

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 22, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

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

The City Council of the City of Abilene, Texas met in Regular Session on August 22, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 555 Walnut St. Mayor Anthony Williams was present and presiding, with Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Donna Albus and Councilmembers Shane Price, Jack Rentz, Kyle McAlister, and Travis Craver. Mayor Pro-tem Weldon Hurt was absent. Also present were City Manager Robert Hanna, City Attorney Stanley Smith, City Secretary Shawna Atkinson, and various members of the City staff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Williams recessed into Executive Session at 4:30 p.m. pursuant to the following of the Open Meetings Act, with the following issues discussed during this session, as listed on the agenda and authorized by the noted Texas Government Code Sections:

- 19.A 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)
 - 3. Susan Lewis King & Austin King MD vs Ken Paxton & the City of Abilene
 - 13. Sanctuary City for the Unborn
 - 14. Walking Quorum
 - 15. Claim of Sandy Chapman
- 19. D 551.074 (Personnel Matters)
 - 1. City Council Appointees – City Manager
- 19.F 551.087 (Business Prospect/Economic Development)
 - 1. Abilene Convention Center Hotel Project
 - 2. Windsor Hotel
 - 3. Civic Plaza Hotel
 - 4. New Horizons

The Executive Session ended at 5:10 p.m. and the meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 5:30 p.m. as noted on the posted agenda. Mayor Williams reported no votes or action were taken in Executive Session.

Councilmember Jack Rentz delivered the invocation.

Lori Sawyers, 7th grader at Wylie West, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and State of Texas Flag.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of items 3-12.

Items pulled for individual consideration were as follows:

- David Swartz, citizen: Item 9

Councilmember Price moved to approve the consent agenda, now consisting of items 3-8 and 10-12.

Councilmember Rentz seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Williams, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus, and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (1): Mayor Pro-tem Hurt

4. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion, and Take Action on Reviewing the Abilene-Taylor County Events Venue District's Budget for Revised FY 2019 and Approved FY 20.
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 168-2019]
5. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion, and Take Action on Continuing to Receive Bingo Prize Fees from Charitable Organizations
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 169-2019]
6. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute a Lease Agreement with Abilene Independent School District for the Lee Athletic Complex
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 170-2019]
7. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action to Award a Bid to HJC Farms for the North 10th Street Pedestrian Rail Replacement
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 171-2019]
8. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving a Change Order for the Leggett Drive Overlay Project
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 172-2019]
10. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action to Award the Bid for the Water Department Street and Miscellaneous Repair Work to Bontke Brothers Construction, Co. Inc.
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 174-2019]
11. Resolution: Receive a report, hold a discussion and take action on Approving a Single-Family Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Project and Award Bid to C.E. Vann Construction of Abilene, LLC for 1902 Clinton
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 175-2019]
12. Ordinance (First Reading) SNC-2019-02: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion, and Take Action on a request from Development Corporation of Abilene, Inc., agent Kim Tarrant, to change the name of Tower View Drive to Kinsolving Drive as it extends south to north from FM 18 to Corridor Drive.

ITEMS PULLED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

9. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Awarding the Bid for the Ridgemont Drive Reconstruction Project to Bontke Brothers Construction Co. Inc.
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 173-2019]

The item was pulled by David Swart

Having pulled the item, David Swart spoke about the Street Maintenance Fee and how this will be the first project putting it in action. He states that everyone complaining about the fee can stop because this is proof that the City is working on the streets.

Councilmember McAlister moved to approve the item as presented. Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Williams, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus, and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver
NAYS (0): None
ABSENT (1): Mayor Pro-tem Hurt

REGULAR AGENDA

13. **Presentation: Receive a Report and Hold a Discussion on the Keep Abilene Beautiful (KAB) Board Annual Report**

Greg McCaffery, Director of Public Works, presented the item and introduced Brandon McAuliff, President of the Keep Abilene Beautiful Board. Mr. McAuliff spoke about the various projects the Keep Abilene Beautiful Board has accomplished throughout the last year and updated Council on their progress in the community.

This item was for discussion only. No vote or action was taken at this time.

14. **Resolution: Receive Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action to approve Task Order 2 with Corgan to design a new Airport Fire Station for its Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting operation. [ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 176-2019]**

Don Green, Director of Transportation, presented the item. Adoption of the item would authorize a task order with Corgan to design an expansion to the Airport Fire Station.

Mayor Williams opened a public hearing. The following addressed the city council:

- David Swart – spoke on the size of future fire trucks and thinks this will be good for the Airport, especially if the trucks keep getting bigger.

With no other speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Price moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Craver seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Williams, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus, and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver
NAYS (0): None
ABSENT (1): Mayor Pro-tem Hurt

15. **Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute an Interlocal Agreement with the Abilene Independent School District for the Relocation of a Water Pipeline at the Dyess Elementary School Campus. [ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 177-2019]**

Rodney Taylor, Director of Water Utilities, presented the item. Adoption of the item would authorize an Interlocal Agreement with AISD for the relocation of a water pipeline at the Dyess Elementary School Campus, and to share the cost of relocating the pipeline between the City and District.

Councilmember McAlister moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Rentz seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Williams, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus, and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (1): Mayor Pro-tem Hurt

16. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Meet and Confer Agreement with the Abilene Police Officers' Association.
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 178-2019]

Robert Hanna, City Manager, presented the item. Adoption of the item would approve a 5-year Meet and Confer agreement with the Abilene Police Officers' Association, to achieve average base pay for police officers among peer cities, plus 4%.

Councilmember Rentz moved to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Price seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Williams, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus, and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (1): Mayor Pro-tem Hurt

17. Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Meet and Confer Agreement with the Abilene Professional Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 1044.
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 179-2019 – TABLED TO NEXT MEETING]

Robert Hanna, City Manager, presented the item. Because there was a mistake in the agreement, it will have to be resigned and voted on again. City Manager Hanna asked Council to table the item.

Councilmember Price moved to table the item. Councilmember Rentz seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Williams, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus, and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (1): Mayor Pro-tem Hurt

18. Ordinance and Public Hearing (First Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, on the Proposed FY 2020 Tax Rate; and Take Action on Setting a Public Hearing for September 5 and Final Vote on September 12, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

Marjorie Knight, Assistant Director of Finance, presented the item and gave Council an update on the FY 2020 Tax Rate.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. The following addressed the city council:

- Bob Thomas – stated that this is an increase from the previous year's budget and raising the tax rate will hurt a lot of people. He encouraged Council to go back to the original tax rate.

With no other speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

This item was for public hearing only. No vote or action was taken at this time.

20. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving an Agreement for Release of Lien and Grant of Parking Easement regarding the Windsor Hotel.
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 180-2019 – NOT CONSIDERED]

This item was pulled by City Manager Robert Hanna.

21. Oral Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on the Employment, Compensation and/or Evaluation of the City Manager
[ORAL RESOLUTION]

Councilmember McAlister moved to approve the contract and compensation of the City Manager, Robert Hanna. Councilmember Rentz seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Williams, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus, and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver

NAYS (0): None

ABSENT (1): Mayor Pro-tem Hurt

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Williams opened the public comment period. The following addressed the city council:


- Joseph Becker – spoke about the curfew at Kirby Lake. He is a fisherman and would like to catfish at night there but has been asked to leave by APD because the lake closes at midnight. He asked Council to consider letting fisherman fish all night there.
- Jeremy Wood – thanked Keep Abilene Beautiful for all they do. Spoke about the invocation before every Council meeting and how he believes it is unconstitutional and should be stopped completely, or Council needs to let anyone lead them.
- David Swart – spoke about the automated messages on several department's answering machines in the City. Thinks the signal shop and the water office need to be less curt and more helpful. Also spoke about the City's website not being encrypted and thinks that needs to be changed.
- Charles Byrn – spoke about the sanctuary city for the unborn. Urged Council to put that item on the agenda in the future and that this is not a PR stunt for him – he wants to keep Planned Parenthood out of Abilene.

With no other speakers coming forward, the public comment period was closed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.


Shawna Atkinson
City Secretary


Anthony Williams
Mayor

Minutes approved on: 9/12/19