

HEWITT TEXAS

**MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP & REGULAR MEETING
HEWITT PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY – 100 PATRIOT COURT
April 19, 2021 – 6:15/7:00 PM**

Attendee Name	Title	Absent	Present	Arrived
Charles D. Turner (presiding)	Mayor, Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Wilbert "Walky" Wachtendorf	Mayor Pro Tem, Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bill Fuller	Council Member, Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bob Potter	Council Member, Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Michael S. Bancale	Council Member, At-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Steve Fortenberry	Council Member, Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Erica Bruce	Council Member, Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Staff present:

City Manager Bo Thomas
City Secretary Lydia Lopez
Fire Chief Lance Bracco
Police Chief Jim Devlin
Library Director Waynette Ditto
Utilities Director, Kevin Reinke
City Engineer Miles Whitney
Assistant City Attorney Amy Thomas (arrived at 6:58 PM)

Staff absent:

City Attorney Mike Dixon

Note: The meeting was live-streamed for view by the public on the City of Hewitt Facebook page. Citizens could submit written comments.

WORKSHOP – 6:15 PM

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.** Mayor Charlie Turner called the Workshop to order at 6:15 PM. City Secretary Lydia Lopez polled the Council for attendance.
PRESENT: Fuller, Bancale, Potter, Fortenberry, Bruce, Wachtendorf, and Turner
ABSENT: None

2. BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING CITY OF HEWITT STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2026.

➤ **Police Department** – Presented by Police Chief Jim Devlin

General discussion was held concerning staffing levels, salary for telecommunication staff, and salary survey. City Manager Bo Thomas stated that salary surveys were done on an annual basis and Human Resource Manager Jessica Higgins was currently working on the salary survey for the upcoming budget discussions.

MOTION TO RECESS WORKSHOP

MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to recess the Workshop at 6:59 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale

AYES: Fuller, Potter, Fortenberry, Bruce, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Turner

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

NOTE: Continuation of the Workshop and presentation by Library Director Waynette Ditto resumed following the Regular meeting.

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER.** Mayor Charlie Turner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. City Secretary Lydia Lopez polled the Council for attendance.
PRESENT: Fuller, Bancale, Potter, Fortenberry, Bruce, Wachtendorf, and Turner
ABSENT: None
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG.** Mayor Charlie Turner led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **HEAR VISITORS ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO CITY BUSINESS.** Under the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Council is prohibited from discussing, responding, or acting on any comments or items that have not been properly posted on the agenda. **NOTE:** The public was offered the opportunity to submit written comments on items listed on the agenda or under the hear visitors. Mayor Charlie Turner inquired if any public comments were received. **City Secretary responded no public comment forms were submitted.**
4. **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING OF April 5, 2021.** Mayor Charlie Turner noted a correction to the vote on adjournment as he left the meeting prior to adjournment. The meeting notes will be corrected to note his absence for the vote.
MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved approval of the minutes as presented but to allow for corrections.

SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter

AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bancale, Fortenberry, Bruce, Wachtendorf, and Turner

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

5. **CONSIDER REAPPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented members recommended for reappointment.
MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to authorize the reappointment of Douglas Bergen, Charles Howard, R. Don Vardeman, and Royce W. Smith (alternate) for a two year term ending April 2023.
SECOND: Council Member Erica Bruce
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bancale, Fortenberry, Bruce, Wachtendorf, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
6. **RATIFY EXPENDITURES FOR PUMP AND MOTOR REPAIRS TO MCLEMORE WATER PLANT TO JURGENSEN PUMP, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,591.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to ratify expenditures for pump and motor repairs at McLemore Water Plant to Jurgensen Pump, LLC, in the amount of \$15,591.
SECOND: Council Member Steve Fortenberry
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bancale, Fortenberry, Bruce, Wachtendorf, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
7. **RATIFY THE EXPENDITURES FOR ELECTRICAL REPAIRS AT LIFT STATION 2-1 TO WALLACE CONTROLS & ELECTRIC, LLC, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,208.63.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
MOTION: Council Member Steve Fortenberry moved to ratify the expenditure for electrical repairs at Lift Station 2-1 to Wallace Controls & Electric, LLC, in the amount of \$3,208.63.
SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bancale, Fortenberry, Bruce, Wachtendorf, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
8. **BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ENDING MARCH 31, 2021.** City Manager Bo Thomas stated that Finance Director Lee Garcia previously sent the March Financial Statements for their review and asked if Council had any questions. No questions were asked. **No action required.**

- 9. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 2021.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented a summary of report prepared by Valley View Consulting, L.L.C.
MOTION: Council Member Bob Potter moved approval of the Quarterly Investment Report as of March 31, 2021.
SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bancale, Fortenberry, Bruce, Wachtendorf, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
- 10. BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING SPECIAL ELECTION ON CHARTER AMENDMENTS TO BE HELD ON MAY 1, 2021.** City Manager Bo Thomas reminded all that Early Voting started today, April 19, 2021, at the Hewitt City Hall/Library. He also reported that the Voters Guide was mailed out in the Utility bills, and that Mayor Turner made a video clip encouraging voters to get out and vote on the proposed 16 propositions which was posted on the City’s Facebook page.
- 11. BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) MEASURES, PROTOCOLS, AND MITIGATION EFFORTS.** City Manager Bo Thomas advised that protocols with respect to the requirements of masking for ages five and up have been initiated in all city facilities. Mr. Thomas stated that discussion was held about a medical disability exemption at the last meeting and he expressed his concern with keeping any medical records due to HIPAA laws which protect privacy. The medical disability exemption issue was discussed with City Attorney Mike Dixon. Mr. Thomas proposed an alternative would be to require a medical note be presented at the time of visit. General discussion concerning the possibility of keeping a list versus having the citizen present a note every visit which might be a burden on citizens. Assistant City Attorney Amy Thomas recommended that City staff not keep any medical information and concurred that maintaining a list would be a better alternative.
- Council Member Steve Fortenberry stated he had received inquiries about when citizens would be able to return to observe Council meetings. Mr. Thomas advised that under Governor Abbott’s Emergency Declaration, the Open Meetings Act rules are still suspended. Council could, however, discuss opening meetings if they choose.
- 12. ADJOURN.**
MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the Regular meeting at 7:29 PM.
SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bancale, Fortenberry, Bruce, Wachtendorf, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

WORKSHOP - Continued

Mayor Charlie Turner reconvened the Workshop Meeting at 7:30 PM.

MOTION TO RECONVENE WORKSHOP.

MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to reconvene the Workshop at 7:30 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale

AYES: Fuller, Potter, Fortenberry, Bruce, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Turner

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

2. **BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING CITY OF HEWITT STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2026 (Continued).**

➤ **Police** – Mayor Turner asked if there was further discussion on Chief Devlin’s presentation. Council Member Erica Bruce mentioned that the Council had already been made aware of these personnel needs in past budgets and the Council must begin to prioritize the health and safety of the community with respect to personnel needs.

➤ **Library** – Presented by Library Director Waynette Ditto

Mayor and Council complimented Mrs. Ditto and staff for the program and services provided to the community particularly with the difficulties presented during the pandemic. Council Member Erica Bruce commended Mrs. Ditto for putting her employees first in the presentation of her plan.

3. **Adjourn.**

MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the Workshop at 7:57 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale

AYES: Fuller, Potter, Fortenberry, Bruce, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Turner

NAYES: None

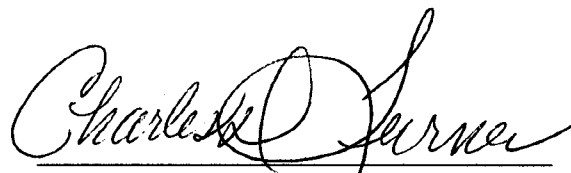
ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

Approved: May 10, 2021

ATTEST:


Lydia Lopez, City Secretary


Charles D. Turner, Mayor