



**MINUTES
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
HITCHCOCK CITY COMMISSION
HITCHCOCK CITY HALL
7423 HIGHWAY 6, HITCHCOCK, TEXAS
MARCH 16, 2020, 6:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Mayor Randy Stricklind at 6:00 pm.

Members Present:

Mayor Randy Stricklind	Commissioner Mark Cook
Commissioner Mary Combs Demby	Marie Gelles, City Administrator
Commissioner Chris Armacost	Nikki Andrus, City Secretary
Commissioner Wayne Newton	Kyle Dickson, Attorney

Others Present: Chief Wilmon Smith, Officer Cody Denton, Joe Wood, Ruth Ann Sorrell

2. Invocation

Invocation by Commissioner Mary Combs Demby.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Citizen Comments:

Clay Burton spoke to promote citizen participation in proactive unity for the betterment for the City of Hitchcock and support of the elected officials.

5. Public Hearing

Public Hearing on a change of Zoning request submitted by Randy Haislet on behalf of the owner David Zubick from Agricultural (AR) to High Density Residential (HR) for the property in the 8200 block of FM 2004. Galveston County CAD Account Number 399098 (Case ZC-2020-01). Joe Wood discussed the project. Mr. Randy Haislet explained the details of the project and how it would affect the community and the City.

Consent Agenda Item:

All consent items listed are considered routine by the City Commission and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items, unless a Commission Member so requests, and if such a request is made, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in a normal sequence on the agenda.

- (A) Minutes for Special Commission Meeting dated February 13, 2020.
- (B) Minutes for Regular Commission Meeting dated February 17, 2020.

- (C) **Investment Report for the month ending February 29, 2020.**
- (D) **Accounts Payable Report for the month ending February 29, 2020.**
- (E) **1st Quarter Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2019.**

Commissioner Mark Cook made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda Items. Commissioner Wayne Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Items for Individual Consideration:

7. **Discussion and appropriate action regarding a Zoning request submitted by Randy Haislet on behalf of the owner David Zubick from Agricultural Residential (AR) to High Density Residential (HR) for the property in the 8200 block of FM 2004.**
Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to accept the Zoning change from Agricultural Residential (AR) to High Density Residential (HR). Commissioner Mark Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
8. **Briefing by Beau Yarbrough on the Oaks at Hitchcock Development.**
Mr. Beau Yarbrough gave an update for the development.
9. **Discussion and appropriate action awarding construction contract for the Hitchcock Wastewater Treatment Plant Ditch Dredging and Solids Removal and Disposal Project to Hugh Patrick Constructions, Inc. in the amount of \$151,400.**
Mr. Llarance Turner discussed the project bids and answered questions from the Council. Commissioner Chris Armacost made the motion to approve awarding the contract to Hugh Patrick Constructors, Inc. in the amount of \$151,400. Commissioner Wayne Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
10. **Presentation, discussion and acceptance of the FY 2019 Annual Audit Report.**
Mr. Christopher Breaux with Whitley Penn, LLP discussed the Audit and answered questions from the Commission.
Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to approve the FY 2019 Annual Audit Report. Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
11. **Discussion and appropriate action to ratify the submission of grant application, and approval of a Resolution 2020-05 to the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division (CJD) for the solicitation FY 2021 Criminal Justice Program Justice Assistance Grant funding for the purpose of acquiring rifle resistant body armor: the term of the grant is from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021; and acceptance upon award. There is no match requirement.**
Officer Cody Denton discussed the grant and how it would supply rifle resistant body armor to help keep the officers safe on duty.
Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-05.
Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.
12. **Approval of a Resolution No. 2020-06 designating the Galveston County Daily News Newspaper as the official newspaper for the City of Hitchcock.**
Commissioner Chris Armacost made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-06.
Commissioner Wayne Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Executive Session:

Meeting Adjourned to Executive Session at 6:34pm.

Executive Session: Adjournment to Executive Session Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1) (A) to consult with the City Attorney, and Section 551.074 (a) (1) Personnel Matters.

Reconvene into Open Session at 6:46pm.

13. Appointing Ruth Ann Sorrell as Assistant City Secretary.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to approve swearing in Ruth Ann Sorrell as Assistant City Secretary. Commissioner Mark Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

14. Mayor and Commissioner Requests/Comments.

Regular Commission Meeting in April cancelled. A special Meeting may be called if necessary.

Police Chief Wilmon Smith expressed concerns regarding the escalating number of accidents due to speeding on FM 2004. He has applied for a grant to place radar signs along FM 2004 to display posted speed limit and current speed of the driver as a deterrent for speeding. The grant would also allow for an officer to regularly patrol the area.

15. Announcements:


- a. Spring Clean-up March 27, 2020, 11:00 am-4:00pm and March 28, 2020, 8:00 am-12:00 pm at the City Barn, 8401 Schiro.
- b. 50th Anniversary of the Hitchcock Public Library Celebration Cancelled.
- c. City Offices closed Friday, April 10, 2020 for Good Friday.
- d. Early Voting begins April 20-April 24, 2020, 8am-5:00 pm and April 27-28, 2020 from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.
- e. Election Day is Saturday, May 2, 2020, 7:00 am-7:00 pm. Election clerk, Ruth Ann Sorrell, announced early voting and election day schedule has not changed. The situation with COVID-19 is being closely monitored and any changes to the current schedule will be posted to the City of Hitchcock website.


Police Chief Wilmon Smith explained what the Police Department is doing to help keep the officers and citizens safe from the COVID-19 virus.

16. Adjourn.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Chris Armacost seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm


Randy Strickland, Mayor


Nikki Andrus, City Secretary