

HEWITT TEXAS

**MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING
HEWITT CITY HALL – 200 PATRIOT COURT
August 2, 2021 – 6:00 PM/7:00 PM**

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

Staff present:

City Manager Bo Thomas
 City Secretary Lydia Lopez
 City Attorney Mike Dixon
 City Engineer Miles Whitney
 Finance Director Lee Garcia
 Fire Chief Lance Bracco
 General Services Director Scott Coleman
 HR Manager/Civil Service Director Jessica Higgins
 Library Director Waynette Ditto
 Police Chief Jim Devlin
 Utilities Director Kevin Reinke

Note: The meeting was opened to the public and also live-streamed for view by the public on the City of Hewitt’s website at <https://www.cityofhewitt.com/790/Hewitt-TX-TV>. Citizens had the opportunity to speak in person or they also could submit written comments to the City Secretary.

BUDGET WORKSHOP – 6:00 PM

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.** Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the Workshop to order at 6:00 PM. He noted all council members were in attendance.
- 2. DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE WATER AND WASTEWATER RATE STUDY PRESENTED BY WILLDAN FINANCIAL SERVICES.** Dan Jackson, Vice President, and Jason Gray, Principal Consultant, Willdan Financial Services, recapped the Water and Wastewater Rate Study previously presented to Council on May 24, 2021. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Gray advised that the Council could approve a single ordinance that would implement the recommended multi-year rate adjustment plan. The general consensus of the Council was to implement the rate plan effective October 1, but include language that would require an annual review of any future rate adjustments.

- 3. DISCUSSION CONCERNING PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2021-2022.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented and distributed the following: Calculation of Estimated Tax Revenue, highlighted Tax Revenue and Sales Tax Revenue from General Fund Budget sheet, General Fund Projection By Category, All Funds Summary Matrix, and Tax Rate Difference sheet. General discussion was held concerning tax rate data and sales tax revenues.

- 4. ADJOURN.**

MOTION TO ADJOURN WORKSHOP

MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the Workshop at 6:56 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Charlie Turner

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.** Mayor Steve Fortenberry called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Mayor Fortenberry noted that all members of the Council were present.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG.** Mayor Steve Fortenberry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Not on the listed agenda: Robyn Mota, Manager, Municipal Services, Republic Services, appeared to introduce herself to Mayor and Council.

- 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 Steve Fortenberry recognized Betty Orton. Betty Orton, 912 Steamboat Circle, appeared to request an update on street projects, specifically the project on Spring Valley Road. **No other public comment forms were submitted.**
- 4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE BUDGET WORKSHOP AND MEETING OF JULY 19, 2021.**

MOTION: Council Member Charlie Turner moved approval of the minutes as presented but allow for corrections.

SECOND: Council Member Bob Potter

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

5. **PRESENTATION OF REPORT FROM CITY ENGINEER MILES WHITNEY, P.E.**
 - Update on pending utility projects.
 - Update on pending street projects.
 - Update on pending drainage projects.

6. **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON PAID QUARANTINE LEAVE POLICY.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
MOTION: Council Member Charlie Turner moved to adopt the Paid Quarantine policy to be effective immediately.
SECOND: Council Member Erica Bruce
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

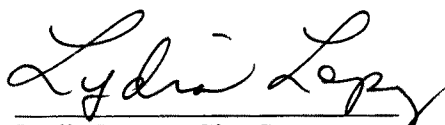
7. **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON SETTING DATE OF AUGUST 9, 2021, FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
MOTION: Council Member Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf moved to set the date of August 9, 2021, for a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Proposed Annual Budget.
SECOND: Council Member Charlie Turner
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

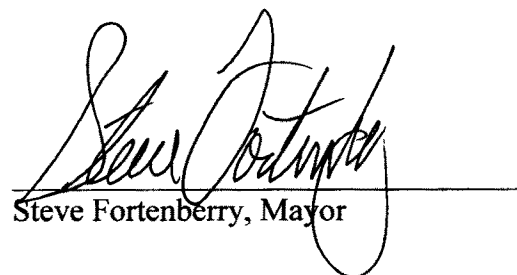
8. **VOTE TO PLACE ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED 2021 TAX RATE ON A FUTURE AGENDA AND TO SET DATES FOR TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented. **NOTE:** City Secretary polled the Council for the votes.
MOTION: Council Member Charlie Turner moved to place adoption of a tax rate of \$.547838 cents per \$100 valuation, equaling \$.192999 cents for debt service and \$.354839 cents for maintenance and operations, as an action item for the August 16, 2021 Council meeting to be held at 7:00 PM, in Hewitt City Hall, Council Chambers 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, Texas.
SECOND: Council Member Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
MOTION: Council Member Charlie Turner moved to set two public hearings to be held on Monday, August 9, 2021, at 7:00 PM, and Monday, August 16, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in Hewitt City Hall, Council Chamber, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, Texas.
SECOND: Council Member Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

9. **DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE FY 2021-2022 PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET (IF NEEDED).** City Manager Bo Thomas stated this item was placed only if needed. He further noted he would make the revenue modifications discussed in the Workshop. No further discussion was held.
10. **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION CONCERNING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) MEASURES, PROTOCOLS, AND MITIGATION EFFORTS.** City Manager Bo Thomas informed the Council that Governor Abbott issued a new order clarifying that masking requirements are still off the table. He further noted that private employers are beginning to require employees to be vaccinated. Mr. Thomas stated that staff would be discussing possibly incentivizing employees to become vaccinated. **No action taken.**
11. **CONSIDER/DISCUSS AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY OF HEWITT TO ISSUE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQS) FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented.
MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Michael Bancale moved to approve authorization for the city Manager to issue Requests For Proposals for administrative services and Requests for Qualifications for professional services as needed to meet the requirements of the Department of the Treasury regarding their \$3.7 million allocation to the City.
SECOND: Council Member Charlie Turner
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
12. **ADJOURN.**
MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM.
SECOND: Council Member Charlie Turner
AYES: Fuller, Potter, Bruce, Turner, Bancale, Wachtendorf, and Fortenberry
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

Approved: August 18, 2021

ATTEST:


Lydia Lopez, City Secretary


Steve Fortenberry, Mayor