

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**March 10, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.**

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

The City Council of the City of Abilene, Texas met in Regular Session on March 10, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. at the South Branch Library, Mall of Abilene, 4310 Buffalo Gap Road. Mayor Anthony Williams was present and presiding, along with Mayor Pro-tem Kyle McAlister, Deputy Mayor Pro-tem Travis Craver, and Councilmembers Shane Price, Lynn Beard, Donna Albus, and Weldon Hurt. Also present were City Manager Robert Hanna, City Attorney Stanley Smith, and City Secretary Shawna Atkinson.

Mayor Anthony Williams delivered the invocation.

Devin Gibbs, 4<sup>th</sup> Grader at Alcorta Elementary, Audrina Saldana, kindergartner at Bassetti Elementary, and Evan Flatt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grader at Bassetti Elementary, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and State of Texas Flag.

**PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Service Awards:
  - Cande Flores – Fire Department – 30 Years

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Williams recessed into Executive Session at 8:38 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:

- 13. D. 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney)
  - 1. Sanctuary City for the Unborn Petition
  - 2. Agenda Item 14 – Blue Ribbon Committee
- 13. D. 551.074 (Personnel Matters)
  - 1. City Manager

The Executive Session ended at 8:50 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session. Mayor Williams reported no votes or action were taken in Executive Session.

**PRESENTATION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda consisted of items 3-9. Items #7 and #9 were pulled for individual consideration.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

- Delores Moore – wanted to share news about the Abilene Chamber of Commerce being awarded a nearly \$1 million grant from the Small Business Development, that will help start a community navigator pilot program
- Arlene Shivers – submitted a card, did not speak
- Horatio Lodan – stated he has spent millions of dollars renovating the Windsor hotel, however he is very frustrated with the Solid Waste department, and has had hard time with the noise of the garbage trucks that go through downtown at very early morning hours.

- Samuel Garcia – wanted to recognize Chief Flores for his years of service. Mr. Garcia stated that the Hispanic Leadership Council puts on a forum for candidates running for Council, however the public is unable to receive their contact information from the City’s website because it is now redacted. He does not think that is right.
- Cynthia Alvidrez – requested that citizens and tax payers be allowed to pull consent agenda items again. Ms. Alvidrez also questioned if the grant that was issued to the Chamber of Commerce was sent out to the public to see if the public could apply to utilize those grants first. She also questioned where the money is coming from for agenda items 5 and 6.

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

### CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Hurt moved to approve the consent agenda, consisting of items 3-6 and 8. Councilmember Albus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

3. Minutes: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving the Minutes from the Regular Meeting Held on February 24, 2022
4. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Awarding the Bid to Purcell Contracting, LLC for the Huckleberry Lift Station Replacement  
**[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 35-2022]**
5. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Chapter 380 Agreement with the Abilene Arts Alliance for a portion of the cost of a sculpture representing the locomotive from the Caldecott Medal Book, *Locomotive*, by author and illustrator Brian Floca  
**[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 36-2022]**
6. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Chapter 380 Agreement with Third and Pine, LP for assistance with infrastructure related improvements at 302 Pine Street  
**[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 37-2022]**
8. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving the Abilene City Hall Renovation Project Contract with Teinert Construction  
**[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 39-2022]**

### ITEMS PULLED FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

7. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Modifying and Extending the Declaration of Local Disaster (COVID-19)  
**[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 38-2022]**

*The item was pulled by Councilmember Price.*

Having pulled the item, Councilmember Price questioned when the disaster declaration will be ended.

City Manager Hanna stated that he has already asked staff to start visiting with other agencies to ask what would happen if we stopped approving this on a monthly basis. He doesn't want to stop without knowing all the answers first.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

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

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

NAYS (1): Councilmember Hurt

9. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Take Action on Approving Funds for Railroad Improvement on South 14th Street  
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 40-2022]

*The item was pulled by Councilmember Price.*

Having pulled the item, Councilmember Price stated there are two other rail crossings close by that look worse than the one we are funding and wondered why we aren't doing all three areas.

Michael Rice, Assistant City Manager, addressed Councilmember Price's concern and stated that they are different owners and the owner for this track has already spoken to staff about moving forward. The other two are still being negotiated.

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

- Cynthia Alvidrez – asked to receive the report for the item.

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

Mayor Williams asked Mr. Rice to give a brief overview of the project, but the entire report is available in the agenda packet.

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

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

NAYS (0): None

#### REGULAR AGENDA

10. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on Directing Publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation for Water and Sewer Projects  
[ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 41-2022]

Mike Rains, Finance Director, presented the item. Adoption of the item would approve the publication of notice of intention to issue combination tax and revenue certificates of obligation for water and sewer projects.

Mayor Williams opened the public hearing. With no speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

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

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

NAYS (0): None

11. Discussion: Receive a Report and Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing on directing staff to move forward with a Special Called Election this November to consider charter amendments, a general obligation bond election, and other ballot initiatives as may be desired.

Robert Hanna, City Manager, presented the item. Council was originally discussing a May 2023 Bond election, but since these issues are important and could potentially rise in cost, it was discussed to bring this forward in November 2022 instead, as well as as the charter amendments.

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

- Cynthia Alvidrez – asked what the bond will consist of. Mayor Williams stated it could possibly include parks, streets, parks, recreation and a new fire stations, or other items that may need to be addressed, but it's not decided yet. Ms. Alvidrez is upset with where city tax dollars have been allocated.

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

This item was for presentation only. No votes or action were taken.

Councilmember Beard left the meeting at this point.

12. Ordinance (Final Reading) Z-2022-03: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on a Request from the Collective Owners of Properties Within the Subdivision Known as Airmen's Landing (Represented by Jacob & Martin LLC) to Change the Zoning from Planned Development District (PDD 160) to a Residential Medium Density (MD) District  
**[ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 10-2022]**

Tim Littlejohn, Director of Planning and Development Services, presented the item. Adoption of the item would rezone the above referenced property from Planned Development District (PDD 160) to a Residential Medium Density (MD) District.

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

- Clayton Farrow, agent for the developer – stated that the zoning request is to correct some oversight or miscommunication of what was approved versus what was built. The flood way is not being modified.

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

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

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


**REGULAR AGENDA**

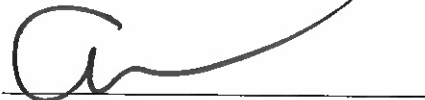
- 13. Resolution: Receive a Report, Hold a Discussion and Public Hearing, and Take Action on appointing members to a Blue Ribbon Committee for a November Bond Election  
**[NOT CONSIDERED]**

This item was pulled from consideration.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

  
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Shawna Atkinson  
City Secretary

  
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Anthony Williams  
Mayor

Minutes approved on: March 24, 2022

