



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES  
Monday, April 12, 2021 – 6:30 PM  
2801 Ranch Road 1869, Liberty Hill, Texas

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Liz Branigan, Mayor	Liz Rundzieher, Mayor Pro Tem / Place 5
Steve McIntosh, Place 1	Kathy Canady, Place 2
Gram Lankford, Place 3	Tony DeYoung, Place 4

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#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Liz Branigan at 6:30 PM. In attendance were Liz Branigan, Mayor; Kathy Canady, Place 2; Gram Lankford, Place 3; and Tony DeYoung. Quorum was established.

The Invocation was provided, and Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge were recited.

Kathy Canady made a motion to move the Executive Session to the end of the meeting. Tony DeYoung seconded the motion.

**Motion passed on vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.**

#### REGULAR AGENDA

**Discuss and consider authorizing staff, in cooperation with Matt Powell, EDC Director, to set up a meeting regarding the creation of an Emergency Readiness Taskforce.**

Mayor Branigan stated she had asked Matt Powell, Executive Director of the EDC to help run this in light of the recent ice storm. She plans a two-hour meeting with lunch to include the police department, fire department, Liberty Hill ISD, Operation Liberty Hill, Williamson County, Leander, Georgetown, and Round Rock. She stated that about two days after she took office, the City lost its Emergency Management Coordinator.

Kathy Canady asked the City Administrator's thoughts on this.

Lacie Hale, City Administrator said she believes there is always room for critique; she is, however trying to understand the intent.

Becky Wilkins, City Treasurer stated she has been through several catastrophes in her work experience. Cities coordinate with the County since Counties have a full gamut of resources.

Kathy Canady stated that perhaps Council should have a better understanding of what is needed before spending a lot of money for a big meeting.

Lacie Hale asked if perhaps the Mayor and Council would want an assessment by the WilCo Emergency Management Department with a review of training opportunities; then come up with a task force committee. Following discussion and clarification of direction to take, Mayor Branigan asked if they could use Matt Powell to lead this. Tony DeYoung said they should consider Mr. Powell's input later on after initial steps to be taken.

**Discuss and consider approval of a lease for the Over The Hill Gang group who meet at a city-owned property located at 3407 Ranch Road 1869, Liberty Hill.**

Mayor Branigan stated that last week she had discussions with a local business that shares the Over the Hill Gang Building. She stated that The Over the Hill Gang (OTHG) group needs exclusive use of the kitchen.

Gram Lankford asked if anyone had reached out to the OTHG regarding their lease. Mayor Branigan stated that no one reached out to the OTHG about the Our Village lease. Mayor Branigan stated the OTHG needs a clean kitchen. Appliances, piano, and memorabilia are owned by the OTHG.

Tony DeYoung asked if there had been damage in the past to the OTHG items. Mayor ~~Hall~~ Branigan stated that Our Village had not moved in yet, so, no.

Becky Wilkins provided the history on the building stated that, until not too long ago, the County owned that building. There has not been anyone meeting in there for a while due to COVID.

Mayor Branigan stated the OTHG keeps the kitchen meticulously clean, and strangers should not be in it. She said for 20 years, OTHG has occupied that building in return for maintaining that building. They also host a weekly lunch. If Our Village damages anything, the OTHG wants that to be replaced. Mayor Branigan think they should be honored because they have maintained this building for 20 years.

Gram Lankford asked if there had ever been any contractual agreement with the OTHG in the past. The answer was that, no, there had not.

Mayor Branigan stated again that the OTHG wants exclusive use of the kitchen.

Kathy Canady stated that there had been a meeting with both groups and space for Our Village laid out, and that is where they have "set up shop" in the front room, one restroom, and the office outside the front room, and kitchen. Mayor Branigan asked to broaden that agreement to keep them out of the kitchen. Kathy Canady asked, "if the Our Village members need a glass of water, you are going to tell them they can't use the kitchen?". Mayor Branigan said they could use the bathroom for that. Ms. Canady said Our Village has purchased a refrigerator so that they would not use the one in the kitchen. Mayor Branigan stated that is good, so they can stay out of the kitchen. She believes that the OTHG is being gracious. The Mayor said the OTHG wants a lease to protect their rights. There was continued discussion, and Tony DeYoung stated it is time to renegotiate on lease agreements.

Lacie Hale stated she would like to take this a step further and set up policies for city facilities rentals. That way, it would address all parties, now and future. Ms. Hale stated she is happy to meet with both groups over the use of this building. She can draft a policy to bring back to Council.

**Mayor Branigan summarized with Lacie Hale directed to draft a policy and bring back to Council.**

**No additional action was taken.**

**Discussion and possible action to approve job description for the City Attorney position.**

Lacie Hale, City Administrator presented a proposed job description for the City Attorney position. Mick McKamie, Interim City Attorney stated this is a comprehensive job description. Following discussion of required years of experience, Tony DeYoung made a motion to approve the description with the amendment to “at least five years of municipal law experience” rather than the currently stated ten years. Kathy Canady seconded the motion.

**Motion passed on vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.**

**Consideration and possible action to direct staff to provide Council with bids for temporary crosswalks from the splashpad to across the street.**

Tony DeYoung presented to Council stating he wants to provide the safest options. Curtis Steger, Steger Bizzell, stated striping will help with visibility also. There was discussion of best placement and type of signage. Lacie Hale stated that for each light with linked button, the cost is around \$15,000. There was discussion of additional caution signs down the street. Ms. Hale stated she will be working with the City’s Communication Manager to convey use of caution around the splash pad and will work with the Liberty Hill ISD as well.

Tony DeYoung directed staff to investigate high-visibility crosswalk with lights and striping and signs by Churchill, Fallwell, and Myrtle. Ms. Hale said the splash pad is on target to open May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**No additional action was taken.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

City Council was convened to Executive Session at 7:16 PM for discussion of the following items pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), Section 551.072(Deliberations about Real Property), Section 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters), Section 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and Section 551.087 (Development).

**Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney**

Consultation with Attorney to seek legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or a matter on which the City Attorney has a duty to advise the City Council, including posted agenda items.

- Update regarding the threatened Clean Water Act litigation

**No action was taken during Executive Session.**

**RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION**

City Council was reconvened to Regular Session at 8:14 PM for deliberation of the following items pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), Section

551.072(Deliberations about Real Property), Section 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters), Section 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and Section 551.087 (Development).

Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney

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**No action was taken following Executive Session.**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

And

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Gram asked if Council could receive an update on the speed limit study.

Tony DeYoung asked for an update on signs previously approved.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion by Tony DeYoung and second by Gram Lankford, Council was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

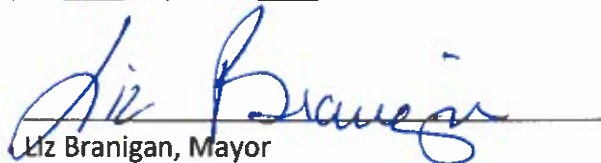
**Motion passed on vote of 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.**

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Council of the City of Liberty Hill, Texas on Monday, April 26, 2021 on vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

**AMENDED minutes PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Council of the City of Liberty Hill, Texas on Monday, May 10, 2021 on vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.



[seal]

  
Liz Branigan, Mayor

  
Nancy Sawyer, City Secretary