

MINUTES OF SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 18, 2020

1. **Call to order.** Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor Bert Echterling.
2. **Roll Call.** Councilmembers present: Jim Mastergeorge, Bert Echterling, Jeremy Stivener, Steve Janics and Jimmy Eubank. Councilmember Jimmy Rogers was absent.
3. **Consider and possible action appointing a person to fill a vacancy on the City Council, with the person, if any, selected to be sworn and seated immediately following the appointment.** Mayor Bert Echterling briefly explained the current vacancy that occurred when Councilmember Breton Lane submitted his resignation. Mayor Echterling stated Council and Staff prepared an application and made it available for qualified candidates in the City of Robinson. Mayor Echterling stated interviews were conducted at a Special Called Meeting on January 6, 2020 and tonight, Council as prepared to make a motion to fill the vacancy for the term ending November of 2021. Councilmember Steve Janics thanked those who submitted applications and commended two of the applicants, Ms. Jana Follender, and Mr. Michael Baker who were in attendance at tonight's meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener wished to thank all those who came forward to represent the City and to consider running again during the next election cycle. Councilmember Jim Mastergeorge commended Ms. Follender for attending each meeting held since her original interview and felt this was good representation on her part. Councilmember Jim Mastergeorge motioned to appoint Jana Follender to fill the vacancy for the term ending November of 2021. Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Mastergeorge, Stivener, Janics, Eubank, and Echterling. There were no opposing votes and motion carried unanimously.
4. **Administer Oath of Office to newly appointed Councilmember.** Mayor Bert Echterling administered the Oath of Office to Jana Follender. Ms. Follender joined the meeting at 6:10 PM.
5. **Presentation of Badge and Administer Oath of Office to Lieutenant with the Robinson Police Department.** Chief of Police Phillip Prasifka briefly explained the vacant Lieutenant position with the Robinson Police Department and the interview process to fill the vacancy. Chief Prasifka noted that all three applications submitted were outstanding and stated any one of the applications would have performed well in this position. Chief Prasifka stated after and unanimous decision by the interview panel and careful consideration that Sergeant Matthew Troup would be promoted to Lieutenant. Mayor Echterling administer the Oath of Office to Lt. Troup, and his wife and daughter pinned his bade.
6. **Consider and possible action accepting the City of Robinson, Texas Annual Financial Report presented by Belt Harris Pechacek, LLP for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2019.** Darla Deer, CPA with Belt Harris Pechacek, LLP presented the City of

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Robinson Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2019. Councilmember Jim Mastergeorge motioned to accept the Annual Financial Report as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Jeremy Stivener seconded this motion. Voting in favor; Mastergeorge, Follender, Stivener, Janics, Eubank and Echterling. There were no opposing votes and motion carried unanimously.

7. **Consider and possible action approving a Tax Abatement Agreement with Encompass Health Texas Real Estate, LLC and Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital of Waco, LLC (guaranteed by Encompass Health Corporation) for a for-profit inpatient rehabilitation hospital.** City Manager Craig Lemin provided a brief overview of the proposed Tax Abatement Agreement and stated the TIRZ Board met on February 4, 2020 and approved the agreement as presented. Councilmember Steve Janics motioned to approve the Tax Abatement Agreement with Encompass Health Texas Real Estate, LLC and Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital of Waco, LLC (guaranteed by Encompass Health Corporation) for a for-profit inpatient rehabilitation hospital as presented. Mayor Bert Echterling seconded this motion. Voting in favor: Mastergeorge, Follender, Stivener, Janics, Eubank and Echterling. There were no opposing votes and motion carried unanimously.

8. **Discussion related to Robinson Festival and setting the date for 2020.** Assistant to the City Manager Destiny DeLillo presented this item and stated there were several items staff would like to discuss with Council to and consider in regards to the festival. Mrs. DeLillo stated the first of those is the date for this year's festival. Mrs. DeLillo said the availability of dates for this year is minimal and provided a brief summary of events that we could potentially be competing with. Mrs. DeLillo felt weighing all options, our best bet is to go with Saturday, September 26th, making a Baylor home football game our primary competition for the day. Mrs. DeLillo said the second item to consider is the focus of the festival. History shows there are two distinct conflicting audiences attending the event, limiting us on what we can achieve monetarily. Mrs. DeLillo said our primary audience is there for family-friendly activities, making up about 75% of our attendance with the other 25% being there for a specific band. The difference in interest for the two audiences makes it difficult to charge fees that would help offset band costs. Mrs. DeLillo said in 2017, we increased gate fees to \$10 for everyone after 6 p.m. in an attempt to recoup band costs from the appropriate audience. We ended up having several people show up at 5:55 p.m. so they wouldn't have to pay the extra \$5. Mrs. DeLillo said we also had several disappointed parents because they paid \$10 for their child to get in and later found out the kid's area had closed. Mrs. DeLillo felt bands were just not bringing in the audience we thought they would, especially when considering the cost associated with each. Mrs. DeLillo said after hosting four successful festivals and with the discussion of potential dates, staff felt this was a great time to review the overall festival and gain insight from the council on how to move forward, so we can make any necessary adjustments. Council and Staff discussed the various dates and potential conflicts. Council also discussed the option of splitting the event into a two-day festival, with the band on Friday night, and the

kid's friendly events on Saturday. Mrs. DeLillo stated with the City not being able to close the street until after school, it would be almost impossible to set up the stage, fencing, etc. before a band could begin on Friday night. Other options were discussed regarding changing the month of the festival, and increasing the cost to attend the festival. Overall, Council and Staff feel this is a great opportunity to provide the citizens and would like to see it continue. John Edwards, 110 E Santa Anna, Robinson, Texas 76706, requested to speak on this item, and asked the Council who the target audience was. He felt if this question was answered, then any decisions moving forward would be easier. Council requested additional time to consider the options and requesting to have additional discussion on this item at the March 3, 2020 meeting.

9. Adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.