

STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
 CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
 OF A REGULAR MEETING
 MONDAY, JANUARY 11TH, 2021

The City Council of the City of West Columbia, Texas, convenes this the 11th day of January, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in a regular meeting held by Zoom telephone and video conference in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

1. INVOCATION & PLEDGE. Invocation was given by Alderman Maynor.
2. ROLL CALL.

Present: Mayor Kincannon, Aldermen Thomas, Tindol, Maynor, Walker and Biedefeld. Also present were City Manager Sutherland, City Secretary Kuban and City Attorney Villarreal.

Absent: None.

3. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL GREETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mayor Kincannon greeting everyone that had joined the Zoom meeting and wished everyone a happy new year.
4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Jessica Ohler requested a solution for the traffic issues being caused on Sinclair and Kirton Ct. from the line of cars at the food pantry distribution on Thursday mornings. She suggested a change of hours to allow those leaving for work and/or school to have safer access off of and onto S. Columbia Dr. Another suggestion was for the food pantry to hire off-duty officers. Kincannon stated that the completion of the parking lot at the corner would alleviate some of the issues. Kay Jones requested traffic monitoring at the 4-way stop at Meadow Ln. and Loggins Dr. and also requested either a speed bump or signage to slow traffic near the bend on Meadow Ln. for children's safety.
5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Sutherland reported on the following – * Public Works completed a leak repair at the corner of E. Jackson and S. Gray and will begin work on the utility line extension to the new vet clinic on N. Columbia Dr. soon. The backhoe is in for repairs and equipment has been rented until its return. Funding opportunities for Water Well No. 2 storage tanks will continue to be researched by Freese & Nichols Engineering while staff pursues bond requirements. The city may demolish existing ground storage tank allowing for evaluation of concrete foundation. * All COVID-19 Relief Funds have been allotted and reporting will be provided to Council once completed. * The City received approval for its request to reduce the frequency of the 48 hr. Acute Biomonitoring Test due to the competent testing and ability of WWTP staff. * Legal counsel firm has advised to consider hiring independent firm to update Code of Ordinances and quotes are being sought for codification. * Auditors completed their year end field work for the 2019/20 Fiscal Year and will make presentation possibly as soon as the February meeting. * Staff is researching options for additional lighting at the soccer field at First Capitol Park as per the request of Kevin Karl during last meetings citizen comments. * City offices will be closed on January 18th in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.
6. CONSENT AGENDA:
 - A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S). Minutes were submitted
in Council packet.
 - B. CITY TREASURER'S REPORT. Reports were submitted in Council packet.
 - C. POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT. Report was submitted in Council packet.
 - D. MUNICIPAL COURT REPORT. Report was submitted in Council packet.

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- E. CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT. Report was not submitted in Council packet.
- F. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT. Report was submitted in Council packet.
- G. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT. Report was submitted in Council packet.
- Motion was made by Tindol and seconded by Thomas to approve consent agenda items. All voted Aye.
7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: There were none.
8. NEW BUSINESS:
- A. CONSIDER 2ND READING OF RESOLUTION #545 APPROVING EDC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH CARLTON INVESTMENTS, LLC: Motion was made by Tindol to approve the adoption and second reading of Resolution #545 approving the development agreement between the EDC and Carlton Investments, LLC. The motion was seconded by Thomas and all voted Aye. It was discussed that funds may be allotted after January 15th.
- B. CONSIDER 2ND READING OF RESOLUTION #546 APPROVING EDC DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH LINE CUTTERZ, LLC: Motion was made by Tindol to approve the adoption and second reading of Resolution #546 approving the development agreement between the EDC and Line Cutterz, LLC. The motion was seconded by Thomas and all voted Aye. It was discussed that funds may be allotted after January 15th.
- C. CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR EMPLOYEE COVID PAY: City Attorney Villerreal reported that federal COVID funding had expired on December 31st and recommended adopting an ordinance extending the city's current policy of allowing 80 hrs of COVID pay per employee to extend through March 31st. Walker suggested establishing a policy to be discussed at next month's meeting. He then made a motion to continue the policy until such time as council can address it. Biedenfeld seconded the motion. After further discussion of being sure that federal regulations are being met and how many employees have tested positive to date, all voted Aye.
- D. CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO TEM: Tindol made a motion to appoint Biedenfeld as Mayor Pro Tem for another term. Thomas seconded the motion and all voted Aye.
- E. CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Upon the recommendation of the mayor, a motion was made by Tindol to re-appoint incumbents Kincannon, Rory Burke, Cory Hagan and Jim Stubbs to the EDC Board of Directors. Thomas seconded the motion and all voted Aye.
- F. CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS: Upon the recommendation of the mayor, a motion was made by Tindol to re-appoint incumbents Loretta Washington, Naomi Smith, Annie Ray and Cindy Saville to the Hotel Occupancy Tax Advisory Board. Thomas seconded the motion and all voted Aye.
- G. CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE: Upon the recommendation of the mayor, a motion was made by Tindol to re-appoint Mary Cudd as Municipal Court Judge. Thomas seconded the motion and all voted Aye. Precinct 4, Place 2 Judge Sherry Kersh will assist as needed.
- H. CONSIDER 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE: Motion was made by Walker to approve the 2021 Council meeting schedule with the exception of March

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- being changed to the 15th from the 8th to accommodate known absences during Spring Break. The motion was seconded by Thomas and all voted Aye.
9. ADJOURN: Mayor Kincannon adjourned the meeting at 7:45 P.M.


LAURIE B. KINCANNON, Mayor

ATTEST:


KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary