MINUTES
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
ELGIN PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNEX CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
404 NORTH MAIN STREET
September 5, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McShan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:
Theresa McShan, Mayor
Arthur Gibson III, Council Member
Joy Casnovsky, Council Member
Chuck Swain, Council Member
YaLecia Love, Council Member
Al Rodriguez, Council Member
Forest Dennis, Council Member
Al Rodriguez, Council Member
Matthew Callahan, Council Member

Absent:
Sue Brashar, Mayor Pro Tem
Mayor McShan stated that Mayor Pro Tem Brashar was ill. Ms. Casnovsky made a motion to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Brashar's absence. Mr. Dennis seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Staff:
Thomas L. Mattis, City Manager
Jennifer Stubbs, City Secretary
Amy Miller, Community Services Director
Chris Noble, Chief of Police
Pam Sanders, Human Resources Director
Belen Pena, Finance Director
Michael Gonzalez, Public Works Director
Sonia Browder, Media Specialist
Dodie Navejas, UB Customer Service Manager
Owen Rock, EDC Director
Kaley Frye, Assistant EDC Director
Amanda Carter, Judge
Kristina Alvarez, Main Street Manager
Maribel Rodriguez, Grants Analyst

INVOCATION

Ms. Love provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor McShan led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing On The Proposed FY23-24 Annual Budget

Mr. Mattis provided comments and stated that this was the first public hearing. There were no public hearing comments.

2. Public Hearing On The Proposed FY23-24 Tax Rate

Mr. Mattis commented that the tax rate would be reduced by 5 cents. He stated in the last four years, the city has decreased the tax rate by almost 25%. There were no public hearing comments.

3. PUBLIC HEARING ON A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS APPROVING A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH LUND FARM MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

Mr. Mattis stated this was the required hearing for the strategic partnership agreement and provided additional comments. He mentioned there would be a second public hearing and action at the next meeting.

Stephanie Lippke, 1112 N Main, read from the Charter and asked the Council to look at the Lund Agreement. She stated the MUD would expand the school district by another 1/3, extend the ESD, and promise police when the city was stretched out. Ms. Lippke stated she was against this agreement.

Wes Callias, 1834 Willow Sage Ln., stated that many citizens were tired of things going on in this town. He stated the city was trying to grow at a rapid rate when we do not have the infrastructure to handle the town that we have. Mr. Callias stated that he called 9-1-1 a few weeks ago, and it took 13 minutes for the police to show up. He stated that the Fire Department was not capable of getting to fires when needed. Mr. Callias stated that he reached out to some Council Members, and he did not receive a response back.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Carlson, 164 Lund Road, emailed the Council Members his public comments.

PRESENTATION

1. A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 23, 2023, AS AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT DAY

Mayor McShan read the proclamation and presented it to ACC Representatives Loretta Edelen, Sonia Rangel, and Lisa Lopez.

2. A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTION OF DR. RICHARD M. RHODES

Mayor McShan read the proclamation and presented it to ACC Community Engagement Director Loretta Edelen. Mr. Rodriguez thanked ACC, and he appreciated the partnership.

3. A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 18-22, 2023 AS FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK

Mayor McShan provided comments.

4. A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER AS CAPCOG PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Mayor McShan provided comments and thanked CAPCOG for their partnership.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Presentation Of The 2023 City Business Park Commercial Investment Status Report

Mr. Mattis stated that this was a report created in response to recent conversations to provide basic information about the status of the Elgin Business Park. He provided information and a report to the Council. Ms. Casnovsky asked about the Seton Project. Mr. Mattis stated that there was no timeline for the project's next phase.

2. Building Standard Commission (BSC) Quarterly Report

Mr. Mattis mentioned that the quarterly reports were provided in the Council's packets. There were no questions from Council and no discussion on the item.

3. Board Of Adjustments (BOA) Quarterly Report

There were no questions from Council and no discussion on the item.

4. Library Advisory Board Quarterly Report

There were no questions from Council and no discussion on the item.

5. General Activity Report And/Or Project Update

Mr. Mattis stated that the Veterans Park Expansion Groundbreaking was scheduled for September 26th at 10 AM. Mr. Mattis provided a Council Meeting schedule reminder. The next few Council Meetings will be on October 10, October 24, and November 14. Mr. Mattis mentioned he was notified today that the Central Appraisal District needed to make elections for the Board of Directors, and nominations must occur in October. Mr. Mattis provided the Council with some information about the Katy Project, a proposed low to moderate-income apartment project off 2nd Street. Discussion followed.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - August 15, 2023

The minutes were approved on the consent agenda.

2. CONSIDERATION OF OPEN CONTAINER WAIVER REQUEST FOR LUNA MARKET FRIDAY DECEMBER 1, 2023 FROM 5pm To 10pm IN THE ALLEYS OF 30 BLOCK OF NORTH MAIN STREET AND 100 BLOCK OF DEPOT STREET.

The item was approved on the consent agenda.

3. REQUEST TO CLOSE THE ALLEY 100 BLOCK OF DEPOT STREET FROM MAIN STREET TO AVENUE C AND THE ALLEY ON WEST SIDE OF MAIN STREET FROM FIRST STREET TO DEPOT STREET 3:00 PM TO 9:00 PM ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 1, 2023 FOR LUNA MARKET.

The item was approved on the consent agenda.

4. CONSIDER WAIVING THE OPEN CONTAINER ORDINANCE ON MAIN STREET FROM LEXINGTON ROAD TO BRENHAM STREET; AND ON 2ND STREET, FIRST STREET, DEPOT STREET, CENTRAL AVENUE, AUSTIN STREET, BRENHAM STREET FROM MAIN STREET TO AVENUE C; AND ON AVENUE C FROM BRENHAM STREET TO 2ND STREET ON WEDENSDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2023 FROM 5:00 PM TO 9:00 PM FOR DIA DE LOS MUERTOS.

The item was approved on the consent agenda.

5. CONSIDER STREET CLOSURES FOR THE ELGIN ISD HOMECOMING COMMUNITY PARADE AND PEP RALLY WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2023, FROM 5:00PM To 8:00PM.

The item was approved on the consent agenda.

6. CONSIDER WAIVING FEES FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH STREET CLOSURES PARK RENTAL AND STAFF FOR THE ELGIN ISD HOMECOMING COMMUNITY PARADE AND PEP RALLY WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2022.

The item was approved on the consent agenda.

7. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQS) FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE REGIONAL MITIGATION PROGRAM COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS METHOD OF DISTRIBUTION (COG-MOD) PROGRAM ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO

The resolution passed on the consent agenda.

8. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, SELECTING AND AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PROVIDER CONTRACT FOR GENERAL LAND OFFICE GRANT 22-085-029-D270; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO

The resolution passed on the consent agenda.

9. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH HYDRO RESOURCES FOR CHANGE ORDER ONE, FOR THE WELL 17 PROJECT; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO.

The resolution passed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Swain and Ms. Love asked some questions about Consent Agenda item number 7 and number 8. Mr. Mattis provided comments and addressed their questions. Mr. Dennis made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Love seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH AMANDA CARTER OF ELGIN, TEXAS RE-APPOINTING HER AS JUDGE OF THE CITY OF ELGIN MUNICIPAL COURT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY CHARTER; MAKING FINDINGS OF FACT; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS

Mr. Mattis provided comments and invited Judge Carter to the podium. Judge Carter introduced herself to the Council. Ms. Casnovsky made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Swain seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, ADOPTING THE DOWNTOWN ELGIN CONSOLIDATED TRASH COLLECTION PILOT PROGRAM AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO.

Mr. Mattis provided a presentation about the trash pilot program. He stated that there was uniform support from all parties. Mr. Mattis invited Ms. Miller to the podium. She stated the alleys were overcrowded and illegal dumping was a concern. Discussion followed. Ms. Love made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Casnovsky seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

3. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS APPROVING AND ADOPTING A PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2023, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, AND PROVIDING THAT EXPENDITURES FOR SAID BUDGET SHALL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID BUDGET.

Mr. Mattis provided comments. Mr. Dennis made a motion to approve the Ordinance and to set and approve the Municipal Budget for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year. Ms. Love seconded the motion. The vote was: Ms. Love-yes, Mr. Callahan-yes, Mr. Rodriguez-yes, Mr. Dennis-yes, Mayor McShan-yes, Ms. Casnovsky-yes, Mr. Gibson-yes, and Mr. Swain-yes. The motion carried on an 8-0 vote.

4. AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, AND PROVIDING FOR THE INTEREST AND SINKING FUND FOR THE 2023-24 TAX YEAR.

Mr. Dennis made a motion to approve the Ordinance and that the property tax rate be decreased by the adoption of a tax rate of $0.363265 for the M&O Rate per one hundred dollars of assessed value, which is effectively in total, a 8.50% decrease in the tax rate. Ms. Casnovsky seconded the motion. The vote was: Mr. Callahan-yes, Mr. Rodriguez-yes, Mr. Dennis-yes, Mayor McShan-yes, Ms. Casnovsky-yes, Mr. Gibson-yes, Mr. Swain-yes, and Ms. Love-yes. The motion carried on an 8-0 vote.

Mr. Dennis made a motion to approve the Ordinance and that the property tax rate be decreased by the adoption of a tax rate of $0.134972 for the Debt Rate per one hundred dollars of assessed value, which is effectively in total a 8.50% decrease in the tax rate. Mr. Swain seconded the motion. The vote was: Mr. Rodriguez-yes, Mr. Dennis-yes, Mayor McShan-yes, Ms. Casnovsky-yes, Mr. Gibson-yes, Mr. Swain-yes, Ms. Love-yes, and Mr. Callahan-yes. The motion carried on an 8-0 vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council may announce that it will adjourn the public meeting at any time during the meeting and convene in Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to discuss any matter as specifically listed on the agenda and/or as permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code

There was no executive session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Miller mentioned the Aviator's groundbreaking is on September 21st at 10:30 AM. Mr. Mattis stated that Austin Regional Clinic was coming to Elgin.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McShan adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Theresa Y McShan

Theresa Y. McShan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jennifer Stubbs

Jennifer Stubbs, City Secretary