

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., November 9, 2021, with the following members present in person:

SHANNON THOMASON	Mayor
NICK ORNELAS	Mayor Pro Tem
DIANE YANEZ	Councilmember
GLORIA MCDONALD	Councilmember
TROY TOMPKINS	Councilmember
MAURY SMITH	Councilmember

(Councilmember Hughes was 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
CRAIG FERGUSON	Fire Chief
SHANE BOWLES	Public Works Director
SANDY SMITH	Finance Director
HAYLEY HERRERA	Community Services Director
TAMI DAVIS	City Secretary
TIM GREEN	Municipal Judge

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

One citizens spoke about stray dogs and the public safety of citizens and asked the Council and staff to send out a PSA reminding pet owners to help keep their pets safe and secured.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATION AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

PRESENTATION FROM HOWARD COUNTY RESOURCE CENTER

Allan Johnson, a representative from Howard County Resource Center, explained some of the resources that they help citizens in our community such as counseling, legal aid, help pay utility bills, rent and overall assists families in need.

PRESENTATION FROM HANGAR 25 MUSEUM

Jim Little and a couple of representatives from Hangar 25 museum spoke about the housing of historic aircraft and promoting education regarding the history of different planes.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Large Item Pickup for District 5 will be on November 17, 2021
- Holiday Schedule – City Offices will be closed on November 11, 2021 for Veterans Day.
- Employee Recruiting – City is participating in a job fair at the college on Friday, November 12, 2021.
- Update on Backfills and Street Patching – City looking at a new product.

CONSENT ITEMS

APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 26, 2021

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

OLD BUSINESS

FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 ENTITLED “ADMINISTRATION,” ARTICLE VII “BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS,” BY ADDING A NEW DIVISION 10, ENTITLED “CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU BOARD,” AND A NEW SECTION 2-213 TO MOVE THE CODE PERTAINING TO THE CONVENTION AND VISITOR’S BUREAU BOARD (CVB) FROM CHAPTER 32 AND PROVIDING FOR THE RENUMBERING OF THAT SECTION; AMENDING CHAPTER 32 “LICENSES, TAXATION, AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS REGULATIONS,” ARTICLE II “TAXATION,” DIVISION 2 “HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX,” SECTION 32-65 “CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU BOARD” BY RENAMING THE SECTION “REVENUES-USE” TO AMEND REGULATIONS CONCERNING THE CVB BUDGET; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 40 “PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS,” ARTICLE IV “DORA ROBERTS COMMUNITY CENTER,” SECTION 40-110 “ADMINISTRATION” TO CLARIFY THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DORA ROBERTS COMMUNITY CENTER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Motion was made by Councilmember Tompkins to approve the above captioned ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas.

Motion was made by Mayor Thomason to amend the above captioned ordinance by approving the attached amendments recommended by the City Attorney, seconded by Councilmember Tompkins, with all members of the Council present voting "aye."

Motion was made by Councilmember Tompkins to approve the above captioned amended ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas, with all members of the council present voting "aye."

VOUCHERS

Councilmember Smith did not have a chance to review the following vouchers:

VOUCHERS FOR 10/15/2021	\$	347,173.65
VOUCHERS FOR 10/21/2021	\$	874,240.31

Motion was made by Councilmember Smith to table the above captioned vouchers, seconded by Councilmember Tompkins. Vouchers were tabled by acclamation of the Council.

NEW BUSINESS

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 6, 2021

Councilmembers acknowledge receipt of the above captioned minutes.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE BIG SPRING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

Councilmembers acknowledge receipt of the above captioned minutes.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A PROPOSED HOWARD COUNTY LEADERSHIP SUMMIT, CONCERNING COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION OF BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENTAL LEADERS

Mark Willis announced that he is working with Howard College to get all entities together and discuss projects within the community. This meeting would take place at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum on December 6, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. In order for all Councilmembers to participate, a notice of quorum must be posted. Motion was made by Councilmember Tompkins to schedule a special meeting, seconded by Councilmember McDonald. After a brief discussion and realizing that a regular council meeting is scheduled for December 7th, Councilmember Tompkins requested to amend his previous motion and schedule the first regular council meeting to be held in conjunction with the community meeting on December 6, 2021, seconded by Councilmember McDonald, with all members of the Council present voting "aye."

EMERGENCY READING OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION APPLICATION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION; AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACT AS THE CITY'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION GRANT PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

After a brief discussion, motion was made by Councilmember Tompkins to approve the above captioned resolution, seconded by Councilmember Smith, with Councilmembers Ornelas, Yanez, McDonald, Tompkins and Smith voting "aye." Mayor Thomason, being opposed, voting "nay" for passage of same. Motion **passed** as a first reading and failed as an emergency reading due to lack of unanimous vote.

City Council adjourned into break at 7:19 p.m.

City Council reconvened into open session at 7:31 p.m.

FIRST READING OF A RESOLUTION CASTING VOTE(S) TO ELECT DIRECTORS FOR THE HOWARD COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT FOR THE YEARS 2022 AND 2023; AND DIRECTING THE CITY SECRETARY TO SUBMIT THE OFFICIAL BALLOT TO THE CHIEF APPRAISER OF THE HOWARD COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BEFORE DECEMBER 14, 2021

Motion was made by Mayor Thomason to approve the above captioned resolution and allocate the City's 414 votes to the City's nominee Jordan Partee, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas, with all members of the council present voting "aye."

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 039-2021 WHICH ADOPTED THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2021 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 BY INCREASING THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR BATHROOM RENOVATIONS FOR FIRE STATION #2; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

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

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE BIG SPRING CITY CODE ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION," ARTICLE II "AIRPARK DEVELOPMENT BOARD," SECTION 2-255 BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (d) IN ORDER TO APPLY THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 2-241 AND 2-242 TO THE BOARD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Motion was made by Mayor Thomason to approve the above captioned ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO TEXAS COMMUNITIES GROUP LLC EXTENDING THE AGREEMENT FOR ONE YEAR

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas to approve the above captioned letter, seconded by Councilmember Smith, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION OF A CORRECTIVE WARRANTY DEED WITH LIFE CHURCH AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Tompkins to approve the above captioned deed, seconded by Councilmember Yanez, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

EMERGENCY READING OF AN ORDINANCE CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION WHICH WAS HELD ON THE 2ND DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2021, IN THE CITY OF BIG SPRING, TEXAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER

Mayor Thomason and the Councilmembers reviewed the canvass returns for the City Charters Amendments. Motion was made by Mayor Thomason to approve the above captioned ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas.

Motion to amend the canvass ordinance by removing the percentages and correcting the total number of votes to match the official canvassing report by the Howard County Election Administrator, seconded by Councilmember Tompkins, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

Motion was made by Mayor Thomason to approve the above captioned amended ordinance, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas, with all members of the Council present voting “aye.”

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Traffic Commission

Sharon DeAnda – Nominated by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas

Zoning Board of Adjustments

Sherry Wigington – Nominated by Councilmember McDonald

Veronica Zuniga – Nominated by Councilmember Tompkins

Board of Adjustments & Appeals

John Flores – Nominated by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas

Convention & Visitors Bureau Board
Sheila Crockett – Nominated by Mayor Pro Tem Ornelas

Animal Rescue & Adoption Committee
Tiffany Rabone – Nominated by Councilmember McDonald

The above captioned citizens were appointed to the above boards by acclamation of the Council.

COUNCIL INPUT

Mayor Pro Tem updated citizens on TxDOT repairs for the patching on the intersection of 87 and Gregg Street and invited the council and staff to a ribbon cutting at the ABC Park for the new pavilion on December 1, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Councilmember Tompkins mentioned a concern regarding barricades being knocked over or taken and also he expressed to his District that is also concerned with the stray animals and suggested that the City put animal control under a different department.

Councilmember Smith agrees with Councilmember Tompkins on the animal control idea ask that citizens be responsible for their pets. Councilmember Smith also thanked citizens that got out and voted on the City Charter amendments.

Mayor Thomason expressed his concerns on animal control an that it is a balancing act on having enough space for animals or put them down. He has always believed in a no kill animal shelter and is working on renovating the old shelter for more space and reminded everyone to help control the pet population by having their pets spayed or neutered. Mayor Thomason also closed the meeting by reading a new emergency declaration assuring the citizens that there will be no mandate regarding COVID vaccinations.

ADJOURN

Mayor Thomason adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.



Shannon D. Thomason, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tami L. Davis, City Secretary