MINUTES
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
CITY ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 310 NORTH MAIN STREET
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Chris Cannon certified there was a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chris Cannon, Mayor
Juan Gonzalez, Mayor Pro Tem
Mary Penson, Council Member
Susie Arreaga, Council Member
Jessica Bega, Council Member
Daniel Lopez, Council Member
Phillip Thomas, Council Member
Sue Brashar, Council Member
Neil Beyer, Council Member

Staff: Thomas L. Mattis, City Manager
Chris Bratton, Police Chief
Buck LaQuey, Finance Director
Gary Cooke, Planning Director
Barbara Wilson, HR Director
Joe Parten, Public Works Director
Michael Gonzalez, Parks Director
Doug Prinz, Utilities Director
Amy Miller, Community Development Director

INVOCATION

Council Member Thomas gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Chris Cannon led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas Flags.

Mayor Cannon recessed the regular meeting at 7:02 p.m. and opened the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE REQUEST SUBMITTED BY DUPY BROTHERS ELGIN, LLC FOR THEIR PROPERTY LOCATED IN A59 ELIZABETH STANDIFER, ACRES 2.2010, AT 690 WEST HIGHWAY 290, CITY OF ELGIN, COUNTY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, TO CHANGE THE ZONING DESIGNATIONS FROM C-3 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO I - GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT WITH SPECIAL CONDITIONS.

2. A Public Hearing on the Proposed 2017-2018 City of Elgin Annual Budget for all city funds and programs.

3. A Public Hearing on the City of Elgin Ad Valorem (Property) Tax Rate proposed for FY2017-18 of $.656916 per $100 valuation.

With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Cannon closed the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m. and opened the regular meeting at 7:03 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

With no one wishing to speak, Mayor Cannon closed the Public Comment period.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Introduction of New City Employee: Christopher "Shane" Watson, Public Works - Joe Parten.
Joe Parten, Public Works Director introduced new employee, Christopher Shane Watson and stated the Mr. Watson had been a temporary employee for a while and had recently become full time.

2. A Proclamation recognizing National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Elgin - September 15 to October 15.
Mayor Cannon read the Proclamation recognizing National Hispanic Heritage Month in the City of Elgin.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Monthly Departmental Activity Reports – July

Mr. Mattis stated that the monthly reports were attached and asked if anyone had any questions.

2. General Activity Report and/or Project Update

Mr. Mattis spoke about recent storm related issues and that the city had not had any of the flooding and destruction that some of our surrounding cities had. He stated that staff was prepared and ready but fortunately we did not have any major issues. He stated that Sacred Heart Church opened a shelter in the church and there were no problems. Mr. Mattis stated that Sue Beckwith had some information to share.

Sue Beckwith, Director of the Texas Center for Local Food spoke and stated that they had partnered with a national organization and seven statewide organizations in Texas for a national fund raising campaign to raise funds to help the sustainable and organic family farms in Southeast Texas who have suffered damage in the storm. She stated this is a thirty day emergency relief campaign with twenty six days left, working with farm aid statewide to look at a longer term and look at some of the other family farms.

Mr. Mattis stated that a building in downtown sustained some extensive damage due to the storm, but it was already a seriously deteriorated building and that staff were working with the owner to get that taken care of.
He mentioned that today was the first day they would start reviewing applications for the Chief of Police position, but would continue to take applications and had received fifty two applications so far.
Mr. Mattis stated that the contract with Republic for the collection of household trash expires this month, and he had not finalized a recommendation whether to bid on that contract or to work on an extension to that agreement. He stated Republic had reached out to him and the Mayor and submitted a proposal that they were giving serious consideration to, but need more time. He stated that since there would be another Council meeting next week that he would probably include a short extension to the contract at that time.
Mr. Mattis also mentioned that the Veteran's Day Parade was still on as planned for November 4th, and reminded them that the meeting next month would be on October 10th. He stated that the TIRZ project, the Lee Dildy road project would be seeking Council's approval for the debt issuance that will provide the funding for that project.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. AN ORDINANCE ASSIGNING NEWLY ANNEXED PROPERTY TO CITY COUNCIL WARD AREA NO. 3; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS

2. Approval of a request to close Depot Street from Avenue C to Main Street Friday, October 27, for the Hogeye Festival Street Dance

3. A Resolution supporting the submission of the grant application by the Elgin Police Department for the Rifle-Resistant Body Armor Grant to the Office of the Governor

4. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - August 1, 2017

Council Member Brashar moved to approve the items on the Consent Agenda with corrections to the minutes. Council Member Beyer seconds the motion. Motion carried unanimously 9-0.

UNFINISHHED BUSINESS

1. Review and discussion of the proposed FY2017-18 City of Elgin Annual Budget as presented by the City Manager; including but not limited to the possible discussion of any and all city departments, staffing, services, programs, taxes, fees, utility rates, and funding related thereto

Mayor Cannon stated that this was the third time this item was being presented as it was publicized to discuss the budget, not voting on the budget, nor amending anything in the budget. He stated that was the last time Council Members could vote to add or change something in the budget. He asked the City Manager Thomas Mattis if he had any comments. Mr. Mattis stated that from a format standpoint, these items, once the budget is presented and Council deliberates and makes minor tweaks to different numbers, we will wait until the end to provide a document that reflects all of the changes, but there was nothing significant. He stated there was the discussion on the ESD contribution, and also the discussion on the water rated increase and history on water rates. It was discovered some customers were designated to receive a little lower rate than they should have and in some kind of grandfathering clause but found no record on why that was occurring. He stated that they would be reapplying the rate uniformly as it should be and anticipate it should have a positive effect on the increase and hoped it would reduce the approximate $20 a month increase being projected, but it would not be by much. Mr. Mattis stated that another item in the future for next year, he had a meeting with the representatives of the Elgin Historic Association and that they were very appreciative of the funding they received in this year's budget, but shared some concern about the future and being able to operate the Depot due to having problems getting volunteers. Mr.Mattis stated that he agreed that if they could not operate without volunteers, and to keep the facility as the asset to the community that it is, the city should absorb the costs, but that would be a discussion for next year's budget.

2. AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING GENERAL RULES AND PROCEDURES, INCLUDING APPOINTMENTS, TERM LIMITS, AND RELATED MATTERS FOR ALL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS; REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; AND PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE

Council Member Thomas moved to accept the ordinance as written except striking out Section 9 regarding term limits. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Mayor Cannon clarified that the motion was to strike out section 9 regarding term limits and the residency would be on a case by case basis. Council Member Thomas agreed that it would be on a case by case as necessary and the amendment he is adding is striking Section 9 term limits, and then bring back the ordinance for an official vote. Mayor Cannon stated a reference of parliamentary procedure, Robert's Rules that there could be two motions made at one time and was at the Chair's discretion on which one to vote on first. He stated that he would always vote on the first one and if anyone had another motion on Council Member Thomas's motion after the discussion he would entertain one at that time. Mayor Cannon stated there was a motion and a second for the passage of the ordinance as presented striking the section regarding term limits for Board and Commission members. City Manager Thomas Mattis asked for clarification asking if the ordinance would be brought back with the changes for final approval. Mayor Cannon said that was correct. Motion carried by unanimous vote 9-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN ELGIN PARK TERMS OF USE AGREEMENT WITH THE FRIENDS OF ELGIN PARKS; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Council Member Brashar moved to approve the Resolution to execute an Elgin Park Terms of Use Agreement with the Friends of Elgin Parks, and Providing for Related Matters. Council Member Thomas seconds the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote 9-0.

2. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS ADOPTED IN CHAPTER 46, SECTION 46-3, REVISED CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, 2013 AND MAKING THIS AMENDMENT A PART OF SAID OFFICIAL ZONING MAP, TO WIT: TO ZONE AS I GENERAL INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, WITH SPECIAL CONDITIONS, THE PROPERTY BEING APPROXIMATELY 2.201 ACRES OUT OF THE ELIZABETH STANDIFER ABSTRACT NO. A59, CITY OF ELGIN, BASTROP COUNTY, TEXAS; AND PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS.

Council Member Penson moved to approve an Ordinance amending the Official Zoning map of the City of Elgin as presented. Council Member Brashar seconds the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote 9-0.

3. Discussion and action to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Broker of Record Agreement for Employee Benefits with Frost Bank.

Council Member Brashar to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Broker of Record Agreement for Employee Benefits with Frost Bank. Council Member Beyer seconds the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote 9-0.

4. Discussion and action to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Broker of Record Agreement for Voluntary Employee Benefits with Colonial Life Insurance.

Council Member Thomas moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Broker of Record Agreement with Colonial Life Insurance. Council Member Lopez seconds the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote 9-0

5. Discussion and action for approval of a contract for Election Services between the Elections Administrator of Bastrop County and the City of Elgin for the November 7, 2017 Election.

Council Member Penson moved to approve a contract for Election Services. Council Member Brashar seconds the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote 9-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cannon mentioned the National Night Out on October 3rd and asked if anyone wanted to participate in the block parties to reach out to the City Manager or Chief of Police.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Cannon adjourned the City Council meeting at 9:04 p.m.

APPROVED

Chris Cannon, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amelia Sanchez, City Secretary