

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
OF A REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 11TH, 2016

The City Council of the City of West Columbia, Texas, convenes this the 11th day of January 2016, 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 Griggs.
Absent: None.
3. MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL GREETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS: Kincannon greeted everyone and wished them a happy new year. She reported on an event honoring past city employee Spencer Morgan where she presented him with a proclamation and key to the city.
4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS: Precinct 4 Commissioner David Linder reported on the good relationship between the county and the city and reported on the toll road and Hwy 36 projects in addition to the vessel collection and destruction project. Walker thanked him for the county's help with the Jefferson St. drainage issue. Sam Stampert presented Linder with a certificate of appreciation for the landscaping of the new county office building. Next Maria Armendariz of 509 N. Columbia Drive is requesting to be annexed as her property is not currently in the city limits and she is paying double for water service. Staff will work with her to move forward with the annexation procedures. Also addressing council was Cynthia Baldrige requesting help from the police department to enforce the noise ordinance being violated by the playing of loud stereo systems of cars being driven in the area of her home on Fisher Street.
5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Sutherland reported on the following – * Weisinger Well Drilling had begun the Well No. 4 project and area residents had been notified. KSA Engineers is conducting preliminary study for the USRDA application. * The Hwy 36 overpass project is back on the TxDOT board and the county is no longer participating in the project. * Auditors have completed their fieldwork and exit meeting is scheduled for February 1st. * Public Works Supervisor Joe Ramirez has been on workers comp leave due to a snake bite received while working on a water line project. His crew has completed the Christmas light project, addressed work orders between water and sewer leaks and reading meters, and prepared softball fields for the upcoming season. The SCADA lift station monitoring system was also installed. * Chief Odin has been working on improving the phone system and upgrading the security system at the city park. Blue Santa was a great success. * Council may be interested in pursuing an ordinance banning cell phone usage and texting while driving except for hands free devices as other area cities are currently addressing. * The Insurance Services Office will be completing the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Survey with city staff soon. The last survey was in 2009. It determines insurance discounts for residents and FEMA utilizes it for post hazard funding decisions. All fire hydrants are in working order to date. * January 20th is the first to file for place on the ballot of the city's General Election. Expiring terms are Mayor, and Aldermen Pos. 2 and 5. Calling the election will be at February meeting. * 2016 Council meeting schedule was discussed and adopted upon a motion by Tindol, second by Biedenfeld, and all

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voting Aye. * The Chamber banquet is scheduled for Thursday, January 14th at Heritage Hall. * City offices will be closed January 18th in honor of Martin Luther King Day.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S). The minutes of the November meeting were included in Council packet as the December meeting was canceled due to the lack of a quorum.

B. CITY TREASURER'S REPORT. Reports were submitted in Council packet.

C. POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ANIMAL CONTROL REPORT. Reports were submitted in Council packet.

D. MUNICIPAL COURT REPORT. Reports were submitted in Council packet.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT. Reports were submitted in Council packet.

F. CODE ENFORCEMENT AND FIRE MARSHAL REPORT. Reports were submitted in Council packet.

G. CEMS. Reports were submitted in Council packet.

H. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT. Reports were submitted in Council packet.

I. CONSIDER EDC BUSINESS INCENTIVE FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS.

Motion was made by Walker to approve all consent agenda reports and remove item I for discussion. Motion was seconded by Tindol. All voted Aye.

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: Walker made motion to approve the EDC Business Incentive Grant funding applications of Barta Lumber Co. – façade improvements, Gloria Sanchez Farmers Insurance – Sign improvements, and ABC Learning Academy – Property improvements. Tindol seconded the motion and all voted Aye.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

A. CONSIDER HOT ADVISORY BOARD FUNDING RECOMMENDATION: Walker had previously questioned the qualification of funding items for resale included in the Columbia Historical Museum's application and made motion to send back to HOT Advisory Board for re-evaluation. Kincannon reported that she and Kuban had contacted Scott Joslove who helped write the HOT regulations and that his expert opinion was that the funding requests met the requirements of the tax law. Walker then made motion to approve the Museum's funding request and Biedenfeld seconded the motion. All voted Aye.

B. CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 617 – MOBILE HOME AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARKS: Kincannon recused herself from discussion by filing a conflict of interest affidavit and Mayor Pro-Tem Biedenfeld led the discussion. At the November meeting it was requested to draft an ordinance amending the stipulations on the garbage location requirements and including a clause providing for the maintenance of trash within the park be addressed. Walker made a motion that was seconded by Tindol to adopt Ordinance No. 639 captioned as

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 11-26 (14) OF ARTICLE III, CHAPTER 11 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA TEXAS, BY PROVIDING FOR ALTERNATIVE MEANS FOR THE COLLECTION AND REMOVAL OF WASTE AND GARBAGE WITHIN A RV PARK WITHIN THE CITY OR ITS EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF SECTION 11-15 (26), ARTICLE II, CHAPTER 11 OF THE CODE OF ORINDINACES OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA TEXAS, BEING A

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DUPLICATE DEFINITION OF THE TERM "REGULATED VEHICLE PARK"; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, AND OR INFORMAL POLICIES TO THE EXTENT THEY ARE IN CONFLICT OR ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE; CONTAINING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING THAT ANY VIOLATION OF SECTION 11-26 (14), BEING AN ORDINANCE THAT GOVERNS PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION, SHALL BE PUNISHABLE BY A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$200.00 NOR MORE THAN \$2,000.00, WITH EACH DAY THAT THE VIOLATION CONTINUES FOLLOWING TEN (10) DAYS WRITTEN NOTICE AS PROVIDED HEREIN, SHALL CONSTITUTE A SEPARATE VIOLATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

All voted Aye.

9. NEW BUSINESS.

A. CONSIDER UTILITY ACCOUNT ADJUSTMENT – 117 N. RINGGOLD – Moot.

B. CONSIDER ORDINANCE ALTERING SPEED LIMITS ON HIGHWAY 35 FROM GUPTON LANE TO WESTERN CITY LIMITS: Walker made motion that was seconded by Biedenfeld to accept TxDOT recommendation to amend speed limits on Hwy 35 from Gupton Lane to the western city limits by adopting Ordinance No. 640 captioned as

AN ORDINANCE ALTERING THE PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMITS ESTABLISHED FOR VEHICLES UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 545.356, TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, UPON THE BASIS OF AN ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION, UPON CERTAIN STREETS AND HIGHWAYS, OF PARTS THEREOF, WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WEST COLUMBIA, AS SET OUT IN THIS ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING A PENALTY OF A FINE NOT TO EXCEED \$200 FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE.

All voted Aye.

C. CONSIDER INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT WITH BRAZORIA COUNTY TAX OFFICE AND RESOLUTION ALLOWING FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE CITY IN THE BRAZORIA COUNTY SCOFFLAW PROGRAM: It was reported that the Brazoria County Tax Office could place a hold on vehicle registration of anyone having an outstanding violation in the Municipal Court until their violation had been paid. The city already partners with Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins and Mott, LLC for collection of outstanding warrants and they would share those cases with the tax office at no additional cost to the city. The resolution will allow for the \$20 fee to be added and collected by the tax office. This is an additional layer of control for those Brazoria County violators owing the Municipal Court. Motion was made by Walker to enter into the Inter-local Agreement with the Brazoria County Tax Office and adopt Resolution No. 462. Motion was seconded by Tindol and all voted Aye.

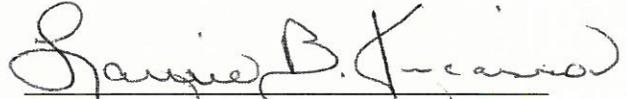
D. CLOSED MEETING PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551 ENTITLED "OPEN MEETINGS" OF A TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE AS FOLLOWS; PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 551.074, PERSONNEL MATTERS, TO DELIBERATE THE APPOINTMENT, EVALUATION, DUTIES OR DISMISSAL OF CITY ATTORNEY/PROSECUTOR. Kincannon closed the open meeting at 7:45 P.M. for council to meet in a closed session and reconvened in an open meeting at 9:00 P.M.

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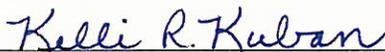
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E. CONSIDER ANY ACTION AS A RESULT OF A CLOSED MEETING: No action was taken.

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


LAURIE B. KINCANNON, Mayor

ATTEST:


KELLI R. KUBAN, City Secretary