

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 7, 2009, 8:30 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

The City Council of the City of Abilene, Texas, met in Special Session on May 7th at 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers at 555 Walnut Street. Mayor Archibald was present and presiding with Councilmen Sam Chase, Stormy Higgins, Joe Spano, Anthony Williams, Robert O. Briley and Councilwoman Laura Moore. Also present were City Manager Larry Gilley, City Attorney Dan Santee, City Secretary Danette Dunlap, and various members of the City staff.

Mayor Archibald gave the invocation.

Mayor Archibald led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags of the United States of America and the State of Texas.

Mayor Archibald announced that the council would be boarding the City trolley for a tour of the community.

Richard Burdine Assistant City Manager, briefed the council on the Community Enhancements that have been made on Pine Street in regards to activity of the Development Corporation. 842 Pine has been renovated as a wet lab space and there is new construction at 1325 Pine.

Paul Knippel Director of Public Works, briefed the council on the Pine Street rehab. Pine Street will be redone from North 6th Street to Treadaway. Sidewalks were not a part of the original rehab of Pine Street when the Bond election was considered. Discussion included: 1) how much would adding sidewalks add to the project – estimate based on other projects with the addition of sidewalks, sidewalks can add anywhere from 30 to 50% cost to the project; 2) how much would it cost for just one side of Pine Street; and 3) what about a center median with landscaping like on South 14th near Danville.

Priscilla Templeton Community Enhancement Division Manager along with Bill Whitley Code Enforcement Officer pointed out several areas in the City where they have been working with the citizens for clean-up and enforcement of code violations.

After Code issues the City Council traveled to Safety City. The Council was met by Chief Melvin Martin and Fire Chief Ken Dozier. Councilwoman Moore explained the efforts of the Friends of Safety City Board and their undertaken of upgrades to Safety City. A Fire Station and Police Station on site will be added in the near future. With these two new additions Safety City will be greatly enhanced as a place that children from all over come to visit to learn of Community involvement and Safety.

The City Council then returned to City Hall and reconvened at 10:50 in Council Chambers.

Council discussion included: 1) council has seen progress in areas; 2) Safety City is a great asset to our Community; 3) Code Enforcement is having approximately a 90% success rate; 4) public awareness; 5) someone that might serve as a liaison between city staff and community organizations

that are willing to help; 6) priority that was seen for the South Downtown/Northeast from City Hall was clean it up as a first step – people then can see progress.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Danette Dunlap, TRMC
City Secretary

Norm Archibald
Mayor