRANTING TAX ABATEMENT IN A REINVESTMENT ZONE CREATED IN THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS.

- **WHEREAS,** Texas law requires an eligible taxing jurisdiction to establish Guidelines and Criteria as to eligibility for tax abatement agreements; and,
- **WHEREAS,** Heretofore previously, the City Council of the City of Wharton did provide certain rules, regulations, and procedures for tax abatement within the City of Wharton; and,
- **WHEREAS,** Such adopted guidelines and criteria for granting tax abatement must be re-adopted or adopted, if modified, every two years in order for the City of Wharton to be able to grant tax abatements; and,
- **WHEREAS,** Over two years have transpired since the adoption or re-adoption of such guidelines and criteria; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The City Council of the City of Wharton now finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the economic development of the City of Wharton that certain tax abatement guidelines and criteria now be adopted.

# NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS THAT:

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 3 of 15

- Section I: The Guidelines and Criteria for Granting Tax Abatements as herein contained and titled on Attachment "A" hereby adopted.
- **Section II:** The effective date of these Guidelines and Criteria for Granting Tax Abatements shall be December 1, 2020.
- Section III: This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved and Adopted this 23rd day of November 2020.

#### **CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS**

By:

**TIM BARKER** Mayor

#### ATTEST:

#### **PAULA FAVORS**

City Secretary

Councilmmber Don Mueller seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The second item on the agenda was to review and consider the City of Wharton Financial Report for October 2020. Finance Director Joan Andel presented the financial report for the month of October 2020. Mrs. Andel stated that the TexPool balance for October was \$201,949.76 with an average monthly yield of .13%. She said the Prosperity Bank balance for October 2020 was \$8,791,093.92 with an average monthly yield of .500%. After some discussion, Councilmember Russell Machann moved to approve the City of Wharton Financial Report for the month of October 2020. Councilmember Clifford Jackson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was to review and consider a request from Mr. Ron Sanders, Wharton Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Executive Director, for Wharton Market Days for the following:

- A. Use of Guffey Park and the City Parking Lot across from City Hall all day on Saturday, January 23, 2021.
- B. Access to electricity.
- C. Provide trash cans.
- D. Provide a stage if needed.

City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a copy of a letter from Mr. Ron Sanders, Wharton Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Executive Director, for Wharton Market Days. City Manager Garza stated the event would be on Saturday, January 23, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 4 of 15

p.m. and the event would include vendors, food trucks and live music. After some discussion, Councilmember Russell Machann moved to approve request the from Mr. Ron Sanders, Wharton Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture Executive Director, for Wharton Market Days for the afore mentioned items A. through D. Councilmember Terry Freese seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fourth item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council approving an agreement between the City of Wharton and Wharton Long Term Recovery Team for use of 150 foot by 200 foot section of property at the north west corner of CR 222, Peach Creek Subdivision, Lot 1, Wharton County, Texas and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said agreement. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated the Wharton Long Term Recovery Team contacted the City Staff regarding assistance with storage of the recreational vehicles that were donated to the Wharton County Recovery Team. City Manager Garza said the current lease the Wharton Long Term Recovery Team had at the old Franklin Furniture Building would terminate at the end of December 2020. Community Development Director Gwyn Teves stated the City had available land that could be utilized on CR 222 for this storage. Mrs. Teves said that on October 26, 2020, the City Council Housing Committee considered the request and voted to recommend to the City Council for approval. She said the Wharton County Recovery Team was also requesting that the City provide the base material for the location and driveway into the property with the estimated costs for this being approximately \$2,500.00 with the base laid 3" thick. After some discussion, Councilmember Clifford Jackson moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2020-124, which read as follows:

## CITY OF WHARTON RESOLUTION NO. 2020-124

## A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WHARTON AND WHARTON LONG TERM RECOVERY TEAM FOR USE OF 150 FOOT BY 200 FOOT SECTION OF PROPERTY AT THE NORTH WEST CORNER OF CR 222, PEACH CREEK SUBDIVISION, LOT 1, WHARTON COUNTY, TEXAS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WHARTON TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID AGREEMENT.

- **WHEREAS,** The City of Wharton wishes to approve a contract with Wharton County Recovery Team and to enter into said agreement as per the requirements set forth in said agreement (Attachment A.); and,
- **WHEREAS,** The City of Wharton wishes to provide base material for the 150-foot by 200-foot section and drive for ingress and egress to said property; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The Wharton City Council wishes to authorize the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute a lease with Wharton County Recovery Team.

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

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 5 of 15

- Section I. That the City Council hereby approves the agreement for one year in accordance with the lease agreement between the City of Wharton and Wharton County Recovery Team.
- **Section II.** That the City Council of the City of Wharton hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute the lease with Wharton County Recovery Team.
- **Section III.** That the City of Wharton and Wharton County Recovery Team are hereby bound by the conditions set forth in the agreement.
- Section IV. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2020.

## **CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS**

By:

**TIM BARKER** Mayor

#### **ATTEST:**

## PAULA FAVORS City Secretary

Councilmember Terry Freese seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fifth item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council approving the Annual Maintenance Contract with Stryker Medical and authorizing the purchase of medical equipment and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents related to said purchase. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a copy of a memorandum to him from EMS Director John Kowalik regarding the annual maintenance contract with Stryker Medical and the quote for the purchase of medical equipment. City Manager Garza stated the quote was received from Stryker Medical in the amount of \$24,750.93.00 for the annual maintenance and a quote in the amount of \$83,552.25.00 for medical equipment. EMS Director Kowalik stated the funding for the equipment and maintenance had been included in the 2020/2021 fiscal year's EMS Department budget. After some discussion, Councilmember Terry Freese moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2020-125, which read as follows:

## CITY OF WHARTON RESOLUTION NO. 2020-125

## A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT WITH STRYKER MEDICAL AND AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID PURCHASE.

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 6 of 15

- **WHEREAS,** The Wharton Emergency Medical Services Department requests that the City Council approve the Annual Maintenance Contract with Stryker Medical and approve the purchase of medical equipment; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The Wharton City Council wishes to authorize the City Staff to purchase medical equipment; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The Wharton City Council wishes to authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to the purchase of the equipment.

## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS:

- **SECTION I.** The Wharton City Council hereby approves the Annual Maintenance Contract with Stryker Medical and the purchase medical equipment.
- **SECTION II.** The Wharton City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute the purchase of the medical equipment.

**SECTION III.** That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2020.

## **CITY OF WHARTON**

**TIM BARKER** Mayor

ATTEST:

PAULA FAVORS City Secretary

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

The sixth item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council authorizing the purchase of a Pipeline Camera System for Televising Sanitary Sewer, Water and Storm Drainage Pipelines throughout the City of Wharton and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents related to said purchase. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr presented a copy of a memorandum from Public Works Director John Plaia to him regarding the purchase of a Pipeline Camera System for the Public Works Department. Public Works Director Plaia stated there were three quotes received and they were as follows:

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 7 of 15

- 1. Kinloch-Magnum M12 Controller- \$8,687.00
- 2. Grainger-Ridgid Monitor and Camera-\$10,056.00
- 3. Blue Book-Lateral Inspection System-\$8,060.00

Public Works Director Plaia said it was City Staff recommendation for the City Council to consider

After some discussion, Councilmember Russell Machann moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2020-126, which read as follows:

## CITY OF WHARTON RESOLUTION NO. 2020-126

## A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A PIPELINE CAMERA SYSTEM FOR TELEVISING SANITARY SEWER, WATER AND STORM DRAINAGE PIPELINES THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF WHARTON AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID PURCHASE.

- **WHEREAS,** Proposals were received for a Pipeline Camera System for the Public Works Department for televising sanitary sewer, water and storm drainage pipelines; and,
- WHEREAS, Kinloch was deemed the best lowest qualified bidder in the amount of \$8,687.00; and,
- WHEREAS, The Wharton City Council wishes to award an agreement to Kinloch for the Pipeline Camera System for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$8,687.00; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The City of Wharton and Kinloch wish to be bound by the conditions as set forth in the agreement; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The Wharton City Council wishes to authorize the City Manager of the City of Wharton to execute the agreement.

## 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, Texas, to execute all documents related to the purchase of the Pipeline Camera System for the Public Works Department for televising sanitary sewer, water and storm drainage pipelines to Kinloch in the amount of \$8,687.00.
- **Section II.** The City of Wharton and Kinloch are hereby bound by the conditions as set forth in the agreement.

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 8 of 15

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

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2020.

#### **CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS**

By: \_

**TIM BARKER** Mayor

**ATTEST:** 

PAULA FAVORS City Secretary

Councilmember Terry Freese seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The seventh item on agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council approving an agreement between the City of Wharton and Bojorquez Law Firm, PLLC for redistricting in accordance with the 2020 U.S. Census Data and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute the agreement. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated the item would be discussed at a future meeting pending further information. After some discussion, no action was taken.

The eighth item on the agenda was review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council authorizing the submission of an application to the State Infrastructure Bank Transportation Loan Program through the Texas Department of Transportation for Utility Relocations required by the TxDOT I-69 Expansion Project and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said submission. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated the City Staff had been in contact with TxDOT Engineers who were working on the I-69 expansion and had been made aware that there could be some utility relocations required due to the expansion. City Manager Garza said the City Staff was requesting authorization to submit an application to cover the costs of these relocations to the State Infrastructure Bank in order to take advantage of the current interest rate and interest forgiveness if application was submitted before December 31, 2020. Community Development Director Gwyn Teves stated the City Staff had also met with Jones and Carter Inc. and had obtained quotes for the work to be completed. Mrs. Teves said the current estimated total was \$5,326,100.00 for all relocations. City Manager Garza stated that although it was the City's understanding that TxDOT would cover the cost of the waterline relocations, the City Staff felt that the total needed could be lowered at a later time. Mrs. Teves stated that the Finance Committee meet on November 23, 2020 and were recommending the City Council consider approving the request. After some discussion, Councilmember Russell Machann moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2020-128, which read as follows:

#### **CITY OF WHARTON**

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 9 of 15

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - 128**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK TRANSPORTATION LOAN PROGRAM THROUGH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR UTILITY RELOCATIONS REQUIRED BY THE TXDOT I-69 EXPANSION PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WHARTON TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID SUBMISSION.

- WHEREAS, The City of Wharton City Council wishes authorize the submission of an application to the State Infrastructure Bank Transportation Loan Program through the Texas Department of Transportation for utility relocations required by the TxDOT I-69 Expansion Project; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The Wharton City Council wishes to authorize the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents relating to said application.

## BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS:

- **SECTION I.** The Wharton City Council hereby approves the submittal of an application to the State Infrastructure Bank Transportation Loan Program through Texas Department of Transportation for utility relocations required by the TxDOT I-69 Expansion Project.
- **SECTION II.** The Wharton City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said application.
- **SECTION III.** That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

**PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED** this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2020.

## CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By:

**TIM BARKER** Mayor

**ATTEST:** 

PAULA FAVORS City Secretary

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

The ninth item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council approving Option 3 with the Texas Municipal League Health Benefits Pool (TML Health Benefits Pool) for their medical coverage transition to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas PPO on January 1,

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 10 of 15

2022 and there after October 1st and to remain on a calendar year deductible and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said agreements. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated TML Health was dedicated to providing quality benefits and exceptional value and they were excited to announce their new partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas coming in September 2021. City Secretary Paula Favors stated TML Health was giving their member groups some options about when they would prefer to make their transition to Blue Cross Blue Shield and start experiencing better healthcare. Mrs. Favors said the City was being asked to choose an option before November 30, 2020 and that City Staff was requesting that the City Council consider approving Option 3, which would allow timely budgeting when new rates for the plan were issued and it would keep employees on the normal fiscal year policy start date and annual deductible date that employees had been accustomed to. After some discussion, Councilmember Terry Freese moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2020-129, which read as follows:

## CITY OF WHARTON RESOLUTION NO. 2020-129

A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL APPROVING OPTION 3 WITH THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE HEALTH BENEFITS POOL (TML HEALTH BENEFITS POOL) FOR THEIR MEDICAL COVERAGE TRANSITION TO BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF TEXAS PPO ON JANUARY 1, 2022 AND THERE AFTER OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> AND TO REMAIN ON A CALENDAR YEAR DEDUCTIBLE AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WHARTON TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID AGREEMENTS.

- **WHEREAS,** The City of Wharton received a request from TML Health to choose an option for the transition from United Healthcare to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas PPO for medical insurance coverage for city employees; and,
- WHEREAS, The City of Wharton medical plan with Texas Municipal League Health Benefits Pool would transition to BCBSTX on January 1, 2022 and then thereafter on October 1<sup>st</sup>, under Option 3; and,
- **WHEREAS,** The City of Wharton would continue on a calendar year deductible and fiscal year plan year; and,
- WHEREAS, The Mayor of the City of Wharton has executed on behalf of the City said agreement.

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

**Section I.** That the Wharton City Council hereby approves Option 3 with the Texas Municipal League Health Benefits Pool for the transition to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas PPO for medical coverage.

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 11 of 15

**Section II**. That Wharton City Council hereby approves Option 3 transitioning to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas PPO on January 1, 2022 and October 1 thereafter and to remain on a calendar year deductible.

- **Section III.** That the Mayor of the City of Wharton execution of all documents relating to the aforementioned amendment are hereby approved.
- Section IV. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 23rd day of November 2020.

## CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By:

**TIM BARKER** Mayor

ATTEST:

PAULA FAVORS City Secretary

Councilmember Clifford Jackson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The tenth item on the agenda was to review and consider an update of City of Wharton Grant Programs. Community Development Director Gwyn Teves presented an update of the City of Wharton Grant Programs. After some discussion, no action was taken.

The eleventh item on the agenda was to review and consider an update of City of Wharton ongoing Projects. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr.'s presented a copy of his memorandum dated November 19, 2020 to the City Council providing an update on the City of Wharton current projects as of October 31, 2020, which read as follows:

#### **FLOOD REDUCTION (LEVEE) PROJECT**

The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Lower Colorado River Phase I Report - City of Wharton Flood Prevention Project and Recommended report is located at the Wharton County Library and the office of the City of Wharton City Secretary for viewing or the report may be viewed on line at <u>http://www.cityofwharton.com/information-a-notices/lcrb-feasibility-study</u>. The Project Participation Agreement (PPA) has been executed. The City has begun the process to acquire the property necessary to construct the project. The City has hired HDR for Right-of-Way Acquisition and Jones & Carter for City and private company utility relocations. The City through HDR has begun the process of making offers to property owners.

#### **DRAINAGE:**

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 12 of 15

## 1. Stavena Addition Drainage Project.

The design and construction plans are complete. The challenge on this project is to find locations to place approximately 35,000 cubic yards of soil. The ideal disposal site should be close to the project site to reduce the cost of construction. The project is listed as one to be funded with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Program for partial assistance.

#### 2. Ahldag Ditch Improvement.

The project was approved by the City Council. Public Works Director is currently working out the details. The ditch improvements were proposed under the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Infrastructure Grant Program. The City is awaiting the approval of the grant request.

#### 3. On-going Drainage and Maintenance Program.

The Public Works Department has continued working on cleaning residential draining ditches that have experienced poor drainage.

### 4. Pecan Acres (Mahann, Kinkaid, Delmas) Drainage Project.

Installation of the drainage pipes was completed. The City Public Works Department will be regrading ditches to improve the drainage in the area.

### WATER/SEWER IMPROVEMENTS:

#### 1. **On-going Water and Sewer Maintenance Program.**

Water leaks and sewer failures are still being seen in the month of October.

#### 2. Water Well and Water Plant Project – CR 222 (Halford).

Halff and Associates the City's engineering firm on the project are completing the plan and specifications for the project. The plans and specifications have been submitted to the USDA for review and approval. The City Staff anticipate the project to be out for bid by the second quarter of 2021 once USDA approves the plans and specifications.

#### STREET IMPROVEMENTS

#### 1. FM 1301 Extension and Overpass Project Progress Report.

IDC Inc. has submitted to TxDOT Yoakum District Office all required plans for the project. The City Staff continues to coordinate with TxDOT to ensure the project continues to move forward. The City Staff is working on funding for the project under the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) Program.

#### 2. I-69 Project.

The City submitted the comments as approved by the City Council to TxDOT. TxDOT has informed the City that an engineering firm has been selected to design the project from Highway 60 to FM 961.

#### 3. NanYa Exit Ramp Project.

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 13 of 15

TxDOT has been coordinating with NanYa and JM Eagle on the exit design.

# 4. 2020 City Street Improvement Project.

The City has begun the 2020 Street Improvement Project. The City of Wharton Public Works Department has prepared approximately 75% of the streets for the Street Program. The seal coating is expected to be completed by the end of November 2020.

After some discussion, no action was taken.

The twelfth item on the agenda was to review and consider appointments and resignations to the City of Wharton Boards, Commissions and Committees:

- A. Wharton Regional Airport Board.
- B. Building Standards Commission.
- C. Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities.
- D. Planning Commission.
- E. Plumbing and Mechanical Board.
- F. Housing Finance Corporation.

After some discussion, no action was taken.

The thirteenth item on the agenda was to review and consider City Council Boards, Commissions and Committee Reports:

- A. Finance Committee Meeting held November 9, 2020.
- B. Public Works Committee Meeting held November 9, 2020.
- C. Wharton Airport Board Meeting held November 10, 2020.

After some discussion, no action was taken.

The fourteenth item on the agenda was to review and consider the City Manager's Reports:

A. City Secretary/Personnel.

- B. Code Enforcement.
- C. Community Services Department / Civic Center.
- D. Emergency Management.
- E. E. M. S. Department.
- F. Facilities Maintenance Department / Wharton Municipal Pool.
- G. Fire Department.
- H. Fire Marshal.
- I. Legal Department.
- J. Municipal Court.
- K. Police Department.
- L. Public Works Department.
- M. Water / Sewer Department.
- N. Weedy Lots / Sign Ordinance.

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 14 of 15

O. Wharton Regional Airport.

After some discussion, no action was taken.

The fifteenth item on the agenda was Executive Session: City Council may adjourn into an Executive Session in accordance with Section 551.074 of the Local Government Code, Revised Civil Statutes of Texas. Final action, decision or vote, if any with regard to any matter considered in Executive Session shall be made in Open Meeting.

Discussion:

A. Deliberation of Appointment of City Manager.

Mayor Tim Barker moved the meeting into Closed Session at 7:28 p.m.

The fifteenth item on the agenda was Return to Open Session:

Action on items discussed in Executive Session:

A. Deliberation of Appointment of City Manager.

Mayor Tim Barker returned the meeting to Open Session at 8:25 p.m. Mayor Barker stated information only was received.

#### Adjournment.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

**CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS** 

By:

TIM BARKER Mayor

TTEST:

City of Wharton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - November 23, 2020 Page 15 of 15

PAULA FAVORS City Secretary

