



Minutes
White Settlement City Council
Regular Meeting

City Hall, 214 Meadow Park Drive
White Settlement, Texas

August 6, 2019
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor White called the meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. announcing a quorum of members present as follows:

Council Member Paul Moore

Council Member Evelyn Spurlock

Mayor Pro Tem Danny Anderson

Council Member Christina Grudzinski

Council Member Gregg Geesa was absent due to surgery

Executive staff present included City Manager, City Secretary, and City Attorney. Management staff present included Police Chief, Finance Director, Public Works Director, Community Services Director, and Communications Manager. City Marshal and MIS were also present.

INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor White gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENTATIONS

The following presentations were made:

1) Mayor / City Council

a) Mayor White will give an update from the August 5, 2019 Tarrant County Mayors' Council.

Mayor White noted there was nothing to report.

b) Mayor White will give an update from the August 5, 2019 NASJRB Captain's Breakfast.

Mayor White provided information discussed during the breakfast. First was NASJRB in search of partnerships for building rehabilitation and a proposed contribution from Fort Worth. Next, NASJRB was mentioned as home base for the 301st F35 reserve unit; the need for affordable housing was mentioned. Lastly, Mayor White updated members on the N. Las Vegas Trail improvements (curve) as being approved by all parties involved.

c) Council Member Spurlock will recognize members of the Holiday Parade Committee. *This item will be presented in September.*

d) Mayor White will present the Governor's Community Achievement Award of Excellence.

Recreation and Senior Center Manager Lacey Alexander and Community Volunteer Coordinator Julene A. Conway were present to receive the award.

2) City Manager Presentation

- a) City Manager Jeff James will present a Life Saving Award to City Marshal Melvin Wilson.

City Manager Jeff James commented on Marshal Wilson's inherent ability to be present and assist others within a moment's notice; comparing this to what ancient Greeks might have called godlike abilities. Mr. James gave an account of the incident in which Marshal Wilson, during a call to assist with an unruly guest, provided assistance (Heimlich Maneuver) to a co-worker, Shelly McCormick, when he noticed she was turning blue choking on food, thereby saving her life.

Mayor White recounted another incident in which Marshal Wilson provided lifesaving assistance to Mrs. White. Mayor White emotionally told those present of a time when his late wife suffered a horrible fall resulting in a severe head injury. He gratefully shared that Marshal Wilson was at his home prior to the ambulance and provided care to her wound until the ambulance arrived.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Daniel J. Bennett of 408 Pemberton addressed the City Council regarding Tarrant Appraisal District's current electoral system, the need for changes, the process for changes, and his proposal to achieve those changes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Spurlock made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Moore seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Approval of the consent agenda includes the following:

- 3) Approval of City Council meeting minutes:
 - a) July 2, 2019;
 - b) July 30, 2019
- 4) Acknowledge receipt of Monthly Financial Statements for FY 18-19 as of June 30, 2019.
- 5) Acknowledge receipt of Quarterly Investment Report for period ending June 30, 2019.
- 6) Approval of Ordinance 2019.08.017 calling the November 5, 2019 General Election.
- 7) Approval of Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Tarrant County Fire Alarm Emergency Dispatch Services Agreement, incorporating an annual rate of \$32,604.

DELIBERATION AGENDA

HUMAN RESOURCES:

8) Discuss and consider award of RFP #2019-005 for Employee Benefits Insurance contracts to:

- Blue Cross Blue Shield for medical insurance;
- Blue Care Dental (BCBS) for dental insurance;
- One America for basic life, supplemental life, short term/long term insurance;
- Dearborn for accident plan insurance;
- Nationwide pet insurance.

City Manager Jeff James explained Human Resource Manager Shannon Jordan was unable to attend the meeting therefor Finance Director Krystal Crump would present the information. Finance Director Krystal Crump explained the RFP for Employee Benefit Insurance, proposals received, the percentage of change of each for minimal disruption of services to employees, two new insurance options as well as a second health option versus only one option previously offered, and the proposed contract awards.

Council Member Spurlock made a motion to approve award of RFP 2019-005 for Employee Benefits Insurance to: Blue Cross Blue Shield for medical insurance; Blue Care Dental (BCBS) for dental insurance; One America for basic life, supplemental life, short term/long term insurance; Dearborn for accident plan insurance; Nationwide pet insurance. Mayor Pro Tem Anderson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

FINANCE:

9) **Public Hearing and consider Ordinance No. 2019-08-15** adopting the Crime Control and Prevention District Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget.

Finance Director Krystal Crump presented the item explaining the CCPD Proposed Budget, Public Hearing held by the CCPD Board of Directors on July 25, 2019, the CCPD acceptance of the proposed budget, and briefly reviewed details.

Mayor White opened the Public Hearing. No comments were heard. Mayor White closed the Public Hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Anderson made a motion to close, seconded by Council Member Moore which carried unanimously.

Council Member Moore made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-08-015 adopting the Crime Control and Prevention District Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Council Member Spurlock seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

10) Public Hearing and consider Ordinance No. 2019-08-16 adopting the Economic Development Corporation Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget.

Finance Director Krystal Crump presented the item explaining the EDC Proposed Budget, Public Hearing held by the EDC Board of Directors on July 2, 2019, EDC acceptance of the proposed budget, and briefly reviewed details.

Mayor White opened the Public Hearing. No comments were heard. Mayor White closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Moore made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-08-016 adopting the Economic Development Corporation Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Mayor Pro Tem Anderson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

11) Discuss and consider Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Effective and Proposed Tax Rate and take a Record Vote.

Finance Director Krystal Crump presented the item explaining the Effective and Proposed Tax Rate stating a rate of \$0.732245 per \$100 valuation is being proposed. Ms. Crump noted the current rate of \$0.762186 per \$100 and mentioned the Effective Rate of \$0.647133 per \$100, and the Rollback Rate of \$0.732245 per \$100. She explained the proposed rate exceeds the lower of the Effective or Rollback Rate; and the effective rate is the total tax rate needed to raise the same amount of property tax revenue for the City from the same properties in both 2018 and 2019 tax years.

Council Members discussed information received from TAD and the likelihood of receiving different numbers at a later date. Council Members also asked for explanation of M&O for audience members. Finance Director Krystal Crump explained the M&O as maintenance and operations. She explained the proposed rate and mentioned the County verified calculations and agreed upon the proposed rate.

Council Member Spurlock made a motion to approve the proposed tax rate of \$0.732245 per \$100. Mayor Pro Tem Anderson seconded the motion. Rollcall vote was taken as follows:

Council Member Moore voting aye;

Council Member Spurlock voting aye;

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson voting aye;

Council Member Grudzinski voting aye; and

Council Member Geesa being absent.

Mayor White is a non-voting member. The motion carried.

12) Discuss and consider calling Public Hearings to be held August 20, 2019 and August 27, 2019 at 6 p.m. for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Effective and Proposed Tax Rate.

Finance Director Krystal Crump mentioned the item is to officially call the Public Hearings as previously discussed with Council. Ms. Crump stated the notices for the Public Hearings have been submitted for publication.

Council Member Spurlock made a motion to call Public Hearings to be held August 20, 2019 and August 27, 2019 at 6 p.m. for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Effective and Proposed Tax Rate. Mayor Pro Tem Anderson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

13) Discuss and consider calling Public Hearings to be held August 27, 2019 at 6 p.m. for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Annual Operating Budgets.

Finance Director Krystal Crump mentioned the Public Hearing will be a time for residents to speak on the item and will take place a week prior to adoption.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson made a motion to call a Public Hearing to be held August 27, 2019 at 6 p.m. for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Annual Operating Budgets. Council Member Spurlock seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

14) Discuss and consider **Ordinance No. 2019-08-018** amending Chapter 22 "Fees", Section 4 "Water and Sewer Services", Subsection J "Sewer Service Monthly Rates"; adopting and ratifying sewer rates inside and outside the city limits.

Finance Director Krystal Crump referenced two options presented at a previous meeting and noted City Council's expressed interest in option one. Ms. Crump explained she would be presenting information on both options with option one being provided for consideration.

Option 1 (for sewer) was presented and explained as a 20% base increase, 0.60% volume decrease; and a total utility bill comparison with this option being Minimum usage: increase 1.46 monthly / 17.56 yearly, Average usage: increase 2.76 monthly / 33.10 yearly, and High usage: increase 6.74 monthly / 80.84 yearly. Option 2 (for sewer) was presented and explained as a 2.5% base increase and a total utility bill comparison with this option was presented as an increase of 2.43 monthly / 29.20 yearly for minimum, average, and high usage. Option 1 (for water) was presented and explained as a 10.5% base decrease, 2.25% volume decrease; and a total utility bill comparison with this option being Minimum usage: increase 1.46 monthly / 17.56 yearly, Average usage: increase 2.76 monthly / 33.10 yearly, and High usage: increase 6.74 monthly / 80.84 yearly. Option 2 (for water) was presented and explained as a 2.5% base increase and a total utility bill comparison with this option presented as an increase of 2.43 monthly / 29.20 yearly for minimum, average, and high usage. Finance Director Krystal Crump provided Water and Sewer assumptions as well as residential and commercial proposed rates.

Council Member Evelyn Spurlock questioned the amount of profit gained from water and sewer rates, specifically questioning a 700K speculated amount. Finance Director Krystal Crump explained the revenues are collected to cover expenditures and these rates equal approximately \$213K which is zero profit to the City.

Council Member Spurlock made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-08-018, with option 1_ being the selected option, amending Chapter 22 "Fees", Section 4 "Water and Sewer Services", Subsection J "Sewer Service Monthly Rates"; adopting and ratifying sewer rates inside and outside the city limits. Council Member Grudzinski seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

15) Discuss and consider **Ordinance No. 2019-08-019** amending Chapter 22 "Fees", Section 4 "Water and Sewer Services" Subsection K "Water Service Monthly Rates"; adopting and ratifying water rates inside and outside the city limits.

Presentation was made under item 14 as these are related. No discussion was heard.

Council Member Moore made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-08-019, with option 1 being the selected option, amending Chapter 22 "Fees", Section 4 "Water and Sewer Services", Subsection K "Water Service Monthly Rates"; adopting and ratifying sewer rates inside and outside the city limits. Council Member Spurlock seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

16) Discuss and consider **Resolution No 2019-08-012** approving the sale of certain real property struck-off for taxes described as Lot 4, Block 12, Meadow Park Addition; more commonly known as 313 Mirike Drive.

City Manager Jeff James explained the item stating an earlier bid to purchase this property had been approved by the City Council. Mr. James explained staff was later notified by the Tax Attorneys that the original bidder did not produce funds for the purchase and therefore the bid was withdrawn and the property remained in trust to the City. A new bid has been received and is being presented for consideration. Mr. James stated staff recommends approval of the offer received.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson questioned the title for these properties referencing a prior purchaser had issues. It was explained that these are foreclosed properties, held in trust by the City and not city property the City is selling, and the Tax Resale Deed does not guarantee title. Members had questions and asked to have a member of the Tax Attorney's office present at the next meeting to explain.

Mayor Pro Tem Anderson made a motion to deny Resolution No 2019-08-012 approving the sale of certain real property struck-off for taxes described as Lot 4, Block 12, Meadow Park Addition; more

commonly known as 313 Mirike Drive . Council Member Spurlock seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

17) Discuss and consider **Ordinance No. 2019-08-020** establishing a Holiday Parade Committee.

City Secretary Amy Arnold explained the item is being presented to change the committee from an ad-hoc committee to a committee of the City.

Council Member Spurlock requested clarification of the changes. City Attorney Drew Larkin explained §2.161 clarifies duties and other language changed to better relay the intent of the Ordinance.

Council member Spurlock made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-08-020, as amended, establishing a Holiday Parade Committee. Council Member Moore seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

18) Discuss and consider **Ordinance No. 2018.08.021** adopting and enacting a new code for the City of White Settlement; providing for the repeal of certain ordinances not included therein; providing a penalty for the violation thereof; providing for the manner of amending such code; and providing when such code and this ordinance shall become effective.

City Secretary Amy Arnold explained the City Secretary, City Manager and City Attorney worked closely with Municode Senior Code Attorney, Roger Merriam, to complete a successful recodification. She explained the changes were presented to Council Members in their packets for review and the new code will be effective upon passage of the ordinance. Mrs. Arnold concluded by explaining the City Attorney has reviewed and made changes to the Ordinance stating staff recommends approval of the Ordinance as amended.

City Attorney Drew Larkin mentioned the change removes a statement that all ordinances not included in the recodification be repealed and adds language to allow for the repeal of ordinances in conflict with the code.

Council Member Spurlock made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2019-08-021, as amended, adopting a new Code of Ordinances. Council Member Moore seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor White announced City Council will convene in Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. (after a five minute break) after first reading the following:

Pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council may convene into Executive Session to deliberate regarding the following matter:

Sec. 551.071 Consultation with Attorney. The City Council reserve the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to seek legal advice from the City Attorney about any matters listed on the agenda, and the following topics:

- (a) Claims of Gary Ritchie against the City of White Settlement, Texas

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Take action, if any, on items discussed in Executive Session.

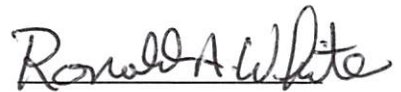
Mayor White announced City Council is reconvened from Executive Session at 8:57 p.m. to take action as a result of Executive Session.

Council Member Spurlock made a motion to authorize the City Attorney and City Manager to proceed as instructed with a proposed settlement agreement with Mr. Ritchie and authorizing the City Manager to sign. Council Member Moore seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With there being no further discussion Mayor White adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Approved this 3rd day of September, 2019



Ronald A. White, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amy Arnold, City Secretary

