

MINUTES
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
ELGIN PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNEX CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
404 NORTH MAIN STREET
August 2, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McShan called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Theresa McShan, Mayor
Sue Brashar, Mayor Pro Tem
Arthur Gibson III, Council Member
Joy Casnovsky, Council Member
Matthew Callahan, Council Member
Forest Dennis, Council Member
Al Rodriguez, Council Member
Chuck Swain, Council Member
Skyler Maldonado, Council Member

Mayor McShan stated there was a quorum and that Mr. Maldonado is not here because of work. Mr. Dennis made a motion to excuse Mr. Maldonado's absence. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Staff: Thomas L. Mattis, City Manager
Amy Miller, Community Development Director
Jennifer Stubbs, City Secretary
Michael Gonzalez, Public Works Director
Aaron Crim, Commander
Pam Sanders, HR Director

INVOCATION

Mayor McShan 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 COMMENT

Taylor Christian, 317 McClendon Drive, thanked the Councilmembers for meeting on the Board Appointments. She stated that when Mr. Callahan asked if there were any boards to think about as the city changes, she thinks a Strategic Planning Board and a Strategic Plan for the City is needed. She stated that Elgin has a unique culture and if you do not work very hard to get all of the boards, the Council, on the same board with a plan, growth is going to get away from us and we are just going to end up another suburb of Austin that is just strip malls. Ms. Christian stated the Council discussed not doing another round of applications and she agreed. Ms. Christian stated that maybe an e-mail could be put together with some descriptors on what the different councils are and give people a chance to adjust. She stated there is a lot of opportunity for better communication about the boards.

Karen Bernstein, 117 Central Avenue, stated that she thinks we all have been haunted by the events this last Spring, the shooting in Uvalde, and assault weapon attacks throughout the state. She stated that she would like to volunteer her time to work with the City Council, Mayor, and Manager for a city-wide discussion about this from a safety perspective. She stated to not call it gun control and to take politics out of it. Ms. Bernstein asked for there to be a forum that is not aggressive or political. She stated that there are many philosophies about guns and gun rights, and she would like to learn from people who might not share her opinions.

PRESENTATION

1. A PROCLAMATION DECLARING AUGUST 20, 2022, AS FOUNDER'S DAY IN THE CITY OF ELGIN

Mayor McShan read the proclamation and presented it to Mr. Dennis, Ms. YaLecia Love, and Ms. Karen Bernstein.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT

1. #ETX150 Mid-Year Sesquicentennial Update

Ms. O'Brien presented and provided an update to the Council. Mr. Dennis thanked Ms. O'Brien and invited the public to join in on the Founder's Day events. Mr. Dennis stated that in October, the Sesquicentennial Committee will request additional funding to finish out the year.

2. Report On Plans For Upgrades In Base Compensation For All Elgin Police Department Patrol Officer Positions

Mr. Mattis stated we continue to struggle with filling vacancies in the Department and staying competitive in compensating our employees. He stated that even though we are two months away from the new budget, staff feels that it is imperative that we make this decision now and move forward because it is affordable for the city. Mr. Mattis stated that this is a pay bump that would only apply to 14 uniformed patrol officers. He stated that this will add an additional cost of over \$200,000 through the end of the fiscal year. With this mid-year increase, the EPD personnel budget

is still projected to end the fiscal year \$300,000 under budget. Mr. Mattis answered questions of the Council.

3. Update On The Transfer Of The Homestead Estates Subdivision From The Aqua Water Supply Corporation (WSC) Certificate Of Convenience And Necessity (CCN) To The City CCN

Mr. Mattis gave a presentation about the agreement and provided details regarding the transfer of funds between Homestead Estates Subdivision, Aqua Water Supply Corporation, and the City of Elgin. Mr. Mattis stated that the water is the same.

4. Update On Discussion Of Establishing A Tax Ceiling Freeze In The FY22-23 Annual Budget For City Property Taxpayers Over The Age Of 65

Mr. Mattis provided an update regarding establishing a Tax Ceiling Freeze. He stated that a tax freeze or increasing the exemption are options. Mr. Mattis discussed the limitations on the freeze and compared surrounding entities' exemptions that are already in place. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar requested to bring up this item later. Discussion followed.

5. General Activity Report And/Or Project Update

Mr. Mattis stated that the City's application for \$1.6 million grant to support the Economic Development Corporation and the Elgin Business Park was awarded. He stated in the past three years, the city has received over \$20 million in grant funds to support infrastructure improvements.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - July 5, 2022

The minutes passed on the consent agenda.

2. Request To Waive The Open Container Ordinance For October 20th, 21st, And 22nd For The 35th Annual Hogeye Festival

The item passed on the consent agenda.

3. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH AS PART OF THEIR ANNUAL FIESTA ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2022, TO (1) WAIVE THE OPEN CONTAINER ORDINANCE FOR SEPTEMBER 4 FROM 3:00 PM To 10:30 PM AND (2) ALLOW LIVE MUSIC TO CONTINUE AT ELGIN MEMORIAL PARK UNTIL 10:00PM ON SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4

The item passed on the consent agenda.

4. A RESOLUTION OF CITY OF ELGIN TEXAS, DESIGNATING THE BASTROP COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR COLLECTOR TO CALCULATE AND CERTIFY THE TRUTH IN TAXATION (T-N-T) TAX RATES

The resolution passed on the consent agenda.

5. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH TRC ENGINEERS INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE ROY RIVERS BLVD. EXTENSION PHASE III PROJECT; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO

Mr. Dennis made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Casnovsky seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2022 FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN, A REPORT ON ANTICIPATED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AND PROJECTS FOR ALL MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Mr. Mattis provided a presentation over the amended proposed Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan and answered questions of the Council. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Gibson seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

2. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, DESIGNATING BAIRD/WILLIAMS CONSTRUCTION AS THE MOST QUALIFIED FIRM TO PROVIDE A “CONSTRUCTION MANAGER AT RISK” DELIVERY METHOD FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CITY OF ELGIN POLICE DEPARTMENT STATION; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO

Mr. Mattis provided comments and stated that this resolution authorizes the City to enter negotiations on a contract with Baird/Williams Construction, which will come back to the Council. He answered questions of the Council. Mr. Callahan made a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Swain seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

3. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, APPOINTING REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Mr. Mattis provided comments and stated we needed to fill in the blank. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar made a motion to appoint Mayor McShan and Councilmember Dennis as our representatives to CAPCOG. Ms. Casnovsky seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

4. AN ORDINANCE ORDERING A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF ELGIN ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022, TO SUBMIT TO THE VOTERS A PROPOSED CITIZEN-INITIATED PETITION REGARDING THE CREATION OF THE ORDINANCE TO ELIMINATE LOW-LEVEL MARIJUANA ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Mattis stated this is the Ordinance to order the Municipal Election for November 8th and provided comments. Mr. Callahan made a motion to approve the Ordinance as read. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

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.

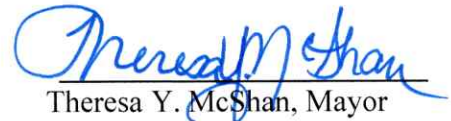
The Council did not retire into Executive Session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

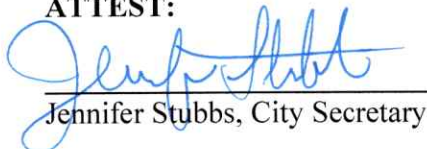
Mayor Pro Tem Brashar reminded those in attendance about Founder's Day and school is starting soon. Mayor McShan stated that on Saturday, there will be a back-to-school giveaway at Straight Gate Baptist Church from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Mr. Rodriguez stated that Elgin ISD is implementing a clear backpack policy. Mr. Dennis invited the public to attend and promote the Founder's Day event. Mr. Swain stated that he recently went on a ride along with the Police Station and was impressed with their interactions with the community.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McShan adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.


Theresa Y. McShan, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jennifer Stubbs, City Secretary