



**MINUTES
REGULAR CALLED MEETING
HITCHCOCK CITY COMMISSION
HITCHCOCK CITY HALL
7423 HIGHWAY 6, HITCHCOCK, TEXAS
SEPTEMBER 21, 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 Mary Combs Demby

Commissioner Chris Armacost

Commissioner Wayne Newton

Commissioner Mark Cook

Marie Gelles, City Administrator

Kyle Dickson, Attorney

Nikki Andrus, City Secretary

Others Present: Fred Welch, HEDC

2. Invocation

Invocation by Commissioner Mary Combs Demby.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Citizen Comments:

Clay Burton spoke in recognition of progress and development in Hitchcock. He commented on positive changes to the City including population growth, and more citizens involved with Facebook pages to keep each other informed on issues and events.

Mayor Stricklind recognizes Council member Fidencio Leija with the City of Santa Fe. Mr. Leija spoke about Operation Honor our Local Veterans and gave some background of what the organization is about and what they do to help veterans. They are interested in hosting an event at the Fairgrounds in Hitchcock this year in November for Veteran's Day, and would like the City's support. Honorlocalvets.org

5. Recognitions:

Recognition of Janie Avila for 5 years of service.

Recognition of Lealand Kelley for 5 years of service.

Recognition of Nita Duncan for 10 years of service.

5. Consent Agenda Items (A-E):

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) Approval of Minutes for Special Commission Meeting dated August 10, 2020.
- (B) Approval of Minutes for Regular Commission Meeting dated August 17, 2020.
- (C) Approval of Minutes for Special Commission Meeting dated August 24, 2020.
- (D) Approval of Investment Report for the month ending August 31, 2020.
- (E) Approval of Accounts Payable Report for the month ending August 31, 2020.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda Items. Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Items for Individual Consideration:

6. Briefing on the results of the refinancing of the 2006 Certificates of Obligation Bonds (Jim Niederle, Financial Advisor)

Mr. Niederle gave a summary of the refinancing of the Bonds and answered questions from the Commission.

7. Discussion and appropriate action to approve the Hitchcock Industrial Development Corporation (HIDC) Amended Bylaws. (Jack Click, HIDC President)

Mr. Fred Welsh gave a summary of the amendments to the HIDC Bylaws and answered questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Mark Cook made the motion to approve the HIDC Amended Bylaws. Commissioner Chris Armacost seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

8. Discussion and appropriate action adopting the Hitchcock Industrial Development Corporation's FY 2021 Proposed Budget. (Fred Welsh, Interim Executive Director)

Mr. Fred Welsh gave a brief summary of the HIDC Proposed FY 2021 Budget and answered questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Chris Armacost made the motion to approve the HIDC FY 2021 Proposed Budget. Commissioner Wayne Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

9. Discussion and appropriate action on an Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Hitchcock, Texas, adopting the FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget of the City of Hitchcock for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021; authorizing expenditures as therein provided; providing a savings and severability clause; and establishing an effective date. (Marie Gelles, City Administrator)

Marie Gelles gave a summary of the proposed budget and answered questions from the Commission.

Mayor Randy Stricklind moved to approve the proposed budget for FY 2020-2021 with the Commission voting; Commissioner Mary Combs Demby -Yea, Commissioner Chris Armacost -Yea, Mayor Randy Stricklind -Yea, Commissioner Wayne Newton -Yea, Commissioner Mark Cook -Yea. Motion passed 5-0.

10. Discussion and appropriate action adopting an Ordinance setting the Ad Valorem Tax Rate of the City of Hitchcock, Texas for Tax Year 2020 at a rate of 0.550131 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) valuation on all taxable property within the corporate limits of the City of Hitchcock, Texas. (Marie Gelles, City Administrator)

Marie Gelles gave a summary of the proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate for 2020 and answered questions from the Commission.

Mayor Randy Stricklind moved to approve the proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate for 2020 with the Commission voting; Commissioner Mary Combs Demby -Yea, Commissioner Chris Armacost -Yea, Mayor Randy Stricklind -Yea, Commissioner Wayne Newton -Yea, Commissioner Mark Cook -Yea. Motion passed 5-0.

11. Discussion and appropriate action on an Ordinance ratifying the property tax revenue decrease in the FY 2021 Budget. (Marie Gelles, City Administrator)

Marie Gelles gave a summary and answered questions from the Commission.

Mayor Randy Stricklind moved to approve ratifying the property tax revenue decrease for 2021 Budget with the Commission voting; Commissioner Mary Combs Demby -Yea, Commissioner Chris Armacost -Yea, Mayor Randy Stricklind -Yea, Commissioner Wayne Newton -Yea, Commissioner Mark Cook -Yea. Motion passed 5-0.

12. Discussion and appropriate action approving an Ordinance amending the FY 2020 Adopted Budget. (Marie Gelles, City Administrator)

Marie Gelles discussed the amendments to the FY 2020 Adopted Budget and answered questions from the Commission.

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

13. Discussion and appropriate action on an Ordinance adopting the Comprehensive Fee Schedule. (Marie Gelles, City Administrator)

Marie Gelles gave an overview of the Comprehensive Fee Schedule and answered questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Mary Combs Demby made the motion to approve the Comprehensive Fee Schedule. Commissioner Chris Armacost seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

14. Discussion and appropriate action amending the FY 2020-2021 City of Hitchcock Pay Plan. (Marie Gelles, City Administrator)

Marie Gelles gave an overview of the Pay Plan and changes made.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to approve the FY 2020-2021 Pay Plan. Commissioner Chris Armacost seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

15. Executive Session:

Adjournment to Executive Session Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071(1) (A) to consult with the City Attorney to seek his advice on contemplated litigation and, Section 551.074 (a) (1) Personnel Matters.

a. Evaluation of the City Administrator

Adjournment to Executive Session at 6:33 p.m.

16. Reconvene into Open Session.

Reconvene into Open Session at 7:04 p.m.

17. Adjourn.

Commissioner Wayne Newton made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mary Combs Demby seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. pm.

Randy Strickland, Mayor

Ruth Ann Sorrell, Assistant City Secretary