



**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
Monday, May 10, 2021 – 6:30 PM
2801 Ranch Road 1869, Liberty Hill, Texas**

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Liz Branigan at 6:31 PM. In attendance were Liz Branigan, Mayor; Kathy Canady, Place 2; Gram Lankford, Place 3; and Tony DeYoung, Place 4. Quorum was established.

The Invocation was provided by Andrew Fortner, Pastor of One Chapel, with a moment of silence in honor and memory of long-time Councilmember Liz Rundzieher, who passed away the day before.

The Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Pledge were recited.

PRESENTATION

Mayor Liz Branigan presented a proclamation to a local motorcycle group reminding citizens to drive safely and watch for motorcyclists.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Pam Turner, 2015 San Gabriel Hideaway Cove addressed Council regarding her concerns about safety at the corner of State Highway 29 and County Road 214. After losing a friend at that intersection 2 years ago, she has seen the intersection growing more and more dangerous. She has contacted the Texas Department of Transportation and encourages Liberty Hill citizens to do so also. She stated everyone loves Mojo's but the traffic in that area has become a huge problem.

CONSENT AGENDA

Kathy Canady made a motion to move item 6.b – Minutes of April 26, 2021 to the Regular Agenda. Tony DeYoung seconded the motion. **Motion passed on vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.**

On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Tony DeYoung, Council approved Consent Agenda items as presented.

- Discuss and consider approval of City Council amended minutes of meeting held April 12, 2021.
- Discuss and consider approval of City Council minutes of meeting held May 5, 2021.
- Consideration and possible action on wastewater line easement agreement between the City of Liberty Hill and Klatt Properties, LP.

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

REGULAR AGENDA

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING HELD APRIL 26, 2021.

Kathy Canady stated she just wanted Council to note the reference to cell phone usage and the directive to Mayor Branigan to remind everyone to silence their cell phones.

On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved the minutes of the City Council meeting held April 26, 2021.

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

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION ON MYRTLE LANE FIVE (5)-LOT PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR DUPLEXES.

Joe Mundo presented the plat to Council. All lots will be between 64 and 65' wide; the minimum width allowed by the City is 50'. The site plan will follow later on along with the tree preservation plan. Kathy Canady expressed concerns about drainage. Mr. Mundo said that will be addressed during the site plan process. The applicant wants to go ahead and make payments for their parkland fee of 8% of fair market value.

On motion by Tony DeYoung and second by Kathy Canady, Council approved the preliminary plat for Myrtle Lane duplexes.

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATED TO CHANGE ORDER #9 FOR THE SOUTH FORK WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT 1.2 MGD EXPANSION CONTRACT WITH CUNNINGHAM CONSTRUCTORS & ASSOCIATES, INC., FOR A DEDUCT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$375,211.25.

Aaron Laughlin with Steger Bizzell addressed Council stating this includes a deletion of certain aspects of the work. These items might be completed at a later date. Substantial completion of the current project should be sometime in June.

On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Tony DeYoung, Council approved Change Order #9 for the South Fork WWTP 1.2 MGD Expansion contract with Cunningham Constructors & Associates, Inc. for a deduction in the amount of \$375,211.25.

Motion passed on vote of 2 ayes, 1 nay, and 0 abstentions. Gram Lankford opposed the motion.

UPDATE ON DOWNTOWN VISIBILITY STUDY.

Curtis Steger, Steger Bizzell addressed Council stating 5-6 months ago, Council had authorized a limited line of sight study on Loop 332. There was a PowerPoint presentation and discussion of current downtown parking. Mr. Steger recommends taking out parking availability at the points shown as red X's on the PowerPoint. Following discussion, Council directed staff to come back to Council with options based on the discussion. Tony DeYoung asked that the City not eliminate any parking until there are safe ways to cross the streets.

No action was taken.

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON AND MOODY TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF LIBERTY HILL RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.

Lacie Hale, City Administrator addressed Council stated that this request is for an audit related to environmental quality, not to exceed \$20,000 and would come from the wastewater budget. **On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Tony DeYoung, Council authorized Graves, Dougherty, Hearon and Moody to negotiate and execute an agreement for environmental audit services on behalf of the City of Liberty Hill related to environmental compliance at the wastewater treatment plant.**

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

CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO CREATE A JOB DESCRIPTION AND PROGRAM FOR A PAID TEN-WEEK INTERNSHIP NOT TO EXCEED \$4,000.

Lacie Hale, City Administrator addressed Council stating she had a request from staff to look at internships for the City to occur from June through August. The intern would move to each department to offer assistance and learn more about working in municipal government. Discussion followed.

On motion by Tony DeYoung and second by Kathy Canady, Council authorized the City Administrator to create a job description and program for a paid ten-week internship not to exceed \$4,000.

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

UPDATE ON THE WHIMSY AND WONDER EVENT SCHEDULED FOR MAY 15, 2021.

Katie Amsler provided a brief update on the upcoming event. She clarified that there will be a wine tasting behind the Stubblefield Building but there will be TABC-certified servers, and this was approved by legal.

No action was taken.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 21-O-05.10-01 REQUIRING EACH MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO VOTE ON EVERY QUESTION, ORDINANCE, AND RESOLUTION.

Lacie Hale, City Administrator addressed Council stating Council had directed the attorney to work this up. Mick McKamie, Interim City Attorney stated an abstention does constitute a vote. Discussion followed.

On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Gram Lankford, Council approved Ordinance 21-O-05.10-01 requiring each member of City Council to vote on every question, ordinance, and resolution.

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

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER MOVING THE REMAINING MAYORAL STIPEND FUNDS TO COVER COSTS FOR NEW CROSSWALK SIGNS ON LOOP 332.

Tony DeYoung presented to Council stating that especially after the parking line of sight presentation, a safe way to get from the water tower parking lot to downtown proper is needed. Becky Wilkins, City Treasurer stated there are \$23,995 remaining in the declined mayoral stipend. Discussion followed on best locations and possible cost which could exceed the mayoral stipend. Ms. Hale stated this amount could be supplemented by the Streets budget. Council directed staff to proceed with bids and costs for new caution and crosswalk signs.

No motions were made.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER SETTING CRITERIA FOR APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO EACH COMMITTEE AND BOARD FOR THE CITY OF LIBERTY HILL.

Kathy Canady addressed Council stating she would like Council to work on the Planning and Zoning Commission makeup of officers and work to fill positions. She would like it to be comprised of five members who live within city limits. Tony DeYoung said he felt like the commission should have one Council member on it as a non-voting member. He also recommends one member who resides within the ETJ. Council directed the City Secretary to contact applicants to see if they are still interested. Following discussion, Council stated all five members for Planning and Zoning must live within City limits with the addition of one Council member as a non-voting member.

No motions were made.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER RE-SETTING DATE FOR POSTPONED WORKSHOP REGARDING RULES OF DECORUM AND PROCEDURES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS.

Kathy Canady addressed Council stating she feels Council is ready to set a new workshop date. Lacie Hale, City Administrator said that the decorum workshop will be led by Mick McKamie, Interim City Attorney, Nancy Sawyer, City Secretary, and herself. In July, there will be another Council workshop to be led by an outside facilitator. This item was postponed until the following Council regular meeting.

No motions were made.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION TO ALLEVIATE SAFETY CONCERNS AT BROWNBRIDGE ROAD AND STATE HIGHWAY 29.

Kathy Canady addressed Council stating that after seeing wrecks at that intersection and hearing about the number of accidents there, she came up with an option. Ms. Canady showed a diagram to senior staff and Council with alternatives to the current traffic flow. Mayor Branigan stated this has been requested many times and she has discussed this with Curtis Steger about repainting the stripes. Mr. Steger stated he does not recall having that discussion.

Council discussed the diagram presented by Ms. Canady with Gram Lankford stating he thinks it is a great idea. Council directed staff to come back with possible solutions based on the diagram presented by Ms. Canady.

No motions were made.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Gram Lankford, Council was adjourned at 8:02 PM.
Motion passed on vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Liberty Hill, Texas on Monday, May 24,
2021 on vote of 3 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.



[seal]


Liz Branigan, Mayor


Nancy Sawyer, City Secretary