

STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
 CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
 OF A REGULAR MEETING
 MONDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 2020

The City Council of the City of West Columbia, Texas, convenes this the 10th day of August, 2020, 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 Thomas, Tindol, Maynor, Walker and Biedenfeld. Also present were City Manager Sutherland, City Secretary Kuban and City Attorney Olson.
 - Absent: None.
3. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL GREETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS: Kincannon greeted everyone and Biedenfeld stated that he would be meeting with Chief Odin over the next month regarding proposals brought forth by the NAACP but stated he would like to see a full plan before action is taken. He also stated that additional training was being pursued to better serve the community. Kincannon then presented a proclamation to Brazoria County NAACP President Eugene Howard pledging non-discrimination because of race, faith, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation or any other real or perceived difference. The 2019 Annual Drinking Water Report was presented with no questions or comments.
4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Ray Penrice of 116 Draeger commented on an issue he has had with installing an additional culvert. * Cynthia Baldrige of 435 Fisher followed up on a request for ordinance regulating junk vehicles. * Robert Williams, VP of Brazoria County NAACP spoke against Alderman Walker. * Jeffrey Hunt commended council for due process in light of bullying. * Eugene Howard, Pres. of Brazoria County NAACP commented on due process and requested ZOOM meetings in future to not muffle citizens voices. * Abel Delgado of 501 Damon Dr. complained of an ongoing sewer line issue. * Kendall Davenport of Brazoria commented that blatant disrespect was allowed by Mayor at past meeting. * Ariel Davenport of Brazoria commented that public apology to Mr. Lee by Mayor at past meeting was cowardly. * Dan Lee of 316 S. 18th St. spoke against Alderman Walker and Public Works Supervisor Fisher not knowing how to communicate with the citizens. * Cheryl Baugh spoke against Alderman Walker and stated they won't go away until he steps down. * Mason Locke Weems 6 commented on his son not being identified as the owner of 313 S. 17th and stated he was a tenant.
5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Sutherland reported on the following – * Well No. 4 is online and contributing to the water distribution system. The new permit requires water analysis report for TCEQ of which SSCI has been contracted to conduct for \$8,040. * Strand Engineering will present options for water line to WWTP in the near future. * Ditch cleaning projects are being developed for Fall as weather will permit. A meeting is being planned with Drainage District representative and Commissioner Linder to discuss options for drainage solutions on north side of city. * Sewer line project plans for Lee St. are under review. Going out for bids will be brought before council next month. * Bids for elevated tank repairs are being sought. * Engineer has been instructed to begin design of sewer line extension to new vet clinic on N. Columbia. Plans will be brought to council for approval at a future meeting. * SIB loan process has been completed and money transferred to TxDOT for relocation of city utilities along segment 10 of Hwy 36 widening project. * The pool will close to the public on August 15th, but water aerobics will continue into September. Kidfish is scheduled for October 3rd.

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. FIRE MARSHAL 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.
 - H. CONSIDER HOT ADVISORY BOARD FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS.
 - I. CONSIDER EDC BUSINESS INCENTIVE GRANT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS.
 - J. CONSIDER AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER FOR 2019/20 ANNUAL AUDIT - KM&L.
Motion was made and seconded to approve consent agenda items. All voted Aye with Walker abstaining by previously filing Conflict of Interest affidavit.
7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: There were none.
8. NEW BUSINESS.
 - A. CONSIDER ADVERTISING OF BIDS FOR MOWING SERVICES: Motion was made by Biedenfeld and seconded by Tindol to authorize the advertisement of bids for mowing services. All voted Aye.
 - B. CONSIDER DISMISSAL OF UNCOLLECTABLE MUNICIPAL COURT FINES: City Attorney Olson requested this item tabled for more information to be provided. Biedenfeld made a motion to table item and Walker seconded the motion. All voted Aye.
 - C. CONSIDER FIRE DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR ROOF REPAIR FUNDING: Tindol made a motion that was seconded by Walker to split the difference of \$2,900 from fund balance to repair Fire Department roof. All voted Aye.
 - D. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER COVID-19 BUSINESS SUPPORT AND RECOVERY GRANT: Kincannon reported that up to 25% of Federal Coronavirus Relief Funds was available for economic assistance. The City can fund \$11,740 and the EDC has voted to allocate an additional \$13,260 for a total of \$25,000 of grant funding for small businesses affected by COVID-19. This was reported as Phase I until more federal funding becomes available. Walker stated it was a win/win for our local businesses and made a motion to approve the COVID-19 Business Support and Recovery Grant. Biedenfeld seconded the motion. All voted Aye.
 - E. CONSIDER VOTE TO PROPOSE A TAX RATE AND SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING: It was reported that the "no new revenue" tax rate of .731770 was being recommended by staff to be proposed to be adopted at the September meeting. It will generate approximately \$1,401,944 of revenue for maintenance and operation only as there is no debt service. Walker made a motion to propose a tax rate of .731770 and Tindol seconded the motion. It was stated that the "no new revenue" rate proposal does not require a public hearing. Olson advised for the record that this was equivalent to the effective rate. Biedenfeld recommended a proposed rate of .75 to allow leverage to adopt the lower rate. It was discussed that the budget was balanced based on the no new revenue rate and that the higher rate would trigger a public hearing. Voting Aye were

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Thomas, Tindol, Maynor, Walker and Biedenfeld. Present and not voting was Kincannon. Motion carried.

9. ADJOURN: Mayor Kincannon adjourned the meeting at 8:01 P.M.


LAURIE B. KINCANNON, Mayor

ATTEST:


KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary