



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 18, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.
Whitehouse City Council Chambers
311 East Main Street
Whitehouse, Texas 75791

Pursuant to Section 551.127, Texas Government Code, one or more Councilmembers or employees may attend this meeting remotely using videoconferencing technology. The video and audio feed of the videoconferencing equipment can be viewed and heard by the public at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89454922842?pwd=QWxTWFFsQlEwR2p5d3ZOdUNDWksrQT09>

The public may call in to participate at +1-(346)248-7799 and use webinar code 894 5492 2842 and passcode 666338. To speak during public forum, public hearings, or public comments, press *9 to raise your hand. You may also join via the web using the following links <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89454922842?pwd=QWxTWFFsQlEwR2p5d3ZOdUNDWksrQT09> or <https://zoom.us/j/89454922842> and enter in the event password WH818.

Members of the public may address the Council regarding any posted agenda item by filling out a speakers' card prior to the item being called. These presentations shall be limited to three minutes. The Mayor, at his discretion, may reasonably extend the time limit.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

06:00:12 PM (00:01:02)

Mayor - Charles Parker: Present
Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Present
Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: Present
Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Present
Council Place 4 - Millette Stroud: Present
Council Place 5 - Dick Jackson: Present
A quorum was present.

B. PRAYER – Mayor Parker

06:00:51 PM (00:01:41)

Mayor ProTem James Wansley gave the invocation.

C. PRESENTATIONS

1.

06:01:33 PM (00:02:23)

No presentations

D. COMMUNITY INTEREST

This section of the agenda shall allow any member of the City Council, the Mayor, or the City Manager the opportunity to discuss minor, non-action items such as recognitions, scheduling, and upcoming civic events that are not listed on this agenda and which require no action by the Council.

06:01:38 PM (00:02:28)

First Day of School is tomorrow for WISD

E. PUBLIC FORUM

Pursuant to Texas Government Code section 551.007, members of the public may speak on an agenda item during the Public Forum section of the meeting or at the time the agenda item is called for discussion by the Mayor. Speakers shall be given three (3) minutes to speak. A speaker needing a translator and/or interpreter may be given six (6) minutes to speak. Criticism of city employees or staff is prohibited. Those wishing to address the Council regarding an item not on the agenda must be a citizen, property owner or business owner of Whitehouse. Comments on such non-agenda items shall be limited to three minutes. The Council will not comment on items not on the agenda; however, the Council may refer the item to city staff for research, resolution or referral of the matter to the Council as a future agenda item.

06:03:07 PM (00:03:57)

No one signed in to speak.

F. CONSENT AGENDA

This section shall provide for items that require action by the Council, but where no discussion is anticipated. By a single motion, second and affirmative majority vote, items under this section are approved without further discussion or action.

1. Withdraw items from the Consent Agenda
Any Council member may request the removal of any item from the Consent Agenda, in which case the item shall be discussed and voted upon separately.
2. Approval of minutes of the City Council meetings on July 28, 2020 and August 11, 2020.
3. Approval of Ordinance 20-0818-01 – Annexation of 17531 Maji Rd
4. Approval of Ordinance 20-0818-02 – Amendment to Ordinance 20-0728-01 Calling and
Ordering the Election of Mayor, Council Place 2 and Council Place 4
5. Approval of Smith County 911 2020/2021 Budget

06:03:28 PM (00:04:18)

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Motion to approved the consent agenda as it stands
 Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: 2nd the motion
 Mayor - Charles Parker: N\A
 Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Approve
 Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: Approve

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Approve
Council Place 4 - Millette Stroud: Approve
Council Place 5 - Dick Jackson: Approve
Motion approved

G. OTHER ACTION ITEMS / ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing on the proposed 2020/2021 Property Tax Rate of \$0.792891 per \$100 of valuation

06:04:49 PM (00:05:39)

06:05:05 PM (00:05:55) Mayor Parker closed the regular meeting and went into a public hearing.

No one spoke.

06:05:41 PM (00:06:31) Mayor Parker closed the public hearing and moved back into the regular meeting.

2. Ordinance 20-0818-03 – Adopting the Budget for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

06:06:01 PM (00:06:51)

Mayor Parker thanked Staff for their work on the budget.

Leslie Black updated the Council regrading recycling; Republic offered twice monthly recycling at the current rate. If a resident feels this is not enough Republic will offer an additional cart at no cost.

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Motion to approve Ordinance 20-0818-03 – adopting the budget for fiscal year 2020/2021

Council Place 1 - James Wansley: 2nd the motion

Mayor - Charles Parker: N\A

Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Approve

Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: Approve

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Approve

Council Place 4 - Millette Stroud: Approve

Council Place 5 - Dick Jackson: Approve

Motion approved

3. Ordinance 20-0818-04 – Adopting the Tax Rate for Fiscal Year 2020/2021

06:10:51 PM (00:11:41)

Same tax rate as the past two years. The only impact to the homeowner is an increase in the value of their home.

Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Motion: I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.792891, which is effectively a 4% increase in the tax rate.

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: 2nd the motion the motion

Mayor - Charles Parker: N\A

Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Approve

Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: Approve

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Approve

Council Place 4 - Millette Stroud: Approve

Council Place 5 - Dick Jackson: Approve
Motion approved

4. Discussion and Approval to Move Forward with a Bid for Council Chambers Audio/Visual and Meeting Management Software Upgrades – Broadcast Works and iCompass

06:14:46 PM (00:15:36)

Mrs. Black explained this is not a budgeted expense but a reimbursable project from the CARES Act. This would upgrade all audio, give the ability to stream, be more user friendly for Zoom meeting.

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Motion to approve moving forward with the bid Council Chambers audio/visual and meeting management software upgrades – Broadcast Works and iCompass

Council Place 5 - Dick Jackson: 2nd the motion

Mayor - Charles Parker: N\A

Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Approve

Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: Approve

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Approve

Council Place 4 - Millette Stroud: Approve

Council Place 5 - Dick Jackson: Approve

Motion approved

5. COVID-19 update

06:19:36 PM (00:20:26)

- a. Extend Disaster Declaration  ↩

Mrs. Black updated the Council on the need to update this Declaration.

Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Motion to extend the Disaster Declaration for Covid-19

Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: 2nd the motion

Mayor - Charles Parker: N\A

Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Approve

Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: Approve

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Approve

Council Place 4 - Millette Stroud: Approve

Council Place 5 - Dick Jackson: Approve

Motion approved

- b. Partnership with Whitehouse ISD

06:22:12 PM (00:23:02)

Mrs. Black explained this partnership and program. Chris Moran and Tony Black with the Whitehouse ISD addressed the Council regarding the program.

6. Discussion and Approval of Enterprise Contract

06:36:24 PM (00:37:14)

Nick Hardwick with Enterprise addressed the Council with a refresher of the contract details and took questions.

Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: Motion to approve the Enterprise Contract

Council Place 4 - Millette Stroud: 2nd the motion

Mayor - Charles Parker: N\A

Council Place 1 - James Wansley: Approve

Council Place 2 - Ginger Cardwell: Approve

Council Place 3 - Paul Hickey: Disapprove

Council Place 4 - Millette Stroud: Approve

Council Place 5 - Dick Jackson: Approve

Motion approved

7. Consider Future Agenda Items

08:00:43 PM (02:01:33)

H. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, the City Council reserves the right to convene into Executive Session(s) from time to time as deemed necessary during this meeting. The City Council may convene into Executive Session to discuss any or all of the following topics: Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek the advice of the City Attorney pursuant to Section 551.071; Possible, purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate pursuant to Section 551.072; Personnel matters pursuant to Section 551.074; Economic development negotiations pursuant to Section 551.087

1.

I. RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION AND CONSIDER ACTION ITEMS / ORDINANCES / RESOLUTIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS

J. ADJOURN

08:01:50 PM (02:02:40)

Next meeting will be September 8, 2020.

08:03:02 PM (02:03:52)

Meeting adjourned



Charles Parker, Mayor

ATTEST:



Susan Hargis, City Secretary