

STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
 CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
 OF A REGULAR MEETING
 MONDAY, APRIL 12TH, 2021

The City Council of the City of West Columbia, Texas, convenes this the 12th day of April, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in a regular open meeting also 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 Walker.
2. ROLL CALL.

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

Absent: None.

3. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL GREETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS: Mayor Kincannon greeting everyone that had joined the public and Zoom meeting. Tindol invited everyone to attend the San Jacinto Festival and Walker announced that Columbia United was scheduled for June 13-18 and encouraged everyone to spread the word to prospective applicants.
4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Brandon McIntosh of 144 Ellis Lane introduced himself as the manager of the local Walmart and stated concerns regarding the proposed housing development on the opposite side of Ellis Lane. His main concerns were for drainage and the road size due to the impending increased traffic. He stated that he was supportive of growth but wanted assurance these issues would be addressed.
5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Sutherland reported on the following – PUC rate adjustment for ROW Access for telecommunications will increase from \$.52 to \$.53 effective July 1, 2021 * Utility accounts saw twenty-one adjustments due to broken pipes from the Winter storm and documentation has been submitted to the state. First Capitol Park had damage to the pavilion restrooms and the pool bathhouse and repairs are being scheduled. * Lead and Copper testing at the Museum had a positive sample requiring more testing per TCEQ. * Request to relocate water sampling site has been received by a homeowner on Rev. Swinney. TCEQ lists this as a designated testing site and engineering advice will be sought to determine if a solution could be included in the GST2 project on Loggins. Some expense is anticipated. * COVID Relief Fund reporting remains on-going * Another successful Kidfish and City Wide Cleanup was held on March 27 * San Jacinto Festival will be held April 16 and 17.
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.
 - 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.

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8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. CONSIDER DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION REPORT AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RENEWING A CONTINGENT FEE CONTRACT WITH PERDUE BRANDON FIELDER COLLINS AND MOTT, LLP PURSUANT TO SECTION 6.30 OF THE TAX CODE, SAID CONTRACT BEING FOR THE COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT GOVERNMENT RECEIVABLES OWED TO CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA AND NOTICE OF SAID CONTRACT IS POSTED WITH AGENDA IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2254 OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE: Mike Darlow of PBF CM gave the report of delinquent tax and municipal court fine collections via Zoom. Motion was made by Biedenfeld to renew the contract with Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins and Mott for collection of delinquent taxes. Motion was seconded by Tindol and all voted Aye.
- B. CONSIDER RESOLUTION SUSPENDING CENTERPOINT GAS RATE INCREASE: Motion was made by Tindol to adopt Resolution No. 551 suspending CenterPoint gas rate increase. Motion was seconded by Thomas and all voted Aye.
- C. CONSIDER RESOLUTION DENYING TEXAS-NEW MEXICO POWER CO. ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE: Motion was made by Tindol to adopt Resolution No. 552 denying Texas-New Mexico Power electric rate increase. Motion was seconded by Maynor. Biedenfeld amended the motion to include the representation by Herrera Law Firm. Amended motion was seconded by Walker and all voted Aye.
- D. CONSIDER AND DISCUSS PROPOSED GROUND STORAGE TANK DEMOLITION – LOGGINS DR.: Public Works crew is to complete the demolition of Ground Storage Tank 2 on Loggins after engineering reports showed it to be beyond repair. Motion was made by Tindol to approve the demolition of GST 2. Motion was seconded by Biedenfeld and all voted Aye. It was further discussed that residents in the area will be notified prior to beginning demolition.
- E. CONSIDER RESOLUTION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS REIMBURSEMENT: Sutherland reported that the resolution was associated with the GST2 project and authorized reimbursement of expenditures up to \$6,000,000. Motion was made by Walker to adopt Resolution No. 553 authorizing reimbursement of Capitol Improvement Project expenses. Tindol seconded the motion and all voted Aye.
- F. CONSIDER EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS: Sutherland reported that department heads have recommended amending short term disability to include parental leave equivalent of one week per year of employment after all personal leave has been expended. Also, to amend the City's two floating holidays to be earned after one full year of employment. Other minor housekeeping corrections were also necessary. Motion was made by Walker to direct staff to make the amendments to the employee handbook. The motion was seconded by Tindol and all voted Aye.
- G. CONSIDER AMENDMENT / ADDENDUM TO CDBG COOPERATION AGREEMENT: Sutherland reported that the amendment/addendum to the CDBG Cooperation Agreement states that the City will not participate with other local governments other than Brazoria County and assures compliance with the county's certifications. Motion was made by Biedenfeld and seconded by Walker to approve the amendment/addendum to the CDBG Cooperation Agreement. All voted Aye.
- H. CONSIDER FY 2020/21 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT NO. 1: Sutherland reported budget adjustments necessary in the General Fund due to COVID expenses, an additional

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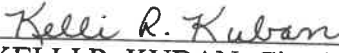
election, and replacement of an A/C unit at the Civic Center. Utility Fund adjustments are due to capital improvement project engineering expenses. EDC Fund adjustments are due to increased Business Incentive Grants and Business Development Agreement projects. Motion was made by Tindol to approve 2020/21 Budget Adjustment No. 1. Motion was seconded by Thomas and all voted Aye.

9. ADJOURN: Kincannon adjourned the meeting at 8:00 P.M.



LAURIE B. KINCANNON, Mayor

ATTEST:


KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary