



CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP/SPECIAL MEETING

January 22, 2024 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, announced all members were present, and declared a quorum.

WORKSHOP AGENDA

1. Briefing and discussion concerning Commerce Park Water Well and Plant Facilities including financing.

City Manager Bo Thomas introduced City Engineer Miles Whitney, P.E., and Client Manager Kyle Schulze, P.E., Walker Partners, who provided an update on the Commerce Park Water Well and Plant Facilities. Mr. Schulze presented the Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost (EOPC) comparisons of February 2022 versus December 2023. Mr. Thomas explained that the American Rescue Plan Act would entirely finance Phase 1, and Phase 2 could be funded by unrestricted funds in the Utility fund and/or possible financing due to the rising costs of Phase 2.

WORKSHOP ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to adjourn the Workshop Meeting at 7:03 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

SPECIAL MEETING - 7:00 PM

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:04 PM, announced all members were present, and declared a quorum.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Steve Fortenberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION(S) AND RECOGNITION(S)

2. Swearing-in and pinning ceremony of three newly hired firefighters.

Fire Chief Jonathan Christian administered the ceremonial oath of office to newly hired Firefighters Zach Iannuccilli, Landon Swain, and Alex Syphrett. Family members pinned badges on their firefighters. The Council and audience congratulated them.

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

3. Approval of minutes for the City Council Workshop/Special Meeting of January 8, 2024.

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to approve the minutes as presented but to allow for corrections.

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

4. Briefing and discussion concerning the Financial Statements ending December 31, 2023. *City Manager Bo Thomas advised Finance Director Lee Garcia, previously sent the December Financial Statements electronically for the Council to review, and he inquired if the Council had any questions. The Council raised no questions or concerns.*
5. Discussion and possible action on approval of the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ending December 31, 2023. *City Manager Bo Thomas presented the Quarterly Investment Report prepared by Valley View Consulting, L.L.C.*

MOTION: Council Member Bob Potter moved approval of the Quarterly Investment Report of December 31, 2023.

SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding the purchase of police load-bearing vests and defense spray through the forfeiture account.

City Manager Bo Thomas presented.

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to approve the purchase of twenty-three Safariland load-bearing vests and attachments, three body armors, as well as thirty-one defense spray and holders for the Police Department through the use of forfeiture funds in the amount of \$13,472.89.

SECOND: Council Member Johnny Price

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

Mayor Steve Fortenberry recessed the Regular Meeting at 7:28 PM to convene the following Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Notice is given that a closed meeting will be held pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code (V.T.C.A.) so that the Council may discuss personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee (City Manager's evaluation).

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Fortenberry recessed the Executive Session and reconvened the Regular Session at 8:08 PM.

7. Discussion and possible action on evaluation/employment of City Manager (if needed).

Mayor Steve Fortenberry commended Mr. Thomas for his dedication and contribution to the City and for selecting a great team.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce stated "Based on our evaluation process, I move that we approve a four percent (4%) cost of living increase with an additional six (6%) performance increase for a total of 10% annual salary increase for the city manager with an extension of his contract for an additional year."

SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Council Member Johnny Price moved to adjourn the Regular meeting at 8:12 PM.

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Erica Bruce

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

NAYES: None

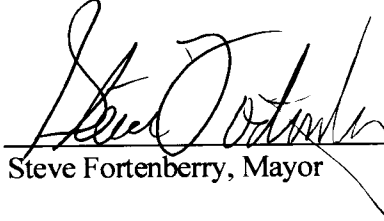
ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

Approved: 02/05/2024

ATTEST:


Lydia Lopez, City Secretary


Steve Fortenberry, Mayor