



**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
HITCHCOCK CITY COMMISSION
HITCHCOCK CITY HALL
7423 HIGHWAY 6, HITCHCOCK, TEXAS
AUGUST 10, 2020, 6:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Randy Stricklind called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Members Present:

Mayor Randy Stricklind

Commissioner Mary Combs Demby

Commissioner Chris Armacost

Commissioner Wayne Newton

Commissioner Mark Cook

Kyle Dickson, Attorney

Llarance Turner, Engineer

Marie Gelles, City Administrator

Nicholle Andrus, City Secretary

2. Invocation

Invocation by Mary Combs Demby.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Citizen Comments:

Mack Chapman discussed his concerns with a proposed subdivision at the end of Terrebonne. He stated Terrebonne is not wide enough to accommodate the traffic additional houses would cause.

Karen Torres discussed her concerns regarding the proposed subdivision at the end of Terrebonne and that the road is not wide enough for two cars at the same time. She also stated a problem with Blimp Base road. She discussed issues she has with the current animal ordinance.

Jim Pecht discussed how narrow Terrebonne is and the drainage ditches along each side are deep. He stated that cars park on the side of the road making it difficult for vehicles to drive and pass. He stated people almost drive into the ditches while trying to avoid other vehicles and people speed causing a dangerous situation and the road is in bad shape and needs to be resurfaced.

John Joes, the developer for the proposed subdivision on Terrebonne was present and asked to discuss further when time for the agenda item.

PLEASE NOTE: Public comments and matters from the floor are limited to 3 minutes in length. If you would like to request to speak, please do so in advance of the meeting by filling out a Request to Address Commission form. All in attendance are required to remove hats and/or sunglasses (dark glasses) during meetings and to also silence all cell phones and electronic devices.

Speakers must address their comments to the presiding officer rather than to individual commissioners or staff. Speakers will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes to speak. Speakers making personal, impertinent, profane, or slanderous remarks will be given a warning before losing the privilege to speak or may be removed from the room. Unauthorized remarks from the audience, stamping of feet, whistles, yells, and similar demonstrations/distractions will not be permitted. No placards, banners or signs will be permitted in the Chambers or in any room in which the Commission is meeting. In accordance with the Texas State Open Meetings Act, the City Commission is restricted from discussing or taking action on items not listed on the agenda.

As authorized by Section 551.042 of the Texas Government Code, the Presiding Officer may direct a City Official to make a statement of specific factual information in response to an inquiry made by a member of the public or the City Commission or a recitation of existing policy in response.

Items for Individual Consideration:

- 5. Discussion and appropriate action for approval of a final replat consisting of 3.2945 acres of property located at 8519 South Redfish Street, consisting of lots 49 and 50 of Flakes Addition. The purpose of the subdivision replat is to split the parcel into two (2) lots. Case P-2020-05.**

Marie Gelles informed the Commission this plat was approved at the Planning and Zoning meeting on August 6, 2020 and was approved by the engineer.

Commissioner Mark Cook made the motion to approve the final replat of 3.2945 acres at 8519 South Redfish Street, consisting of lots 49 and 50 of Flakes Addition. Commissioner Chris Armacost seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

- 6. Discussion and appropriate action regarding the approval of Change Order #2 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Oxidation Ditch Dredging and Solids Removal and Disposal Project.**

Llarance Turner informed the Commission an estimated amount of 391 cubic yards is left to be removed. Change Order #2 is for \$145,061.00 and will increase the total of the contact to \$593,261.00.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to approve Change Order #2 in the amount of \$145,061.00 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Oxidation Ditch Dredging and Solids Removal and Disposal Project with contractor Hugh Patrick Constructors, Inc. Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

7. Discussion and appropriate action regarding the roadway requirements for the Trails End on Highland Bayou (Terrebonne) residential subdivision development project.

Llarance Turner with Kaluza, Inc. discussed and answered questions from the Commission. As per the comments from the residents on Terrebonne, Mr. Turner stated Terrebonne needs to be widened in accordance with the City Ordinance to eighteen (18) feet for safety and traffic issues. The developer will research other options for a roadway to his proposed subdivision.

8. Discussion and appropriate action on approval of Interlocal Agreement between Galveston and the City of Hitchcock for Emergency 911 Dispatch Services.

Police Chief, Wilmon Smith was present by phone to discuss and answer questions from the Commission. By contracting with the Galveston County Sheriff's Office, the City will save about \$50,000 in the first year. The contract is for one (1) year and will be reevaluated on whether or not to renew.

Mayor Randy Strickland made the motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Galveston County for Dispatch Services. Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

9. Discussion and appropriate action on approving a Resolution establishing the boundaries of the Historic Downtown/Commercial District of the town for purposes of applying for financial assistance from the Texas Department of Agriculture's Texas Capital Fund-Downtown Revitalization Program.

Fred Welch and Cindy Metro discussed the Resolution and answered questions from the Commission. The Resolution is necessary to designate a boundary for the Downtown area where the project will take place. This is for funding only.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to approve the Resolution establishing the boundaries of the Historic Downtown/Commercial District for the purpose of financial assistance from the Texas Department of Agriculture's Texas Capital Fund-Downtown Revitalization Program. Commissioner Chris Armacost seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

10. Discussion and appropriate action on approving a Resolution finding that conditions of the City which are detrimental to the public health and safety and welfare of the community and, therefore, are declared to constitute a Slum/Blighted area.

Fred Welch and Cindy Metro discussed and answered questions from the Commission. The area for revitalization has sidewalks that are cracked, broken and uneven and in some areas, there are no sidewalks thus creating a safety and health hazard.

Commissioner Chris Armacost made a motion to approve the Resolution finding that conditions of the City which are detrimental to the public health and safety and welfare of the community and, therefore, are declared to constitute a Slum/Blighted area. Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

- 11. Discussion and appropriate action on approving a Resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program application to Texas Department of Agriculture for the Downtown Revitalization program fund; and authorizing Mayor and/or the City Administrator to act as the City's executive officer and authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the City's participation in the CDBG grant program.**

Fred Welch and Cindy Metro discussed and answered questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Mark Cook made the motion to approve the Resolution authorizing the submission of a Texas Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program application to Texas Department of Agriculture for the Downtown Revitalization program fund; and authorizing Mayor and/or the City Administrator to act as the City's executive officer and authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the City's participation in the CDBG grant program. Commissioner Wayne Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

- 12. Discussion and appropriate action approving a Resolution regarding a finance contract for the purpose of procuring, vehicles, dump truck and heavy equipment.**

Leroy Thomas discussed and answered questions from the Commission. Requesting the Resolution be approved to move forward with the purchase of heavy equipment at 2.79% interest. A representative will provide training for employs on operation of equipment.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to approve the Resolution regarding a finance contract for the purpose of procuring, vehicles, dump truck and heavy equipment. Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

- 13. Discussion and appropriate action approving an Ordinance amending Chapter 155 Subdivisions, adding Article III Standards and Specifications Section 15540 Commercial and Recreation Subdivision Regulations; providing for severability; providing for a cumulative clause; and providing for an effective date.**

Candie Serna, Code Enforcement Officer, discussed complaints from residents and answered questions from the Commission. The Commission asked what the definition of a subdivision is and questioned improved surfaces.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made a motion to table approving the Ordinance until a later date and schedule a workshop to discuss further. Commissioner Mark Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

- 14. Discussion and appropriate action approving an Ordinance amending Chapter 90 Animals, Section 90.07 Entitled "Tethering and Confinement" and Section 90.18 Entitled Keeping of Livestock/Swine to correct scrivener's errors in order to conform with Ordinance No. 2019-005.**

Candie Serna discussed and answered questions by the Commission.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to approve the Ordinance amending Chapter 90 Animals, Section 90.07 Entitled "Tethering and Confinement" and Section 90.18 Entitled Keeping of Livestock/Swine to correct scrivener's errors in order to conform with Ordinance No. 2019-005. Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

15. Discussion and appropriate action approving an Ordinance amending the FY 2020 Adopted Budget.

Marie Gelles discussed and answered questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Chris Armacost made the motion to approve the Ordinance amending the FY 2020 Adopted Budget. Commissioner Wayne Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

16. Discussion and appropriate action on proposed property tax rate for FY 2020-2021 and take a recode vote; and schedule Public Hearing(s), if required on the proposed tax rate and proposed budget for FY 2020-2021.

Marie Gelles discussed the proposed tax rate and answered questions from the Commission. Ms. Gelles informed the Commission the tax rate decrease of 5.96% from the City's proceeding year's tax rate. Public Hearing on August 17, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Mayor Randy Strickland made the motion to approve a Public Hearing on the proposed tax rate of \$0.550131 on August 17, 2020 at 6:00 pm and to hold a Public Hearing on the FY 2020-2021 Budget on September 8, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Commissioner Chris Armacost seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Randy Strickland	Yea	Commissioner Wayne Newton	Yea
Commissioner Mary Combs Demby	Yea	Commissioner Mark Cook	Yea
Commissioner Chris Armacost	Yea		

17. FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget presentation and discussion.

Marie Gelles gave a presentation on the proposed FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget.

18. Executive Session: None.

19. Mayor and Commissioner Requests/Comments.

Commissioner Mark Cook asked why Officers are not writing tickets with speeding being bad on Highway 6 and 2004.


A new officer is budgeted for FY 2021 for traffic control.

20. Announcements: None.

21. Adjourn.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mark Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.



Randy Strickland, Mayor



Nicholle Andrus, City Secretary