

**MINUTES  
OF  
CITY OF WHARTON  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
120 EAST CANEY STREET  
WHARTON, TEXAS 77488  
Monday, December 12, 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 6:30 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; Councilmember, Don Mueller and Councilmember, Clifford Jackson.

Staff members present were: City Manager, Joseph R. Pace; Assistant to the City Manager, Brandi Jimenez; Public Works Director, Anthony Arcidiacono; Director of Planning & Development, Gwyn Teves 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 28, 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 Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council approving the lease of an Elgin Broom Bear Truck from Kinloch Equipment & Supply, Inc., and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said contract. Public Works Director, Anthony Arcidiacono, stated to the Committee that the current street sweeper was not operational and with the cost of repairs being higher than its worth, he stated it was in the City's best interest to rent a sweeper for 1 week a month until the Elgin Broom Bear becomes available for purchase. He stated that the Broom Bear Truck would be available the later part of next summer 2023. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to approving the lease of an Elgin Broom Bear Truck from Kinloch Equipment & Supply, Inc. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was to review and consider Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council approving an Agreement for Construction, Maintenance and Operation of Continuous Highway Lighting Systems within a Municipality with Texas Department of Transportation; 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 TxDOT Staff in the Yoakum District Office had been in contact with the City in reference to entering into a Continuous Lighting Agreement for lighting to be constructed on I-69 during the construction upgrades. She stated that TxDOT was requesting that the City power and maintain the lighting to be installed from south of JM Eagle to just north of the future FM 1301 interchange. She stated that this would be an estimated total of 41 - 48' tall poles with 400-watt (equivalent) LED lighting. She stated that the construction would be financed and completed by TxDOT. She stated that the City was being requested to provide power and maintenance to the lighting once constructed. She stated that the Staff did speak with TxDOT about the possible maintenance costs associated. She stated that per

TxDOT representatives the illumination is mounted to the top of the center barrier so there was a small chance that the poles or arms would need maintenance. She stated that it would mostly be changing the bulbs and the associated traffic control. She stated that the bulbs should last approximately ten years. She stated that the increased cost would be for the traffic control. She stated that the estimates for the traffic control necessary could be in the \$2,500 - \$5,000 per day range to give access to change the bulb(s). She stated that after the request of the City Council to speak with TxDOT about a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the maintenance of the lights, the City Staff did meet with Yoakum District Staff. TxDOT is not in agreement with the MOU. She stated it was determined that the lighting being requested to be maintained by the City is aesthetic for the City only and not required safety lighting. She stated that TxDOT was also providing the required safety lighting at each entrance and exit ramp and along the feeders as needed. She stated that the safety lighting would be powered and maintained by TxDOT. She stated that the TxDOT staff advised that if the City wished to not provide the lighting and maintenance to the lighting as requested in the agreement, these lights could be removed from the final design, so as to not impact either agency. She stated that after discussing this with TxDOT, it is currently the City Staff's recommendation that the City Council consider executing the agreement at this time. She stated that while the lighting is only aesthetic in nature, it will enhance the future intersection of F.M. 1301 and I-69 as well as the F.M. 102 and I-69 area throughout the City Limits and provide a positive look to the City for future economic opportunities. After some discussion, Councilmember, Russell Machann, made a motion to recommend to the City Council to approve the Agreement for Construction, Maintenance and Operation of Continuous Highway Lighting Systems within a Municipality with Texas Department of Transportation. Councilmember, Larry Pittman, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The fourth item on the agenda was adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

  
Joseph R. Pace, City Manager