

Regular City Council Meeting
October 25, 2021

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF MONTAGUE
CITY OF BOWIE

On this the 25th day of October, 2021, the council convened in a regular meeting open to the public as advertised with all Councilors present.

Presiding: Mayor Burris
Councilors: Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins and Love
City Secretary Page
City Manager Cunningham
City Attorney Rotramble

Mayor Burris called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation

Invocation was given by Pastor John Little.

Items of Community Interest

Texas Representative HD 68, David Spiller and Mayor Gaylynn Burris presented Bradley Jewelers with the Texas Treasure Business Award. This award is from the Texas Historical Commission and awarded to Bradley's Jewelers for being family owned and operated in Texas since 1913. Mayor Burris also presented a proclamation.

City Manager Report

City Manager Cunningham attended the ARCIT meeting and was appointed to the board. The primary function of ARCIT is to lobby the Texas State Government to make sure that any legislation that is passed does no harm rural communities.

An Asset management Program has been instituted where we gather information about major assets. We do an analysis of the assets age, condition and recommend useful life and determine what equipment to put in our budget from year to year. All departments will be involved in this process which will make putting together the budget next year and years thereafter a lot easier.

We are still working with the Honeywell Company in a program that they have, to find ways to make our facilities more efficient by doing things such as replacing HVAC equipment, large electric motors and monitoring our HVAC temperature in off hours, etc. The initial analysis has cost us nothing, but in the next meeting or two we will be looking at an agreement letter from Honeywell in order for them to bring in an engineer to do a thorough analysis of our equipment and facilities. Honeywell will come and make a presentation to the council and the council will decide whether to go forward with the program or not. We have made two offers for our Finance Director position, of which they were both rejected. We have a couple more resumes to consider and will schedule interviews soon. Hopefully we will find a well-qualified person very soon.

We are going through the process of applying for a FEMA Mitigation Grant for emergency generators for our facilities. We are asking for generators for City Hall, Community Center, Wastewater Plant, Water Plant, High Service pumps and our lift stations. The total application is approximately \$888,000.00. TWDB acknowledged that they received our environmental information and it will be 30-60 days before the formal review is completed.

Snyder Engineering gave information on ERCOT and Securitization Financing. We can opt in or opt out. This proposal will be brought to our next council meeting for a council decision.

Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Minutes –September 27, 2021 Regular Meeting; Resolution 2021-31- Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected utility accounts over 15 months delinquent; and Resolution 2021-32- Authorizing City Manager to write off uncollected library overdue fines over 15 months delinquent.

Councilor Hefley moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Update from EDC Director on Economic Development Administration grant.

EDC Director, Janis Crawley, announced that EDC received a 1.4-million-dollar Economic Development Administration Grant. The 4A and 4B Board will both contribute \$300,000 each for a total of \$600,000, which will be added to the 1.4. Funds are to be used to widen Gardner Road, install water lines, and build a 10,000 sq. ft. building at the business park.

Mayor Burris called to go into Executive Session at 6:06 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Texas Government Code Section 551.087-Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations and 551.072-Deliberations about real property.

I. Project #20210824CB.

Mayor Burris closed Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Burris convened into Open Session at 6:32 p.m.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION-Texas Government Code Section 551.087-Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations and 551.072-Deliberations about real property.

I. Project #20210824CB.

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Bates, to accept a letter of intent by and between Mastertech and BEDC regarding Project # 20210824CB, also known as Project Bronco. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Consider proposals for auditing services:

a. Edgin, Parkman, Fleming & Fleming, PC

b. Mathis, West, & Huffines.

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Hefley, to approve the proposal of Mathis, West, & Huffines for the auditing services. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins and Love voting Aye.

Discuss Richwood Hill Lake Estate Park at Amon Carter Lake.

Patricia Koza spoke on behalf of a group representing the Richwood Hills Lake Estate Park. Kosa raised questions about a survey procured by the city stating the property is in the Hillside Subdivision when the property is in Richwood Hills. She questioned why this small property would have been excluded from those plats. Cunningham said the park property was not included in that subdivision, but part of the overall land purchased for the new lake back in the late 1950's. After the lake was built some of the lots were sold, but this tract was kept for city employees.

Ann Smith offered an alternative she found in the local government code which allows an entity to convey property to a non-profit 501C3 group with bidding or following other law stipulations.

Councilor Love said it was the Council's understanding to let those property owners form an organization and the city could lease it so they could do what they want with it.

Mayor Burris said our goal was not to sell it, but to get it off our list of things to maintain.

Tawni Jones asked for clarification on the proposition. It says nothing about leasing as an option, and if that fails, would it have to go back on the ballot for leasing? Attorney Rotramble said it would not have to go back to a ballot. It could be conveyed to a nonprofit. If the proposition does not pass the only thing the city can do is lease or convey to a nonprofit. If proposition P passes the city can sell or lease and it does not have to be a nonprofit.

Amend Personnel Policy by adding Section 11.6 Paid Quarantine Leave.

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to approve the amendment to the Personnel Policy. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins and Love voting Aye.

Amend Personnel Policy by adding Section 11.7 Officer Mental Health Leave.

Councilor Gunter moved, with a second from Councilor Bates, to approve the amendment to the Personnel Policy. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Consider P&Z recommendation of approval on request from Windol Robbins to replat a part of J.G. Cummins Survey, Abstract No. 1211 and TE&L Survey No. 3421, Abstract No. 815. Creating Lot 1, Block 1, Ace Hardware Subdivision.

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Bell, to approve the P&Z recommendation on the replat from Windol Robbins. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Consider P&Z recommendation of approval on request from Kenson Vance, Dynamic Duo, to replat a portion of Lots 2, 3, & 4, Block 24, Original Town of Bowie. Creating Lots 2R1, 2R2, 2R3, 2R4, 2R5, and 2R6, Block 24, Original Town of Bowie.

Councilor Hefley moved, with a second from Councilor Bates, to approve the P&Z recommendation on the replat from Kenson Vance. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Consider P&Z recommendation of approval on request from Kenson Vance, Dynamic Duo, to replat a portion of Lots 5 and 6, Block 11, Lindsey Addition. Creating Lots 5R and 6R, Block 11, Lindsey Addition.

Councilor Bates moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to approve the P&Z recommendation on the replat from Kenson Vance. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Consider P&Z recommendation of approval on request from Kevin Jones to replat a portion of Lot 13, Block 2, Raymond Subdivision. Creating Lots 13, 14, and 15, Block 2, Raymond Subdivision.

Councilor Love moved, with a second from Councilor Higgins, to approve the P&Z recommendation on the replat from Kevin Jones. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Consider P&Z recommendation of approval on request from Tiffany Chagnon to replat a portion of Lots 7, 8, and 9, Revised Oak Lawn Addition. Creating Lot 7R, Revised Oak Lawn Addition.

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Bell, to approve the P&Z recommendation on the replat from Tiffany Chagnon. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Resolution 2021-33- A resolution for repayment of opioid-related expenditures and payment to abate opioid-related harms.

Councilor Gunter moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to approve Resolution 2021-33. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

Approve 2021 Tax Roll.

Councilor Higgins moved, with a second from Councilor Love, to approve the 2021 Tax Roll. Motion carried with Councilors Bates, Bell, Gunter, Hefley, Higgins, and Love voting Aye.

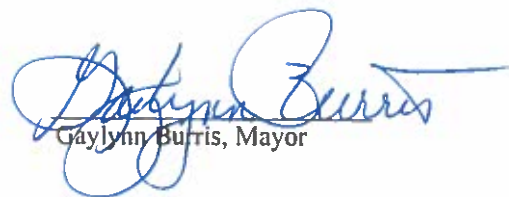
Public Comments

Patricia Kosa said they now feel that they see a light at the end of the tunnel and can see where the city is willing to work with them on the Richwood Hills Park. She would like to thank the city for that.

Mayor Burris adjourned the regular meeting at 6:27 p.m.

ATTEST:


Sandy Page, City Secretary


Gaylynn Burris, Mayor