

STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
 CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
 OF A SPECIAL MEETING
 MONDAY, APRIL 6TH, 2020

The City Council of the City of West Columbia, Texas, convenes this the 6th day of April, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in a special meeting by telephone and video conference in accordance with order of the Governor issued March 16, 2020, in order to advance the public health goal of limiting face-face meetings to slow the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Kincannon, Thomas, Tindol, Maynor, Biedenfeld and Walker, City Manager Sutherland, City Secretary Kuban, and City Attorneys David Olson and Derra Purnell. Walker gave the invocation.
2. TELEPHONE MEETING DECORUM AND PUBLIC COMMENT REQUESTS: There were no public comments made.
3. CONSIDER AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE GENERAL ELECTION PREVIOUSLY CALLED FOR MAY 2, 2020 TO NOVEMBER 3, 2020: Tindol made a motion that was seconded by Thomas to postpone the General Election to November 3, 2020 by adopting Ordinance No. 676 captioned as
 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA, TEXAS EXTENDING THE GENERAL ELECTION PREVIOUSLY CALLED FOR SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020 TO NOVEMBER 3, 2020 AS ALLOWED BY PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR ISSUED ON MARCH 18, 2020 THE CALLED ELECTION BEING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING THE MAYOR AND TWO COUNCILMEMBERS (POSITION NOS. 2 AND 5); PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE SUBJECT.

All voted Aye.

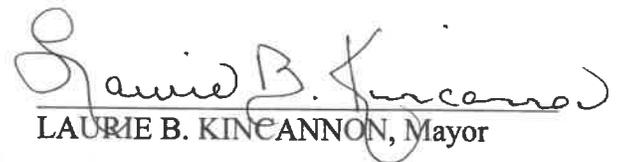
4. CONSIDER AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE MAYOR'S DECLARATION OF DISASTER CONCERNING THE COVID-19 EPIDEMIC EXECUTED ON MARCH 17, 2020: Motion was made by Tindol to extend the Declaration of Disaster to May 3, 2020 and motion was seconded by Thomas. Walker suggested to make it coincide with the May regular council meeting of May 11th so that another special meeting would not need to be called. Tindol amended his motion to extend the Declaration of Disaster through May 11, 2020 with Thomas seconding the motion and adopting Ordinance No. 677 captioned as
 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA, TEXAS, EXTENDING THE DECLARATION OF DISASTER ISSUED BY MAYORAL PROCLAMATION ON MARCH 17, 2020 IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19.

All voted Aye.

5. CONSIDER UTILITY BILLING OPTIONS FOR COMMERCIAL ACCOUNTS: Sutherland explained her recommendation to suspend commercial accounts while inactive due to being closed as non-essential and billing them after they have been allowed to re-open. She reported on SBA loans and grants being available to small businesses. Walker stated that forgiving water bills was symbolic. Sutherland stated that lost revenues were being tracked for reporting purposes. Walker made a motion to allow city staff to forgive utility bills while out of business. Biedenfeld seconded the motion. Walker withdrew and restated his motion

as to allow city staff to forgive utility bills by usage for businesses while out of business.
Biedenfeld seconded the new motion and all voted Aye.

6. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER EMPLOYEE SICK LEAVE POLICY AMENDMENTS: City Attorney Olson advised that this item was moot due to federal actions.
7. ADJOURN: Meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.


LAURIE B. KINCANNON, Mayor

ATTEST:


KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary