

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**October 3, 2019 at 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 Regular Session on October 3, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 555 Walnut St. Mayor Anthony Williams was present and presiding with Mayor Pro-tem Weldon Hurt, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Donna Albus and Councilmembers Shane Price, Jack Rentz, Kyle McAlister and Travis Craver. Also present were City Manager Robert Hanna, City Attorney Stanley Smith, City Secretary Shawna Atkinson, and various members of the City staff.

Mayor Pro-tem Weldon Hurt delivered the invocation.

Sienna Urata, 5<sup>th</sup> Grader at Bassetti Elementary, and Lauren McGrew, 5<sup>th</sup> Grader at Taylor Elementary, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and State of Texas Flag.

**PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Employee Service Awards
  - Derrick Franklin - 20 Years
  - Steven Valentine - 20 Years
  - Eric Katona - 20 Years
  - Danny Tollison - 20 Years
  - Loren Adlesburger - 20 Years
  - Phil Sage - 20 Years
- Proclamation
  - National Disability Employment Awareness Month accepted by Mary Ross, Executive Director of Workforce Solutions, Tommy Higgins, and Bill Dean.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda consisted of items 4-6.

Councilmember Price moved to approve the Consent Agendas as presented. Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus seconded the motion; motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Williams, Mayor Pro-tem Hurt, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver  
NAYS (0): None

4. Minutes: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving the Minutes from the Regular meeting held on September 26, 2019
5. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action to Approve an Extended Term Street Use License with Abilene Majestic Series B, LLC  
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 210-2019]
6. Ordinance (First Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Abilene, Texas, amending the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 2 Project Plan

## REGULAR AGENDA

7. **Presentation: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Provide Direction on Downtown On-Street Parking**

Michael Rice, Assistant City Manager, presented the item. Mr. Rice spoke about various alternative on-street parking improvement ideas to increase parking spaces available to businesses and residents in the downtown area.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. The following addressed the Council:

- David Swart - spoke about parallel parking and stated he would avoid downtown if there were more parallel parking, as would many others. He suggested that Abilene should use the Dallas turnpike as an example - it started as a toll road to pay for it and now its free that the debt is paid off. He suggested the city do that for a parking garage. He advised he doesn't want to see Pine Street down to one lane or a loading lane, and he doesn't want the lanes taken away.

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

This items was for discussion only. No votes or actions were taken at this time.

8. **Ordinance (Final Reading): Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Amending Chapter 22, "Parks and Recreation", Section 22-4, "Closing Hours," of the Code of Ordinances to Extend the Open Hours of Kirby Lake Park [ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 54-2019]**

Leslie Andrews, Director of Community Services, presented the item. Adoption of the item would extend the open hours of Kirby Lake Park to 24 hours a day.

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

- Mike Cornett – advised he is strongly in favor of this item. He stated he has talked to a lot of people and everyone thinks it's a positive change. He advised this will allow fisherman to keep an eye on the lake and report to police when needed.

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

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

AYES (7): Mayor Williams, Mayor Pro-tem Hurt, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver

NAYS (0): None

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

- David Swart – spoke about National Night Out. He stated he thought it was an open house but it didn't appear to be open. He didn't understand the room layout in the entry area and was disappointed in the display case, as there were no historical items regarding the first Chief of Police, Chief Clinton. He stated his appreciation for the sponsors there, as well as the new fire equipment demonstrations and K-9 units.
- Dale Boecker – spoke about issues with his water bill, his meter not being read and the new water meter he received. Also stated that someone was spraying weed killer in his grass, and after investigation it appeared to be a contractor and not someone from the City of Abilene.

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

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Williams recessed into Executive Session at 9:25 a.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 Section:

- 9.B 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property)
  - 1. Clyde Water
  - 2. Use of Eminent Domain for Cedar Creek Waterway (And Agenda Item 10)
- 9.F 551.087 (Business Prospect/Economic Development)
  - 1. Abilene Convention Center Hotel Project

The Executive Session ended at 9:40 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session. Mayor Williams reported no votes or action were taken in Executive Session.

## REGULAR AGENDA

10. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on a resolution to authorize the City Manager to purchase an approximately 18.64 acre tract of land from Union Pacific Railroad [ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 211-2019]

Earlier in the meeting, under Section 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property) of the Open Meetings Act, the item was discussed during the Executive Session, which started at 9:25 a.m. and ended at 9:40 a.m. No votes or actions were taken at that time.

Robert Hanna, City Manager, presented the item. Adoption of the item would authorize the purchase of land from Union Pacific Railroad in order to construct Phase I of the Cedar Creek Waterway Trail project.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. The following addressed City Council:

- Bob Thomas – questioned if this purchase was absolutely necessary for the project and if Council had to pay out of their own pockets for this, would they? He thinks this project was basically a blank check signed by the voters and that numbers should be given out before voting on anything like this in the future. Stated that voters are being “held hostage” for twice the value of the property.

City Manager Robert Hanna addressed Mr. Thomas' concerns at this time. This project was approved by voters in the 2015 Bond election and this will be fulfilling their wishes. The entire piece of land is necessary, as without purchasing it, anyone using the trail system would be trespassing. The City is currently leasing part of this property for the Grimes Water Treatment Plant and purchasing the land will remove the ongoing lease payments.

Mayor Williams also took this opportunity to remind citizens of the Mayor's Hike coming up on October 19, 2019, at the Cedar Creek Waterway.

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

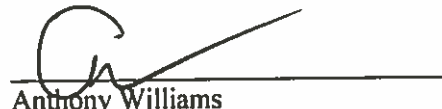
AYES (7): Mayor Williams, Mayor Pro-tem Hurt, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Albus and Councilmembers Price, Rentz, McAlister and Craver

NAYS (0): None

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

  
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Shawna Atkinson  
City Secretary

  
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Anthony Williams  
Mayor

Minutes approved on: 10/17/19

