

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 2, 2021

1. **Call to order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor Bert Echterling.
2. **Invocation:** Councilmember Jimmy Rogers gave the invocation.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Roll Call:** Councilmembers present: Jimmy Rogers, Jeremy Holland, Mayor Bert Echterling, Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener, Jana Follender, Matthew Birkes and Steve Janics.
5. **Citizen Comments:** Linda Vaughn, Robinson Chamber of Commerce, President. Mrs. Vaughn invited Mayor and Council to the Annual Membership Banquet on July 22, 2021 at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame. Tickets will be available soon and the chamber is taking and accepting sponsorships. There will be a speaker, meal, music and a silent auction.
6. **Present Quarterly Investment Report:** City Manager Craig Lemin presented the Quarterly Investment Report from December 31, 2020 to council. Beginning Quarterly Book Value of \$31,678,649 and ended December Book Value with \$33,331,551. Average Quarterly Yield of 0.42%. Exceed the Rolling Three Month Treasury at 0.09%, Rolling Six Month Treasury at 0.12% and TexPool at 0.09%. Total Interest Earnings (approximate) Fiscal YTD Interest Earnings at \$39,361. Council had no questions.
7. **Present 2020 Annual Racial Profiling Report:** Police Chief Richard Andreucci presented the 2020 Annual Racial Profiling Report to council. Chief Andreucci stated he was happy with the stats and the report. Nothing appeared odd in the report. Council had no questions.

Mayor and Council pulled Consent Agenda Items 9 – 12 for discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

8. **Approve Minutes: January 5, 2021.**

Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener motioned to approve minutes from January 5, 2021 City Council Meeting as presented. Councilmember Steve Janics seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 9. Consider and possible action authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Hunton Estates Home Owners Association for street lights.**

Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener missed the agreement and questioned the agreements contents. City Manager Craig Lemin stated the streets were platted as private streets and the HOA is needing the city to agree for Oncor to provide the monthly service to the street lights and the HOA will pay the monthly fee. If the HOA does not pay the city will have Oncor turn off the service. Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener stated he did see that agreement but thought there may have been more he missed.

Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener motioned to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Hunton Estates Home Owners Association for street lights. Councilmember Jeremy Birkes seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

- 10. Consider and possible acceptance of the Report of the City of Robinson Charter Commission and the recommendations therein.**

City Manager Craig Lemin stated the Charter Commission was selected by the council and met twice earlier this year. The Commission has discussed the proposed propositions and felt the city was ready for the proposed propositions presented to council and that the city is ready for those changes. It is the Charter Commissions unanimous recommendation to council to accept these proposed propositions and submit to the voters. Mr. Lemin also stated to council, as he stated to the Charter Commission, staff has outlined a separate page on the city website to educate the public on the proposed propositions. The city is prohibited and cannot advocate for the changes of the charter.

Councilmember Jimmy Rogers motioned to accept the Report of the City of Robinson Charter Commission and the recommendations therein. Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

- 11. Consider and possible action on Resolution 2021-001-R ordering a Special Election for voting in a Special Election for a Charter Amendment for the City of Robinson on May 1, 2021 to be held as a Joint Election with McLennan County.**

City Secretary, Misty Cryer, stated the resolution and the order is standard process to order the Special Election and is needed per the current charter.

Mayor Echterling asked if this resolution for the proposed propositions will go on the May 1 election and when would the changes, if passed, would take place. City Manager Craig

Lemin stated yes and once approved. Mayor Echterling asked if the changes to the charter would fall into the 2021 November election. Mr. Lemin stated the council seats coming up in the November election will be affected; the changes would actually take place over this years November election and November 2022.

Mayor Bert Echterling motioned to approve the Resolution 2021-001-R ordering a Special Election for voting in a Special Election for a Charter Amendment for the City of Robinson on May 1, 2021 to be held as a Joint Election with McLennan County. Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

12. Consider and possible action on a contract between McLennan County and the City of Robinson for the purpose of conducting a joint election, and approving the contract for the election services between the McLennan County Election Administration Department and approval of City Manager to execute the joint election agreement and contract for election services.

City Secretary, Misty Cryer, stated what the council is presented with is an example of what the contract will look like. The McLennan County Election Administration will not have the actual contract ready until after the filing deadline to prevent having to readminister the contracts due to fees changing when entities may withdraw from the election.

City Manager Craig Lemin stated also the final contract will be completed after the filing deadline. The fees for the election will change with other entities dropping out and this will eliminate a possible special meeting once the contract is ready. The format is pretty standard; there are some last year dates, as that will change, as well as the fees of the election will also be added once that figure is known and entered. The city did budget for two elections this year and will have only one. We did have to pay for translation fees on the propositions.

Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener motioned to approve a contract between McLennan County and the City of Robinson for the purpose of conducting a joint election, and approving the contract for the election services between the McLennan County Election Administration Department and approval of City Manager to execute the joint election agreement and contract for election services. Councilmember Jimmy Rogers seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

13. Public Hearing: Conduct a public hearing and consider the application and possible action on Ordinance 2021-002 of Jacob Molinaro for approval of a zoning change from AG District to RE District on 5.0 acres known as a tract in the I.

Galindo Survey, approximately addressed at 1829 E. Rocket Road.

Mayor Echterling opened the Public Hearing at 6:20 PM.

Director of Planning and Development Justin French presented this item stating this is a request for a zoning change from AG District to RE District on 5.0 acres known as a tract in the I. Galindo Survey, approximately addressed at 1829 E. Rocket Road. The applicant intends to subdivide the five acres in half. There are two dilapidated structures on the property. One structure will be sold with 2.5 acres and demolished and a new home built and the other half, the owner, will refurbish. Consistent with comprehensive plan. Mr. French stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval 3-0 for this applicant on January 7, 2021.

Applicant Jacob Molinaro at 1069 S. Old Robinson Road was in attendance. Mr. Molinaro expressed wishing to split the property in half and he was available for questions.

Mayor Echterling closed the Public Hearing at 6:22 PM.

Mayor asked Council for any discussion: no discussion from council members.

Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener motioned to approve the application and Ordinance 2021-002 for a zoning change from AG District to RE District on 5.0 acres known as a tract in the I. Galindo Survey, approximately addressed at 1829 E. Rocket Road. Councilmember Follender seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

14. Discuss and consider approval of an Eagle Scout Project for Dillon McCord, for Boy Scout Troup#456.

Mayor Echterling called Mr. Dillon McCord to approach the council.

Mr. McCord stated he is completing his Eagle Scout and would like to build two six-foot benches and a Library Box for children's books at the Shepard Heart Food Pantry and Community Center. Mr. McCord would need permission on his project due to the property being owned by the City of Robinson.

Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener commended Mr. McCord for taking on the project.

Councilmember Jimmy Rogers stated pending approval, he would like to donate books to the project.

Mayor Bert Echterling commended Mr. McCord what he was doing and on receiving his Eagle Scout and wished him well.

Councilmember Steve Janics motioned to approve the Eagle Scout Project for Dillon McCord, for Boy Scout Troup#456. Councilmember Follender seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

15. Consider approval of the proposal from Walker Partners to conduct a stormwater study of the Cottonwood Creek tributary drainage area located general west of Hwy 77, south of Denison Drive, North of Tinsley Drive and east of Dayton at a cost of \$50,000.

City Manager Craig Lemin and Mr. Clark Gauer from Walker Partners presented the item to council. Mr. Lemin explained there are a couple of open spots and a lot of infill lots and drainage issues in the area and the concern is existing drainage issues and not making things worse than they are. Mr. Lemin stated there is a bottleneck under HWY 77 and the study will help us determine are we looking at a retention pond or detention area. He also stated the study should have been done as each development was put in but was not. Mayor Echterling asked Mr. Gauer regarding a possible detention? Mayor Echterling asked if that is the case, do we have the surface to do that? Mr. Gauer stated that is one part that will be evaluated and it appears there is an existing retention up stream on HWY 77 which created a backwater effect is why a detention structure may be recommended. The study will help determine that and the future development of streets in the area. Mr. Lemin stated this would be the first of several of these studies to be done. Mayor Echterling asked if the study would be checking flow rates and what can be handled and future street work. Mr. Gauer stated the vast majority of this has a street or roadway network. We would need to evaluate as infill happens and lots develop. Mr. Lemin stated the study will help with identify problem areas before streets are built.

Councilmember Jimmy Rogers motioned to approve the proposal from Walker Partners to conduct a stormwater study of the Cottonwood Creek tributary drainage area located general west of Hwy 77, south of Denison Drive, North of Tinsley Drive and east of Dayton at a cost of \$50,000. Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

16. Consider approving Ordinance 2021-003 repealing and replacing Section 4-126 "Trapping" of Chapter 4 of the Code of Ordinances.

City Manager Craig Lemin presented this item and stating this came to council last spring into summer and with Covid happening it did not get resolved. Current ordinance states that no tracking is permitted. We have large agricultural areas and to protect livestock this change will help with those areas. Mr. Lemin stated the council is seeing examples of other Ordinance's and is recommending the change in our Ordinance. Mr. Lemin stated there are restrictions on who can set these traps and it meets the needs of agricultural areas but protect the other areas as well.

Councilmember Steve Janics motioned to approve Ordinance 2021-003 repealing and replacing Section 4-126 "Trapping" of Chapter 4 of the Code of Ordinances.

Councilmember Jana Follender seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Rogers, Holland, Echterling, Stivener, Follender, Birkes and Janics. There were no opposing votes and the motion carried unanimously 7-0.

17. Discussion related to the 2021 festival the city offers our residents and the risks associated with hosting a community event this year in the wake of the pandemic.

Assistant to the City Manager, Destiny DeLillo presented the item to council for discussion to possibly cancel this year's festival. Mrs. DeLillo stated this is time of year we would start to secure vendors and rentals for this year's event. Discussion regarding the loss from last years deposits and the possible future loss of this year's deposits was held. Mrs. DeLillo commented that social distancing and wearing masks will still likely be in effect and trying to have a large gathering and monitor the event with the current restrictions would be taxing. We are asking feedback from council in what direction for staff to move in.

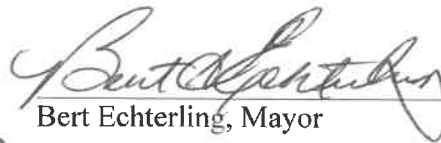
Mayor Echterling asked for Councilmembers feedback.

Councilmember Steve Janics agreed that canceling or postponing the event may be best. Councilmember Mr. Birks asked about deposits and requirements of vendors and rentals. Mrs. DeLillo stated most vendors require deposits and some have a canceling fee. City Manager Craig Lemin stated there are a lot of challenges with so much unknown still. If we were further along in vaccinations and things were going smoother staff would not be so reluctant with planning. Councilmember Jeremy Birkes asked is it too early to cancel, he has seen other cities having events and would like to see what happens before we cancel. Councilmember Mr. Birks would like to table this until later date. Mrs. DeLillo stated securing the rentals is a priority but right now she is uncertain what the companies are doing right now. This event requires all city staff to assist the day of the event and this is putting the entire staff at risk which is also a concern. She also stated that waiting to secure rentals could result in a much smaller event. Councilmember Jimmy Rogers commented on dealing with restrictions and he was leaning to a no due to he still sees we would still be under heavy restrictions. Councilmember Rogers stated he did not see the occupancy level going above 75% until 2022; trying to enforce the restrictions is very difficult and stressful under normal circumstances and do enforce those at a festival would be very difficult. Councilmember Jana Follender stated she agreed to wait. Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener stated he was also on the fence. He stated we could wait and be open to having it later in the year. Councilmember Jeremy Holland was on the fence and asked if a poll of the community could happen. Mrs. DeLillo stated that could be a PR nightmare, especially since City of Waco and McLennan County are working so diligently for people to continue to social distance and wear masks. City Manager Craig Lemin stated that even if you are vaccinated you can still carry the virus and with the new strands now coming up; it really makes planning difficult. Mayor Bert Echterling stated he

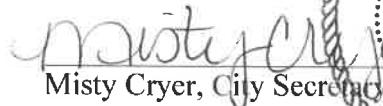
understood both sides and that other cities and counties are having events, we may need to change our event up. Mayor Echterling challenges the council to come back with ideas. Mayor Echterling asked Councilmember Birkes to see what are the other cities, counties and communities doing? Mayor Echterling agreed a music festival should be pushed to next year. He stated he agreed Covid is not going anywhere, the decision to go or not go to the event is up to the individual. Mayor Echterling stated the festival as it has been, yes to wait, something smaller or different may be planned and have that. Mayor Pro Tem Stivener asked about Movies in the Park? Mrs. DeLillo stated the current order is for no outdoor social gatherings. Mayor Pro Tem Stivener stated the funds are earmarked and would be available if and when an event could and would be planned. Mayor Echterling stated no action tonight and put the item for further discussion on another agenda with options and recommendations.

18. Councilmember requests for items to be placed on future agendas: None mentioned

19. Adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.


Bert Echterling, Mayor

ATTEST:


Misty Cryer, City Secretary

