

MINUTES
City Council – Regular Meeting
February 16, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hill, Council Members Gene Lockhart, Jean Klaus and Emma Martin, City Manager Marc Clayton, City Attorney Jay Garrett, City Secretary Marty Cunningham.

ABSENT: Council Member Sue Davis

1. Call to order:

Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hill called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Invocation:

City Attorney Jay Garrett gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance:

The City Council led the Pledge.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of Minutes:

City Council Special Meeting – January 7, 2016

City Council Special Meeting – January 26, 2016

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting – January 5, 2016

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee Meeting – January 12, 2016

Commerce Economic Development Corporation Meeting – January 20, 2016

Building Standards Commission Meeting – January 28, 2016

Commerce Economic Development Corporation Special Meeting – January 26, 2016

Beautification Commission Meeting – January 28, 2016

Board of Adjustment Meeting – February 5, 2016

Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting – February 9, 2016

b. Consideration of Motion authorizing placement of proposed Hunt County Public Art sculpture at City Park.

c. Consideration of Motion appointing members to the Building Standards Commission.

d. Consideration of Resolution authorizing annual election contract with Hunt County Elections Administration Office.

Council Member Jean Klaus made the motion to approve the consent agenda after the noted changes. Council Member Emma Martin seconded, resulting in a unanimous vote.

5. Presentations.

Presentation to City Council by members of the Public. (To be conducted as close to 6:05 p.m. as possible with a three-minute limit per person. Public Comments will cease at 6:20 p.m. This period is reserved for citizens to discuss items not on the listed agenda. The response to Public Comments will be limited to: 1) a statement of fact or policy; 2) Direction to take up the issue with a city staff member; 3) An offer to place the item on a future Council Agenda.

Dr. Bob Johnson came forward and informed Council and the public that there were free services offered for tax preparation in Greenville at the Public Library and in Sulphur Springs at the Wesley United Methodist Church. He added that this was a service of the American Association of Retired Persons and was for people who could not otherwise pay someone to figure income taxes for them.

1
2 **6. Presentation by City Council Members and City Staff:**

3 There were none.
4

5 **7. Presentation of Animal Shelter Policies:**

6 Animal Shelter Advisory Board Chairman Beckey Thompson made a short presentation over the
7 policies that the board had created for the Animal Shelter.
8

9 **8. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Conditional Use Permit for the property located at**
10 **907 Main Street for use as an Online Auction House within the Corridor District:**

11 Interim Community Development Director Mike Wiblin explained the location of the building and
12 stated that Mark Malloy had approached them about using it for an Online Auction House. He
13 added that it was taken before the Planning & Zoning Commission on February 5, 2016 and they
14 had approved the request unanimously.
15

16 Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hill opened the public hearing at 6:09 p.m., seeing no one come forward
17 to speak for or against the Conditional Use Permit, Mr. Hill closed the public hearing. Council
18 Member Jean Klaus made the motion to authorize the Conditional Use Permit for the property
19 located at 907 Main for use as an Online Auction House. Council Member Gene Lockhart
20 seconded the motion, resulting in a unanimous vote.
21

22 **9. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Conditional/Special Use Permit for the property**
23 **located at 1509 Live Oak Street for use as a Tire and Service Shop:**

24 Interim Director of Community Development Mike Wiblin stated that this item had gone before
25 the Planning and Zoning Commission and they had unanimously voted not to approve the
26 Conditional/Special Use Permit.
27

28 Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hill opened the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. Billy Mabry, owner of the
29 proposed Tire and Service Shop came forward and presented the Council with his ideas to conceal
30 the tires and keeping the property clean. With no one else coming forward to speak for or against,
31 Mayor Pro Tem Hill closed the public hearing at 6:17 p.m.
32

33 Council Member Jean Klaus made the motion to deny the Conditional/Special Use Permit for the
34 property located at 1509 Live Oak. Council Member Gene Lockhart seconded the motion. The
35 vote was 3 – 1, with Council Member Emma Martin voting against the motion to deny.
36

37 **10. Consideration of Resolution authorizing signors at Alliance Bank:**

38 City Manager Marc Clayton stated that this was just a formality to add Interim City Manager Ned
39 Muse to the list of authorized signors.
40

41 Council Member Emma Martin made the motion to add Mr. Muse as an authorized signor at
42 Alliance Bank. Council Member Jean Klaus seconded the motion, resulting in a unanimous vote.
43

44 **11. Consideration of Resolution calling the May 7, 2016 Bond Election:**

45 City Manager Marc Clayton stated that during the budget process, the Library Board had come to
46 the Council and talked about how the building could be maintained. The Council had indicated
47 that they wanted to consider a bond election during the next election process. He added that Bond
48 Counsel had put together some figures and they were looking to go out for bonds in the amount of
49 \$500,000.00 for improvements to the library. Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hill asked if there was any
50 member of the Library Board in the audience. Mr. Hill stated that he was a little disappointed to
51 see that no one from the Library Board was present.
52

53 Council Member Jean Klaus asked City Manager Marc Clayton how much money the City gave to
54 the Library every year. Mr. Clayton responded that the total contribution, including some cash and
55 paying most of their bills and all of their utilities, was approximately \$80,000 a year.
56

Council Member Gene Lockhart stated that he had a couple members of the Library Board approach him with concerns that they weren't prepared to present this to the public and he was concerned that since there was no one present from that board, there was something not going on that should be going on if they were going to voting on a bond issue of that magnitude.

Council Member Gene Lockhart then made the motion to deny putting the bond election on the May 7, 2016 ballot for voter's to consider. Council Member Jean Klaus seconded the motion, resulting in a unanimous vote.

12. Consideration of Ordinance calling the May 7, 2016 General Election:

City Manager Marc Clayton stated that there were 3 places up for election: Mayor, Place 2 and Place 4 and the attached ordinance would officially call the May 7, 2016 election.

Council Member Emma Martin made the motion to adopt the ordinance calling the May 7, 2016 Election. Council Member Jean Klaus seconded the motion, resulting in a unanimous vote.

13. Consideration of Ordinance calling a Special Election for the adoption or rejection on ten proposed amendments to the City Charter of the City of Commerce:

City Manager Marc Clayton stated that Jason Cunningham, Chairman of the Charter Review Committee, had presented the proposed amendment changes to the Council at the last meeting. Mr. Clayton continued that approving this ordinance would officially put the proposed changes on the May ballot for the voter's to decide.

Council Member Gene Lockhart made the motion to adopt the ordinance calling the Special Election. Council Member Jean Klaus seconded the motion, resulting in a unanimous vote.

14. City Manager's Report:

1. Financial Report:

- Finance Director Liz Saegert made a short presentation.

2. Public input feedback:

3. Calendar of upcoming events and meetings:

4. Upcoming Council agenda issues:

5. Personnel:

6. Projects update:

7. Intergovernmental Events and Issues:

15. Adjourn into Executive Session:

Mayor Pro Tem Richard Hill read the following:

If during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in closed session, the Council will convene in such executive or closed session in accordance with the following: 1) VTCA Government Code 551.071 – Consultations with legal counsel concerning pending or threatened litigation or matters where counsel's duty to the City conflicts with the Open Meetings Act; 2) VTCA Government Code 551.072 – Deliberations regarding the purchase, sale, lease or exchange of real property; 3) VTCA Government Code 551.073 – Deliberations regarding prospective gifts or donations; 4) VTCA Government Code 551.074 – Deliberations regarding personnel of the City; and 5) VTCA Government Code 551.076 – Deliberations regarding the deployment of security devices or the implementation of security policy.

Council Member Jean Klaus made the motion to adjourn into executive session at 6:32 p.m.

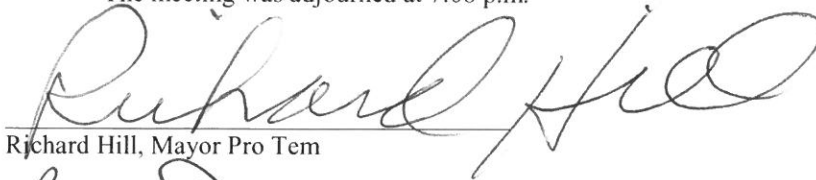
Council Member Gene Lockhart seconded the motion, resulting in a unanimous vote.

16. Reconvene to Open Session:

Council Member Jean Klaus made the motion to reconvene the meeting at 7:08 p.m. Council Member Gene Lockhart seconded the motion, resulting in a unanimous vote.

1 17. **Announcement of Executive Session:**
2 No action taken.
3

4 18. **Adjourn Sine Die:**
5 The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.
6

7
8
9
10 
Richard Hill, Mayor Pro Tem

11
12 
13 Becky Pattillo, Acting City Secretary
14

15
16 _____
17 Date

18 Minutes/2016/0121616.MIN