

STATE OF TEXAS :
COUNTY OF HOWARD :
CITY OF BIG SPRING :

The City Council of the City of Big Spring, Texas, met in a regular meeting in the City Council Chambers located at 307 E. 4th St., Big Spring, Texas, at 5:30 p.m., May 11, 2021, with the following members present in person:

SHANNON THOMASON	Mayor
NICK ORNELAS	Councilmember
DIANE YANEZ	Councilmember (Incoming)
CODY HUGHES	Councilmember
TROY TOMPKINS	Councilmember
MAURY SMITH	Councilmember

(Mayor Pro Tem Hartman and Councilmember McDonald were not present at this meeting.)

Same and constituting a quorum, for which four Councilmembers must be present; and the following staff in person;

TODD DARDEN	City Manager
JOHN MEDINA	Assistant City Manager
ANDREW HAGEN	City Attorney
CHAD WILLIAMS	Police Chief
SHANE BOWLES	Public Works Director
SANDY SMITH	Finance Director
HAYLEY HERRERA	Community Services Director
JIM LITTLE	Airpark Director
TAMI DAVIS	Interim City Secretary
TIM GREEN	Municipal Judge

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Smith gave the invocation and Mayor Thomason led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Several citizens made comments concerning agenda items.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

EMERGENCY READING OF AN ORDINANCE CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE GENERAL ELECTION HELD ON THE 1ST DAY OF MAY, 2021

Mayor Thomason and the Councilmembers reviewed the canvass returns for Districts Two and Four as follows:

City Councilmember District Two

Diane Yanez	83 votes	73.45%
Willie Rangel, Jr.	29 votes	25.66%

Winner – Diane Yanez

City Councilmember District Four

David A. Scott	60 votes	39.47%
Gloria Byrd McDonald	92 votes	60.53%

Winner – Gloria Byrd McDonald

Motion was made by Mayor Thomason to approve the above captioned canvass, seconded by Councilmember Thompkins, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBER FOR DISTRICT TWO

Councilmember Hartman was not present at this meeting. Mayor Thomason read the plaque that will be give to Councilmember Hartman and expressed his appreciation to Councilmember Hartman for his three years of service on the Council.

ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE TO DULY ELECTED COUNCILMEMBERS FOR DISTRICTS TWO, FOUR AND SIX

Judge Green administered the oath of office to duly elected Diane Yanez as Councilmember District Two and to Maury Smith as Councilmember District Six and presented them with a certificate of election. Councilmember McDonald was not present at this meeting and will be sworn in at the next meeting.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Councilmember Hughes nominated Councilmember Ornelas and Mayor Thomason nominated Councilmember Tompkins. Councilmember Tompkins respectfully declined the nomination. Councilmember Ornelas is appointed Mayor Pro Tem by acclamation.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Todd Darden, City Manager, gave an update on the following:

- Large Item Pickup for District 5 will be on May 19, 2021
- John Medina and Mayor Thomason gave a report regarding a recent trip to Austin over SB 1474
- List of Boards & Committees
- Brief discussion on Roll Out Containers
- Landfill Update
- Free Legal Assistance hotline (1-800-504-7030) available to low-income individuals and families affected by the Texas Winter Storm in February, 2021.

- Reminder of a special meeting to review charter amendment measure on May 12, 2021

CONSENT ITEMS

APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 11, 2021

FINAL READING OF A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE FOLLOWING AS NOMINEE TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE HOWARD COUNTY JOINT TAX APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE 2020-21 TERM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BIG SPRING CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 40 ENTITLED "PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS," ARTICLE XII "HISTORIC SPRING," DIVISION 2 "MARIE HALL PLAZA AND PERFORMANCE STATE," SECTION 40-452, "RENTAL FEES AND RESERVATIONS; CONCESSIONS PROHIBITED" IN ORDER TO AMEND CURRENT FEES AND ESTABLISH FEES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS PAKAGES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BIG SPRING CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 40 ENTITLED "PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS," ARTICLE XII "HISTORIC SPRING," DIVISION 3 "SM ENERGY PAVILION," SECTION 40-492, "RENTAL FEES AND RESERVATIONS; CONCESSIONS PROHIBITED" IN ORDER TO AMEND CURRENT FEES AND ESTABLISH FEES FOR THE PORTABLE RESTROOM TRAILER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas to approve the above captioned resolution, ordinance and minutes, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, with all Councilmembers present voting "aye."

VOUCHERS

Councilmember Smith reviewed the following vouchers:

VOUCHERS FOR 04/30/2021	\$	853,350.02
VOUCHERS FOR 05/07/2021	\$	824,671.32

Motion was made by Councilmember Smith to approve the above captioned vouchers, seconded by Councilmember Tompkins, with all members of the Council present voting "aye."

BIDS

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION IN SELECTING A FIRM FOR AN EDA GRANT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Hughes to select Jacob & Martin Engineering Services for the firm for an EDA Grant, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FOR RFP 21-018 FOR DOWNTOWN PLAZA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DELATATING AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE THE AGREEMENT TO THE MAYOR, AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE CITY ATTORNEY TO DRAFT THE AGREEMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Hughes to accept the above captioned proposal, seconded by Councilmember Smith, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION OF ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATION OF MATTRESSES TO THE CITY OF BIG SPRING FIRE DEPARTMENT

After a brief discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Hughes to delegate authority to the City Manager to accept the donation of mattresses, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

PRESENTATION OF THE HOWARD COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR’S COLLECTION FEE BUDGET FOR 2021 & 2022

Sandy Smith, Finance Director presented the Howard County Tax Assessor-Collector’s Collection Fee Budget for 2021 & 2022. No action was necessary.

DISCUSSION ON BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

After a brief discussion, the Council directed the City Attorney to come up with a policy and procedure ordinance to begin the process of Councilmembers appointing citizens to represent each district.

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO OFFICIALLY NAME THE TWO NEW PAVILIONS AT THE ABC PARK/RENAME NORTH GREGG STREET

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas to name one of the pavilions that was being built at the ABC Park “PJ the DJ” after PJ Dominguez, seconded by Councilmember Yanez. After a brief discussion, Council directed the city staff to draft an ordinance to name the pavilion at the ABC Park.

After a brief discussion and several citizens against renaming North Gregg Street after Oscar Garcia, a former City Councilmember, County Commissioner and a Veteran Mayor Thomason suggested naming a future city park after Mr. Garcia. The naming of a future city park was not on the agenda and the City Attorney advised that it should be brought back at another meeting for discussion and possible consideration.

FIRST READING OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION, AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR THE BIG SPRING INDUSTRIAL PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND MEET ALL ADMINISTRATIVE AND PLANNING REQUIREMENTS FOR APPROVAL BY THE U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Motion was made by Mayor Thomason to approve the above captioned resolution, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, with all members of the Council present voting "aye."

FIRST READING OF A RESOLUTION FINDING THAT ONCOR ELECTRIC DELIVERY COMPANY LLC'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO AMEND ITS DISTRIBUTION COST RECOVERY FACTOR TO INCREASE DISTRIBUTION RATES WITHIN THE CITY SHOULD BE DENIED; AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION WITH OCSC; AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF LEGAL COUNSEL AND CONSULTING SERVICES; FINDING THAT THE CITY'S REASONABLE RATE CASE EXPENSES SHALL BE REIMBURSED BY THE COMPANY; FINDING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS RESOLUTION IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW; REQUIRING NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE COMPANY AND LEGAL COUNSEL; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Motion was made by Councilmember Hughes to approve the above captioned resolution, seconded by Councilmember Yanez, with all members of the Council present voting "aye."

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF AN ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH JACOB MARTIN, LLC FOR 2021 WATER LINE REPLACEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Yanez to approve the above captioned agreement, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas, with all members of the Council present voting "aye."

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH PERMIAN BASIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION TO PROVIDE SERVICES FOR EDA GRANT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS

Motion was made by Mayor Thomason to approve the above captioned agreement, seconded by Councilmember Hughes, with all members of the Council present voting "aye."

APPOINTMENTS TO THE CRMWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2 OPENINGS

Clif Talbot – Willing to Re-Serve

Jeff Brorman – Willing to Re-Serve

After a brief discussion, motion was made by Mayor Thomason to table the above captioned appointments, seconded by Councilmember Tompkins, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

COUNCIL INPUT

All of the Councilmembers welcomed the new Councilmember Diane Yanez.

Mayor Thomason reminded citizens to use the Notify Me System available on the City’s website to receive public announcements; and also asked citizens to “help control the pet population, spay or neuter your pets.”

Councilmember Ornelas reported that he had a low turn-out at his Town Hall meeting.

Councilmember Hughes thanked Todd and city staff for working on a water leak and recognized County Commissioner, Eddie Ray for attending the council meeting.

Councilmember Tompkins would like to review the Master Plan for the City.

ADJOURN

Mayor Thomason adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.



Shannon D. Thomason, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tami L. Davis, Interim City Secretary