

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 2019

The City Council of the City of West Columbia, Texas, convenes this the 15th day of October, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers, 512 E. Brazos, West Columbia, Texas.

1. INVOCATION & PLEDGE. Invocation was given by Alderman Walker.
2. ROLL CALL. City Secretary Kuban called the roll of the Council.
Present: Mayor Kincannon, Aldermen Maynor, Walker, and Biedenfeld.
Also present were City Manager Sutherland, City Secretary Kuban and City Attorney David Olson.
Absent: Aldermen Thomas and Tindol.
3. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL GREETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS: Kincannon greeted everyone and presented the Alpha Delta Kappa Proclamation and National Friends of the Library to representatives present.
4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: There were none.
5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Sutherland reported on the following – * Well No. 4 received conditional approval from TCEQ pending copper & lead testing and water analysis completion. Pressure from Well 4 to 3 is too much for injector system. Council stated engineering was responsible for this issue. The well should go live on October 15th. work. * Segment 10 of the Hwy 36 Expansion Project was let for construction on September 5th. The revised city's portion for the utility relocation is \$749,692. * All fire hydrants in city were found to be operable during recent hydrant flushing. * New way-finding signage has been designed and work will begin October 26th during the city-wide cleanup. * Smoke testing is delayed due to recent rains. * Notice of WWTP Permit Renewal Application must be republished due to error made by the County News. Manuel Espinoza, WWTP Supervisor has received his B License. * Extensions will be filed for FEMA reporting on Roads Project and WWTP Water Line Project. * Sidewalk Grant has been submitted and should be awarded by the end of the year. GLO grant application has been submitted for manholes. Police Department has received a grant for K-9 body armor. Hancher grant for the Library has been submitted and should be awarded by end of month. * Parks Board will host Trick or Treat in the Park on Halloween night and first responders will host a haunted house in the civic center. * The City will host BCCA on October 16th. * City-wide Clean Up is scheduled for October 26th. * November Council meeting will be on Tuesday, the 12th as Monday is a holiday.
6. CONSENT AGENDA:
 - A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S). Minutes were submitted in Council packet.
 - B. CITY TREASURER'S REPORT. Report was 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. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT. Reports were submitted in Council packet
 - F. FIRE MARSHAL REPORT. Report was not submitted in Council packet.
 - G. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT. Report was submitted in Council packet.
 - H. CONSIDER RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OFFICIAL CITY NEWSPAPER.

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 2019

Motion was made by Biedenfeld and seconded by Walker to approve all consent agenda reports in add. All voted Aye.

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: There were none.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. CONSIDER ORDINANCE REGULATING URBAN CAMPING: City Attorney Olson advised caution and Chief Odin stated that enforcement against camping on public property within the city limits would be difficult and cost prohibitive as most offenders would be homeless. After discussion that the regulation would be more of a warning system only, Walker made a motion to table that was seconded by Biedenfeld. It was discussed that the motion was not necessary and council agreed to withdraw the agenda item with no action being taken upon the advice of Olson.

B. CONSIDER ORDINANCE REGULATING EXTENDED HOURS FOR ON-PREMISE ALCOHOL SALES: Biedenfeld made a motion to allow businesses that sell on-premise alcohol to remain open until 2:00 AM on Friday and Saturday nights (Saturday and Sunday mornings) by adopting Ordinance No. 673 captioned as

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA, TEXAS, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 10-33, EXTENDED HOURS FOR THE SALE OF MIXED BEVERAGES, BEER, AND WINE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT.

Maynor seconded the motion and all voted Aye.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. CONSIDER RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING STILL WATER FOUNDATION LIBRARY GRANT APPLICATION: Bobby Edge, West Columbia Branch Librarian reported that the Still Water Foundation Grant is by invitation only and is a supplement to the Tocker Grant they have applied for to replace furniture. There would be no matching funds required by the City. Motion was made by Walker that was seconded by Biedenfeld to authorize the submission of the Still Water Foundation Grant. All voted Aye.

B. CONSIDER AWARDING BID FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES: Sutherland reported that although invitations to bid were sent to three companies, the only bid received was from Waste Connections. Abel Moreno, District Manager was present to answer any questions. The cost of recycling was discussed in depth with Kincannon stating the elimination of curb-side recycling would be a huge step back but that budget restraints may warrant it. To continue the current recycling service would result in an \$8 increase per customer. Moreno reported that of the 1500+ customers being serviced, only about 30% were correctly recycling. The majority of customers were either using the green cart as an additional trash cart, not recycling at all, or setting out unclean recycled items in the green cart that resulted in contamination of the entire load. After further discussion, council reluctantly agreed to discontinue the curb-side recycling service. Citizens will be able to take their recyclables to the landfill to be processed. They would still be able to request additional blue trash carts through city hall for a fee of \$4 per month per additional cart. The regular trash and heavy brush schedule will remain the same at the current rate. Motion was made by Walker to award

the bid for solid waste collection service to Waste Connections for 1X trash service per week at no price increase. Biedenfeld seconded the motion. Maynor requested that the City continue to work on a recycling solution and continue to explore options. All voted Aye.

- C. CONSIDER AWARDED BID FOR MOWING SERVICES: It was discussed that the only bid submitted for the annual mowing/landscaping of First Capitol Park and for other city properties on an as-needed basis was from Cornerstone Mowing Services. Motion was made by Walker to award the bid for mowing services to Cornerstone Mowing Services. The motion was seconded by Maynor. All voted Aye.
- D. CONSIDER BUILDING CODE VARIANCE OF SET-BACK REQUIREMENTS – 618 MARSHALL ST.: Josh Wadley was present to request a variance of the set-back regulations for his property at 618 Marshall. He is replacing a shed with a larger metal building on a slab and is requesting a 3' set-back instead of the required 7.5' from his northern side property line. He submitted a letter of no objection from his neighbor. A motion was made by Walker that was seconded by Biedenfeld to grant the variance. All voted Aye.
- E. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF PUBLIC WORKS MOWING DECK: Public Works Supervisor Fisher reported that the purchase of a bat-wing mowing deck was needed to maintain city outfall ditches and that the Drainage District had approved the City to clear brush and debris. The estimate is \$32,000. He stated that the City would see a significant savings by not renewing the full-scope mowing contract due to the city crew taking over mowing of all city properties except for First Capitol Park. Walker made a motion to table until more numbers of the math on how the city could get the money back could be submitted. Biedenfeld seconded the motion and all voted Aye.
- F. CONSIDER DECLARING PUBLIC WORKS AND POLICE EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL: It was reported that Public Works had a 10' tilt and 24' gooseneck trailer and Police Department had a 2009 Explorer no longer in service. Motion was made by Walker and seconded by Maynor to declare public works and police equipment as surplus and authorize disposal. All voted Aye.
- G. CONSIDER RESOLUTION DESIGNATING H-GAC REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE: Motion was made by Walker to re-appoint Biedenfeld as the H-GAC representative and Maynor as the alternate. Motion was seconded by Biedenfeld and all voted Aye.
- H. DISCUSS 2020 TAX RATE: Walker distributed to council information regarding transparency in the budget process and stated he was not asking for any action to be taken. He challenged staff to prepare next fiscal year's budget based on the effective tax rate as a lesson in futility. He stated the Appraisal District should only determine values, not set the city's budget. He adamantly confirmed that he was not suggesting taking budgetary control away from the city manager. Biedenfeld reported on meetings to date to work toward lowering the tax rate. He stated he had met with the city manager and that they are making progress. Walker stated he wanted to address the 2020 tax rate early in the current budget year.
- I. EXECUTIVE SESSION: THE WEST COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL MAY CONVENE IN A CLOSED MEETING PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.071 (CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY), SECTION

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 2019

551.072 (DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY) AND SECTION
551.074 (PERSONNEL MATTERS):

- PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING AGREEMENTS WITH P4 DEVELOPMENT.
- CITY MANAGER ANNUAL EVALUATION.

J. ACTION AS A RESULT OF A CLOSED MEETING: Walker made a motion to adjust rate of pay of city manager by \$4680 per year, which is 5% in keeping with the raises of the other department heads. Motion was seconded by Biedenfeld and all voted Aye.

10. ADJOURN: Mayor Kincannon adjourned the meeting at 9:05 P.M.


LAURIE B. KINCANNON, Mayor

ATTEST:


KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary