

HEWITT TEXAS

**MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
HEWITT CITY HALL – 200 PATRIOT COURT
July 20, 2020 – 7:00 PM**

Attendee Name	Title	Absent	Present	Arrived
Charles D. Turner (presiding)	Mayor, Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Wilbert "Walky" Wachtendorf	Mayor Pro Tem, Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bill Fuller	Council Member, Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Vacancy	Council Member, Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Michael S. Bancale	Council Member, At-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Steve Fortenberry	Council Member, Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Erica Bruce	Council Member, Ward 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Staff present:

City Manager Bo Thomas
City Secretary Lydia Lopez
Fire Chief Lance Bracco
Assistant Police Chief Tuck Saunders
Library Director Waynette Ditto

In accordance with social distancing guidelines, the City Council meeting was not opened to the public; however, the meeting was live-streamed for view by the public on the Hewitt TX TV.

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.** Mayor Charlie Turner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. City Secretary Lydia Lopez polled the Council for attendance.
PRESENT: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, and Turner
ABSENT: Bruce
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG.** Mayor Charlie Turner led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. HEAR VISITORS ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO CITY BUSINESS.** Under the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Council is prohibited from discussing, responding, or acting on any comments or items that have not been properly posted on the agenda. **NOTE:** The public was offered the opportunity to submit written comments on items listed on the agenda or under the hear visitors via the city's website. **No public comment forms were submitted via the city's website.**

- 4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 20, 2020.**
MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf moved approval of the minutes as presented but allow for corrections.
SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale
AYES: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Bruce
MOTION PASSED.
- 5. PRESENTATION OF REPORT FROM CITY ENGINEER MILES WHITNEY, P.E.**
➤ Update on pending utility projects
➤ Update on pending street projects
➤ Update on pending drainage projects
- 6. BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ENDING JUNE 30, 2020.** City Manager Bo Thomas advised that Finance Director Lee Garcia previously sent the June Financial Statements electronically on July 13, and inquired if Council had any questions. Council Member Steve Fortenberry asked if the pandemic had any impact on revenues. Mr. Thomas responded revenue performances was 11% better, sales tax revenue had also performed very well, the bulk of other revenues have not been impacted by COVID-19, and property tax collections are at 98%.
- 7. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30, 2020.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented a summary of report prepared by Valley View Consulting L.L.C. Mr. Thomas noted that interest income is down as the interest rates have been lowered. **Note:** The Mayor returned to this item to vote on this item.
MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved approval of the Quarterly Investment Report ending June 30, 2020.
SECOND: Council Member Steve Fortenberry
AYES: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Bruce
MOTION PASSED.
- 8. DISCUSSION AND BRIEFING CONCERNING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND ANY ACTIONS NECESSARY THERETO.**
City Manager Bo Thomas presented and recommended approval of the amended order as presented. This order extends the current order through August 4, 2020. He noted that the only language removed was relative to the penalty for individuals.
MOTION: Council Member Steve Fortenberry moved to approve order dated July 21, 2020.
SECOND: Council Member Bill Fuller
AYES: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Bruce
MOTION PASSED.

9. **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION CONCERNING APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE MCLENNAN COUNTY 9-1-1 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE DISTRICT.** City Manager Bo Thomas advised that the Council recently submitted their vote for Police Chief Jim Devlin. The election was conducted and since neither of the candidates received more than 50% of the votes, a run-off between Jim Devlin and William Hlavenka is being held.

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to submit Police Chief Jim Devlin as Hewitt's nominee.

SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Wilbert "Walky" Wachtendorf

AYES: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, and Turner

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Bruce

MOTION PASSED.

Note: Council Member Michael Bancale stated that the Council should have voted on the Quarterly Investment Report. Mayor Turner announced that they would return to agenda item #7 for a vote.

10. **CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07 DESIGNATING MCLENNAN COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR AND COLLECTOR RANDY H. RIGGS AS THE PERSON TO CALCULATE THE NO-NEW TAX RATE AND VOTER APPROVAL TAX RATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS TAX CODE. MOTION PASSED.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented this item. **MOTION:** Council Member Steve Fortenberry moved to approve **Resolution No. 2020-07.**

SECOND: Council Member Michael Bancale

AYES: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Bruce

MOTION PASSED.

11. **BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING FY 2020-2021 PROPOSED BUDGET.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented updates on the General and Utility Funds and further presented the new Preliminary Worksheet on Tax Rate Calculation. Mr. Thomas advised that the Voter-approval tax rate was at .5463000. He suggested, in the interest of self-preservation, the Council may want to consider moving the rate along 6/10 of a penny just under the voter approval rate or they could leave the rate as is. This budget is balanced as presented; however, consideration should be given to revenue caps imposed. He provided examples of how the slight increase would impact taxes on a home valued at \$100,000, about \$6 a year, \$12 a year for \$200,000 valuation, and \$18 a year on a \$300,000 home. Mayor Turner commended City staff for presenting a balanced budget and for receiving an exemplary award annually. Council Member Steve Fortenberry spoke in support of considering the suggested increase by the City Manager. Council Member Bancale commended staff for the minimal increase (3% or less) in this proposed budget; caution the Council to consider assessed valuation increases; however, supported Council Member Fortenberry's thought on maintaining the level of services provided. Council Member Bancale also noted that there has not been a water rate increase since 2015.

12. ADJOURN.

MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the Regular meeting at 7:59 PM.

SECOND: Council Member Steve Fortenberry

AYES: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, and Turner

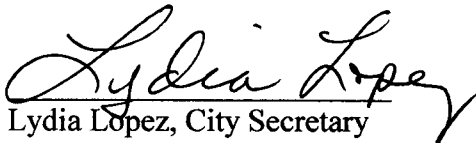
NAYES: None

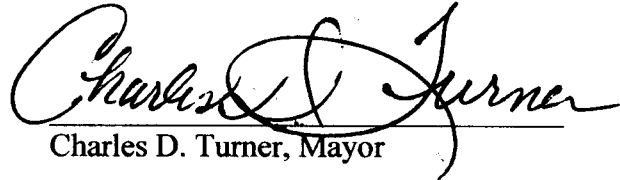
ABSENT: Bruce

MOTION PASSED.

Approved: August 3, 2020

ATTEST:


Lydia Lopez, City Secretary


Charles D. Turner, Mayor