

**MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
120 EAST CANEY STREET
WHARTON, TEXAS 77488
Monday, August 14, 2023–5:00 p.m.**

City Manager, Joseph R. Pace, declared a meeting of the City Council Finance Committee duly open for the transaction of business at 5:00 p.m.

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

Committee Members absent: None.

City Council Members present: Councilmember, Terry Freese.

Staff members present: City Manager, Joseph R. Pace; Assistant to the City Manager, Brandi Jimenez; Assistant City Manager, Paula Favors; Finance Director, Joan Andel; Assistant to the Finance Director, London Davis; Director of Planning & Development, Gwyn Teves and Public Works Director, Roderick Semien.

Staff members absent: None.

Visitors: Mr. Alec Becker with Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider minutes from the meeting held on July 24, 2023. 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 a Presentation from Mr. Alec Becker with Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc. Finance Director, Joan Andel, stated to the Committee that Mr. Alec Becker with Enterprise Fleet Management Inc. had been meeting with the City Staff regarding the benefits of leasing vehicles. She stated that the City Staff had discussed leasing seven (7) vehicles for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget. After some discussion, no action was taken.

The third item on the agenda was to review and consider a Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council approving a Utility Joint Use Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for utility service relocations on U.S.-59/future I-69 for utilities to remain in the TxDOT Right of Way (ROW) and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute the agreement. Director of Planning & Development, Gwyn Teves, stated to the Committee that the construction of the future I-69 through the City Limits is imminent, and the City Staff had been working with TxDOT on the required utility services to be relocated. She stated that the utility relocation that is being displaced in the current City of Wharton Easements required the acquisition of replacement easements. She stated that the City Staff and HDR had been attempting to negotiate with the property owners of two of the four parcels that are required for replacement easements. She stated that the initial offer packets were sent to the property owner for the following amounts:

Parcel 1: \$20,422.00 (\$0.75 psf @ 25%)

Parcel 2: \$31,854.00 (\$0.70 psf @ 25%)

She stated that Del Campo Square, LLC, countered back to the offers requesting approximately \$4.00 psf. She stated that after meeting with TxDOT on this counteroffer TxDOT authorized a counteroffer of no greater than \$2.00 psf and this was relayed to the property owner and was not accepted.

She stated that the relocation of the City's utilities was estimated to take the longest construction time and TxDOT was putting their construction for I-69 through the City of Wharton out for bid in November 2023 with construction award expected in February 2024. She stated that to keep the City from delaying the project it was recommended that the City enter into a Utility Joint Use Agreement for the utilities in these two parcels to remain in the TxDOT Right of Way and that entering into this agreement would mean that if at any time the utilities had to be moved again due to TxDOT construction, the cost would be reimbursable to the City. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to approve the resolution approving a Utility Joint Use Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for utility service relocations on U.S.-59/future I-69 for utilities to remain in the TxDOT Right of Way (ROW). Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fourth item on the agenda was to review and consider a Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council awarding a contract for the Texas Community Development Block Grant – Downtown Revitalization Program/Main Street (TXCDBG-DRP/MS) Sidewalk Project and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said contract. Director of Planning & Development, Gwyn Teves, stated to the Committee that on July 18, 2023, proposals were received for the Construction of the Texas Community Development Block Grant – Downtown Revitalization Program/Main Street (TXCDBG-DRP/MS) Sidewalk Project. She stated that KSA Engineering had reviewed the submitted proposals and was recommending the contract be awarded to Staff Concrete of Victoria. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann made a motion to recommend to the City Council to approve and award a contract to Staff Concrete of Victoria for the Texas Community Development Block Grant – Downtown Revitalization Program/Main Street (TXCDBG-DRP/MS) Sidewalk Project. Mayor, Tim Barker, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fifth item on the agenda was to review and consider a Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council awarding a contract for the Valhalla Water Well Rehabilitation Project and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said contract. Finance Director, Joan Anel, stated to the Committee that on Friday, August 4, 2023, Quiddity Engineering solicited bids for the Valhalla Water Well Rehabilitation project. She stated that the bids were due on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. She stated that Quiddity Engineering reviewed the bids for completeness and was recommending that Alsay Incorporated be awarded the contract. After some discussion, Councilmember Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to award a contract to Alsay Incorporated for the Valhalla Water Well Rehabilitation Project. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The sixth item on the agenda was to review and consider Discussion on the City of Wharton Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget. The City Staff and Committee discussed the City of Wharton Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget. After some discussion, no action was taken.

The seventh item on the agenda was adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.


Joseph R. Pace, City Manager