

HEWITT TEXAS

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING

October 16, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Hewitt City Hall, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, TX 76643

MINUTES

Steve Fortenberry, Mayor, Ward 3

Erica Bruce, Mayor Pro Tem, Ward 3 – **Michael S. Bancale**, Council Member, At-Large

Johnny Stephens, Council Member, Ward 1 – **Johnny Price**, Council Member, Ward 2

Bob Potter, Council Member, Ward 2 – **Brad Turner**, Council Member, Ward 1

WORKSHOP MEETING - 6:30 PM

WORKSHOP DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Workshop Meeting to order at 6:30 PM, and announced a quorum was present. Council Member Johnny Stephens was absent.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

1. Briefing and discussion concerning water and wastewater rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
City Manager Bo Thomas reviewed portions of the Wildan Water and Wastewater Rate Study to clarify the recommended rate changes in the FY 2023-2024 Budget (agenda item 9).

WORKSHOP ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce to adjourn the Workshop meeting at 6:50 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Price, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Stephens

MOTION PASSED.

REGULAR MEETING - 7:00 PM

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and announced a quorum was present. Council Member Johnny Stephens was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Fortenberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City Council invites citizens to speak on any topic not already scheduled for a public hearing. The Texas Open Meetings Act prohibits the Council from discussing, responding to, or acting on any comments or items not properly posted on the agenda. (Note: Members of the public who wish to speak must complete a "Public Comment Form" and present it to the City Secretary before the meeting.)

Mayor Fortenberry read the statement above and inquired if the City Secretary received any public comment forms. The City Secretary received no public comment forms.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

2. Approval of minutes for the Workshop/Regular Meeting held October 2, 2023.
MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved approval of the minutes as presented but to allow for corrections.
SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale
AYES: Bancale, Potter, Price, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Stephens
MOTION PASSED.
3. Presentation of the report from the City Engineer Miles Whitney, P.E.
Update on pending utility projects
Update on pending street projects
Update on pending drainage projects.
City Engineer Miles Whitney presented a review of the listed projects.
4. Update and discussion on SAFER Grant and staffing plan.
City Manager Bo Thomas advised the Council that the SAFER Grant was not awarded. He reiterated during budget discussions that the plan to hire six additional firefighters was contingent on the grant award; however, the FY 2023-2024 budget could be adjusted to hire three additional firefighters if the grant was not awarded. Mr. Thomas provided two handouts detailing the new General Fund Projection. He stated that this item was to seek the Council's consent to make the necessary adjustment to the FY 2023-2024 budget to hire three firefighters. Staff would reapply for the grant and re-evaluate as time progresses. Council agreed to move forward with the hiring of three firefighters.
5. Discussion concerning Financial Statements ending September 30, 2023.
City Manager Bo Thomas advised that Finance Director Lee Garcia previously sent the September Financial Statements electronically for the Council to review and inquired if the Council had any questions. The Council raised no questions or concerns.
6. Discussion and possible action on approval of the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ending September 30, 2023.
City Manager Bo Thomas presented the quarterly investment report prepared by Valley View Consulting, L.L.C. Council Member Bob Potter commended the staff for investing funds to improve interest revenue dramatically.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved to approve the quarterly report as of September 30, 2023.

SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Price, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Stephens

MOTION PASSED.

7. Discussion and possible action on the Capital Improvement Projects on Briarfield and E. Wall Streets.

City Manager Bo Thomas reviewed the previous discussion on the cost comparison options for bidding on these two Capital Improvement Projects. He sought Council direction on how to proceed with bidding on the projects. Council Member Michael Bancale preferred to proceed with the urban profile (curb and gutter).

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to choose the urban profile (curb and gutter) for the Capital Improvement Projects on Briarfield and E. Wall Streets.

SECOND: Council Member Johnny Price

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Price, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Stephens

MOTION PASSED.

8. Discussion and possible action on proposal award for the Commerce Park Water Plant Improvement - Well No. 8, Project No.: 1-03655.

City Manager Bo Thomas gave an overview of the proposal process and the results of the evaluation committee review. He also advised the Council that he received an email from the low proposer expressing his disagreement with the evaluation of the proposal. Mayor Fortenberry noted the low proposer was not present at the meeting.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved approval to award the Commerce Park Water Plant Improvement - Well No. 8 Project No. 1-03655 to Weisinger Incorporated.

SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter

The City Secretary polled the Council.

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Price, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Stephens

MOTION PASSED.

9. Discussion and possible action on **Resolution No. 2023-11** establishing water and wastewater rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

City Manager Bo Thomas presented.

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved approval of **Resolution No. 2023-11** establishing water and wastewater rates for FY 2023-2024.

SECOND: Council Member Johnny Price

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Price, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Stephens

MOTION PASSED.

10. Discussion and possible action on rescheduling the City Council meetings through January 2024.

City Manager Bo Thomas presented the potential options for rescheduling the City Council meetings through January 2024.

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to change both November Council meeting dates to November 13 and November 27, to meet only on December 11, 2023, and move January Council meeting dates to January 8 and January 22.

SECOND: Council Member Potter

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Price, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Stephens

MOTION PASSED.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:47 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Johnny Price

AYES: Bancale, Potter, Price, Turner, Bruce, and Fortenberry

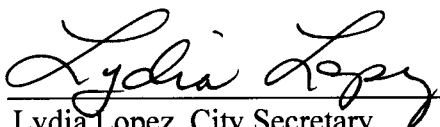
NAYES: None

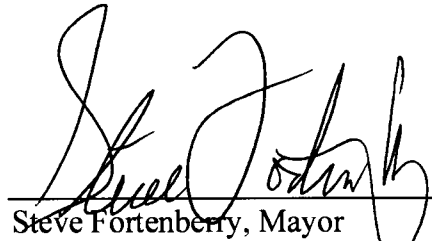
ABSENT: Stephens

MOTION PASSED.

Approved: 11-13-2023

ATTEST:


Lydia Lopez, City Secretary


Steve Fortenberry, Mayor