

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 2, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS
SOUTH BRANCH LIBRARY, MALL OF ABILENE

The City Council of the City of Abilene, Texas met in a Special Called Work Session Meeting (Retreat) on February 2, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. at 4310 Buffalo Gap Road, South Branch Library, Mall of Abilene, 1st Floor, South Conference Room. Mayor Anthony Williams was present and presiding with Mayor Pro-tem Shane Price, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Steve Savage, and Councilmembers Bruce Kreitler, Donna Albus, Weldon Hurt, and Kyle McAlister. Also present were City Manager Robert Hanna, City Attorney Stanley Smith, City Secretary Rosa Rios, and various members of the City staff.

Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Savage delivered the invocation.

The special called meeting/work session was held for the purpose of holding the annual city council retreat to provide the city manager the opportunity to present certain issues and obtain input from the city council on the direction desired in specific service areas as well as any new areas members of the city council felt needed to be reviewed/included for staff follow up, research, strategy development, and/or project analysis.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Discussion of the following:
 - **Seven Strategic Focus Areas**
 - I. Effective Governance
 - II. Downtown Hotel
 - III. Financial Discipline
 - IV. Quality of Life
 - V. Reliable Infrastructure
 - VI. Excellent Service
 - VII. Economic Growth
 - VIII. Engaged Community

The following were identified by the city council as focus areas:

1. Performance measures/metrics
 2. Customer feedback
 3. Electronic vote management/system
 4. Examining best practices on engagement and speed of information getting out into the community
 5. Recording all board meetings
- **Ethics Policy and Code of Conduct**

The presentation centered on existing ethical standards under the City Charter and City Council Rules of Procedure which provide the city council an avenue for self-governance on ethics matters. Comparative data on existing ethics policies for the Cities of Denton, San Angelo, Grand Prairie, Plano and Richardson was presented. Options for expanding the existing language were provided with the consensus of the city council agreeing a super majority vote of the city council would be required to administer any penalty or take any official action on an ethics complaint filed against a member of the city council.

III. DETERMINE CITY'S TOTAL COST OF DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

City council indicated an interest in having the city manager return with proposals providing for external consulting services to provide a list of city facilities that would be the first step in addressing this priority. It was reported the development of a list of major facilities and inventory could cost around \$49,000, but to include needed maintenance for those facilities as part of the report could cost up to \$100,000. The consensus was the need for a comprehensive report.

At 11:43 a.m., the meeting was recessed for a brief lunch and reconvened at 12:00 p.m.

IV. STREET MAINTENANCE

1. The February 8, 2018 regular meeting agenda includes an item for city council consideration to order a special election for May 5, 2018 to present to the voters a non-binding proposition on street maintenance fees. The purpose is to seek voter input on the development of a residential rate tier to cover costs for street repair.
2. Creation of a Street Committee.

V. DEVELOPMENT ALONG I-20

The city manager to return with a resolution for North/South access to I-20, in the general area near Judge Ely Road.

VI. AMR/AMI UPDATE

The city council affirmed its support of the AMR/AMI meter replacement program.

VII. PUBLIC WORKS OVERVIEW – WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

A detailed overview of the Public Works Department's adopted budget, anticipated revenues was provided for the following divisions:

1. Public Works Administration
2. Engineering
3. Traffic Services
4. Street Services
5. Street Lighting
6. Solid Waste
7. Stormwater Services

At 2:00 p.m., the meeting was recessed for a break and reconvened at 2:10 p.m.

VIII. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

An overview of the current FY 17-18 budget status was provided, which confirmed the budget is on target. The city manager to pull 5% of sales tax revenue for General Fund activity capital projects, with the understanding that the city council could change that at any time.

IX. OTHER

1. Little Elm Stormwater Management Project a Priority. This would address the flooding. The city manager reported it would be included as a part of the Stormwater discussions.
2. Executive Session
 - A. Texas Government Code Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters): Evaluation, performance, compensation of City Manager, City Attorney, Municipal Court Judge and City Secretary

Mayor Williams recessed into Executive Session at 2:30 p.m. The meeting reconvened to Open Session at 2:42 p.m. Mayor Williams reported no votes or action were taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.



Rosa Rios, TRMC
City Secretary



Anthony Williams
Mayor

Minutes approved on: February 22, 2018