

MINUTES
Special Meeting of the City Council
of the City of Texarkana, Texas
Municipal Building
220 Texas Blvd
West 3rd Street and Texas Boulevard
Texarkana, Texas
January 13, 2014
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order, Roll Call, Establishment of Quorum (6:04 p.m.)

The following Council Members were present:

Bradfield Casteel	Council Member, Ward 1
Willie Ray	Council Member, Ward 2
Tina Veal-Gooch	Council Member, Ward 3
Brian Matthews	Council Member, Ward 4
Bill Miller	Council Member, Ward 5
Josh Davis	Council Member, Ward 6
Bob Bruggeman	Mayor

Staff Present: City Manager John Whitson, Jennifer Evans, Charlie Bassett, Shirley Jaster, Eric Schlotter, Karey Parker, Craig Lindholm, Lisa Thompson, Holly Wall, Pam Burns, and Jerry Sparks.

Legal Counsel: None

- I. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Council Member Josh Davis** (6:05 p.m.)
- II. **Important Dates, Public Recognition, Appointments to Boards and Commissions, Presentations** (6:15 p.m.)

Important Dates

- City Council Meetings
 - Monday, January 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
 - Monday, February 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
 - Monday, February 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
 - Monday, March 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.
 - Monday, March 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Public Recognition

Mayor Bruggeman stated that he, City Manager Whitson, and Council Member Matthews attended the City of Texarkana, Arkansas board meeting on Monday, January 6 to hear a presentation from Curt Green and James Carlow on progress and updates for I-49 and I-69, respectively. Mr. Carlow was ill and not able to present, however, Mayor Bruggeman would like to schedule Mr. Green and Mr. Carlow to present these important updates at a future city council meeting.

Also, while at the Arkansas-side board meeting, Mayor Bruggeman personally thanked the Texarkana, Arkansas fire department personnel for their assistance to Texas-side fire

department staff in recent fires from the past month. Mayor Bruggeman commended fire department staff for their excellent response to preserve life and property for our citizens.

Appointments to Boards & Commissions

Mayor Bruggeman appointed Matt Robertson to the Airport Authority Board.

Presentations

Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone (TIRZ) Overview by Jerry Sparks

III. Open Forum: Comments from the public (*Limit 5 minutes each*) (6:19 p.m.)

Horace Pruitt addressed Council concerning issues at the high-rise senior living facility.

IV. Items for Consideration (6:26 p.m.)

Consent Items:

1. Consider approval of the minutes of the Special Council meeting held on December 10, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Davis that these items be approved, seconded by Council Member Matthews. (6:20 p.m.)

The following Council Members voted: Ayes: Casteel, Ray, Veal-Gooch, Matthews, Miller and Davis. Nays: None.

Action Items:

2. Ordinance No. 2014-007 authorizing and adding one (1) position to Assistant Fire Chief Classification of the Texarkana, Texas, Fire Department; abolish one (1) Captain Position and amending the exhibit of Section 3 of Ordinance No. 144-77, as most recently amended by Ordinance No. 159-2013, to reflect the addition of one (1) Position to the Assistant Fire Chief Classification and the abolishment of one (1) Captain Position of the City of Texarkana, Texas Fire Department.

Fire Chief Eric Schlotter informed Council that the Civil Service board met Friday, January 10, 2014 and voted unanimously in favor of this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Miller that this item be approved, seconded by Council Member Ray. (6:22 p.m.)

The following Council Members voted: Ayes: Casteel, Ray, Veal-Gooch, Matthews, Miller and Davis. Nays: None.

3. Resolution No. 2014-021 appointing a Mayor Pro Tem for the term beginning January 13, 2014 and ending on May 31, 2014 or until superseded by new council member appointments.

City Manager Whitson spoke to this item.

Council agreed to appoint Council Member Veal-Gooch as Mayor Pro Tem for the specified period.

A motion was made by Council Member Miller that this item be approved, seconded by Council Member Davis. (6:26 p.m.)

The following Council Members voted: Ayes: Casteel, Ray, Veal-Gooch, Matthews, Miller and Davis. Nays: None.

V. Public Hearings (8:43 p.m.)

4. Resolution No. 2014-009 approving the addition to the TIRZ #1 Project list for the partial funding improvements to property at St. Michael Drive and Richill Drive (private road) allowing use of part of the 2012 TIRZ Bond Fund in an amount not to exceed FOUR HUNDRED SIX THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$406,000) for drainage improvements only.

2nd Briefing: January 27, 2014
Council Vote: February 10, 2014

David Williams of MTG Engineers spoke to this item. David Potter spoke to this item.

5. Resolution No. 2014-010 approving the 2012 TIRZ Bond funding for the drainage improvements and relocation of water, wastewater, and sewer for a Gibson Lane Project in an amount not to exceed TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$250,000).

2nd Briefing: January 27, 2014
Council Vote: February 10, 2014

Jeff Whitten of Whitten Engineering spoke to this item.

6. Ordinance No. 2014-011 granting a Specific Use Permit to allow the one additional use of a tattoo studio on Lot 112, Block 256, Midland Addition (Tract 256), located at 3201 New Boston Road. W.R. Bowling, applicant. Jessica Teran, agent.

2nd Briefing: January 27, 2014
Council Vote: February 10, 2014

Mayor Bruggeman stated that Council was in receipt of comments expressed in an email from John Mowrer in regards to this item.

7. Resolution No. 2014-013 authorizing the City Manager to execute a letter of support and commitment for proposed local development(s) for the award of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Low Income Housing Tax Credit.

Council Vote: January 27, 2014

Craig Lindholm spoke to this item. Presentations were made by representatives from various agencies regarding this item: Will Henderson of Carleton Development, Jared Daly of BGO Architects, Denis Washington, Board Commissioner of the Housing Authority of Texarkana, Texas, Megan De Luna of Pinnacle Housing Group and Tom Huth of Palladium Housing Group.

VI. First Briefings (8:54 p.m.)

8. First Briefing and Public Hearing for Resolution No. 2014-020 – establishing City Holidays and setting City Council meetings for 2014.

Council Vote: January 27, 2014

City Manager Whitson spoke to this item.

9. Ordinance No. 2014-017 rezoning a one acre tract of land being a part of Block 54 in the J.W. Johnson HRS, A-308, located at 1918 Allen Lane. Single Family-2 to Two Family-1. Dewitt Fortenberry, owner.

Public Hearing: January 27, 2014
2nd Briefing: February 10, 2014
Council Vote: February 24, 2014

Shirley Jaster spoke to this item.

10. Ordinance No. 2014-018 rezoning an approximate 23 acre tract being a part of Lot 2, Richmond-Airline Subdivision, located at the southeast corner of Richmond Road and Airline Drive. Single Family-1 to Planned Development Multiple Family-1 and Planned Development General Retail. Amy Harrel, owner. Brandon Huffman, under contractor to purchase, and Dan Butler, agents.

Public Hearing: January 27, 2014
2nd Briefing: February 10, 2014
Council Vote: February 24, 2014

Shirley Jaster spoke to this item. Jeff Whitten of Whitten Engineering spoke to this item.

VII. Second Briefings with Updates - None

VIII. Second Briefings without Updates - None

IX. Items for Discussion (9:03 p.m.)

Homeless Encampment – Council Member Matthews opened the discussion reporting that a number of citizens had contacted him asking what the city was doing to assist the homeless population and especially the homeless residing in the encampment at the 200 Block of West Street, aka the “Jesus Camp”. Council Member Veal-Gooch added that the city has always provided leadership through local not-for-profit service providers and that the staff has worked with these groups to obtain funding to support their efforts. Craig Lindholm, Director of Community Redevelopment and Grants, recalled for the Council past city efforts directed toward addressing the homeless situation in Texarkana.

During the discussion, it was pointed out that some individuals choose the homeless lifestyle versus resorting to it as a last resort brought on by circumstances. This group of individuals will not likely respond to efforts to assist them with returning to another way of lifestyle. Everyone recognizes that some individuals are quite willing to work toward achieving independence through education, training, and job seeking. By Council consensus, there is no further special research or reporting required of city staff on this matter.

X. Administrative Comments (9:07 p.m.)

Council Members – Council Member Veal-Gooch asked for status updates on the issues of cars parked in yards and donation collection bins. City Manager Whitson

stated that Council would be receiving an update on these items at the next council meeting.

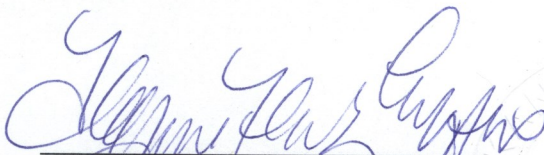
City Staff - None

- XI.** A motion was made by Council Member Ray to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Casteel.

The following Council Members voted: Ayes: Casteel, Ray, Veal-Gooch, Matthews, Miller and Davis. Nays: None (9:10 p.m.)



Bob Bruggeman, Mayor



Jennifer Evans, City Secretary

