

HEWITT TEXAS

**MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
HEWITT CITY HALL – 200 PATRIOT COURT
August 3, 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Staff present:

City Manager Bo Thomas
 City Secretary Lydia Lopez
 Fire Chief Lance Bracco
 Police Chief Jim Devlin
 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 page.

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, Bruce, and Turner
ABSENT: None

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG.** Mayor Pro Tem Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf 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, Bruce, and Turner

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

5. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON SETTING DATE OF AUGUST 10, 2020, FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET.

MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to set the date of August 10, 2020, 7:00 PM for a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Proposed Annual Budget.

SECOND: Council Member Bill Fuller

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED.

6. VOTE TO PLACE ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED 2020 TAX RATE ON A FUTURE AGENDA AND TO SET DATES FOR TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS.

City Manager Bo Thomas presented options for Council consideration of the record vote. He clarified that the Council would be voting on the rate to be advertised for the public hearings and not adopting the actual tax rate. Each Council Member expressed their opinions on where they stood in terms of increasing taxes or not. City Attorney Mike Dixon encouraged the Council to consider setting the tax rate slightly higher than the current rate to allow some flexibility to propose a rate higher should there be a need. Mr. Dixon advised that there were still a lot of variables with information received from the Appraisal District and what was presented was a Certified Estimate of the 2020 Appraisal Values. Council Member Steve Fortenberry asked Police Chief Jim Devlin, Fire Chief Lance Bracco, and Library Director Waynette Ditto if the budget presented met their departmental needs. All responded affirmatively. Council Member Fortenberry further requested a budget workshop. City Manager Bo Thomas stated this workshop could be placed on the next meeting August 10, 2020.

MOTION: Council Member Erica Bruce moved to vote to place adoption of a tax rate \$.551506 cents per \$100 valuation, equaling \$.219972 cents for debt service and \$.331534 cents for maintenance and operations, as an action item for the August 17, 2020, council meeting to be held at the 7:00 PM at Hewitt City Hall - Council Chambers, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, Texas AND I move to set two public hearings, as required by law, to be held on Monday, August 10, 2020, at 7:00 PM and Monday, August 17, 2020, at 7:00 PM, at Hewitt City Hall – Council Chambers, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt, Texas.

SECOND: Council Member Steve Fortenberry

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

NAYES: Wachtendorf

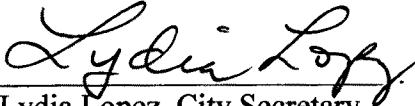
ABSENT: None

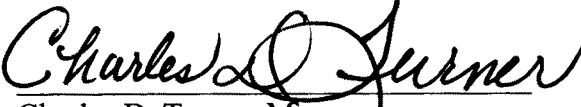
MOTION PASSED.

7. **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 18, 2020.
MOTION: Council Member Michael Bancale moved to approve order dated August 4, 2020.
SECOND: Council Member Bill Fuller
AYES: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.
8. **BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION CONCERNING FY 2020-2021 PROPOSED BUDGET.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented a historical perspective of sales tax revenues for fiscal years 2011 to present. This information was being presented in response to an inquiry of how the budget has been impacted by the CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19). Mr. Thomas announced that there would be a budget workshop at the next meeting.
9. **ADJOURN.**
MOTION: Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the Regular meeting at 8:05 PM.
SECOND: Council Member Erica Bruce
AYES: Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner
NAYES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED.

Approved: 08-17-2020

ATTEST:


Lydia Lopez, City Secretary


Charles D. Turner, Mayor