



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES

Wednesday, August 11, 2021 – 6:30 PM  
2801 Ranch Road 1869, Liberty Hill, Texas

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Liz Branigan, Mayor	Chris Pezold, Place 1
Kathy Canady, Place 2	Crystal Mancilla, Place 3
Tony DeYoung, Place 4 / Mayor Pro Tem	Angela Jones, Place 5

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#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Liz Branigan at 6:31 PM. In attendance were Liz Branigan, Mayor; Chris Pezold; Kathy Canady; Crystal Mancilla; and Tony DeYoung. Angela Jones was not in attendance. Quorum was established.

The Invocation was provided by Kevin Alexander with Open Door Baptist Church, and Pledge of Allegiance, and Texas Pledge were recited.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Council was convened to Executive Session at 6:31 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 551.074 Personnel

Deliberation the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, complaints, or dismissal of the City Treasurer.

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

#### RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

City Council was reconvened to Regular Session at 7:54 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).

Deliberation and possible action on the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, complaints, or dismissal of the City Treasurer.

On motion by Crystal Mancilla and second by Kathy Canady, Council terminated Becky Wilkins for cause: for discourteous conduct and substandard productivity and workmanship.

**Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.**

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Makayla Rodriguez, 7700 N. Capital of Texas Hwy, addressed Council voicing her appreciation for creating her interim position within the Events Department. She stated she felt valued and appreciated and would love to come work full time for the City once she graduates college.

#### REGULAR AGENDA

DISCUSSION AND FINAL ACTION ON A REQUEST BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A ZONE MAP AMENDMENT FROM DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL/RETAIL (C2) ZONING TO DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL/RETAIL (C2) WITH A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) CLASSIFICATION FOR DUPLEX DEVELOPMENT. [ORDINANCE 21-O-08.11-01].

John Byrum, Director of Planning presented to Council, stating the applicant's request is to change the zoning from C2 to C2 with a CUP to allow for two duplexes. This request is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. The list of recommended conditions was listed. Chris Pezold stated that at some point, the city would need to look at more water-wise conditions. Council deliberated the request.

On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Crystal Mancilla, Council approved Ordinance 21-O-08.11-01 amending the zoning of the subject property from C2 to C2 with a CUP with correction on the setback and removal of the last condition with request for xeriscaping.

**Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.**

DISCUSSION AND FINAL ACTION ON A REQUEST BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE FINAL PLAT APPLICATION FOR THE STONEWALL RANCH SECTION 12 ADDITION, LOCATED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF CAISSON TRAIL AND GABRO TRAIL.

John Byrum presented to Council stating this request is for Stonewall Ranch. The preliminary plat was previously approved. This property is in the ETJ with water provided by the City of Georgetown. This request is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Chris Pezold stated that when the preliminary plat went to Planning and Zoning a number of years ago when he was on that committee, he made a decision to not approve until the developer became a good neighbor and paved Long Run all the way down. He said he felt that it was the responsibility of the developer, not the county, and not the citizen.

Lacie Hale said she would reach out to the County to see where they are on the Long Run paving project.

On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Tony DeYoung, Council approved the Final Plat application for the Stonewall Ranch Section 12 addition.

**Motion passed on vote of 3 ayes, 1 nay, and 0 abstentions.** Chris Pezold opposed.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF CODE OF ETHICS.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

Alan Bojorquez, Bojorquez Law Firm provided a PowerPoint presentation (included herein) outlining various boards', commissions', and Council's roles and responsibilities and ethics training.

He stated that Council's role is to look at the big picture: to focus on what they want the city to look like in 5, 10, 15 years from now. He said that the budget might be the most important thing Council does all summer. He explained that the city is not obligated by law to have a Planning and Zoning Commission, but Liberty Hill opted to have one. He stated that oftentimes smaller cities appoint experts, building, development, architecture, and real estate to P and Z.

Mr. Bojorquez discussed boards of adjustments as well. The law states that a Council in a general law city can be the Board of Adjustments. When Council sits as the Board of Adjustments, they are acting as a separate legal body, making interpretations of the City's Code and may make variances if so determined to be appropriate. It is often a good idea to have alternates because the quorum for the Board of Adjustments is 75% and 75% to approve.

The Parks and Recreation Board is not a statutory body but rather advises Council.

Mr. Bojorquez reviewed the City's Code of Ethics. Chris Pezold, councilmember stated that he was not allowed to participate in development meetings and the Ethics Code was cited for the reason. He stated that prior to the previous mayor, Council was allowed and encouraged to participate in city meetings. Mr. Bojorquez said that he does not have a problem with Council attending a development meeting. He reminded Council it was up to them to decide what they want and enact policy to reflect that.

**No action was taken.**

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON DRAFT BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS HANDBOOK.

Lacie Hale, City Administrator presented stating her intent was to provide an overview of the draft handbook. She and Council discussed the draft, and some changes were recommended. Council's general feedback was that they would like some more time to review. Ms. Hale stated that she would make the suggested changes and bring back to Council by the end of September for further recommendations from Council.

**No action was taken.**

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Kathy Canady and second by Crystal Mancilla, Council was adjourned at 8:24 PM.

**Motion passed on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.**

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Liberty Hill, Texas on Wednesday, August 25, 2021, on vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

  
Liz Branigan, Mayor

[seal]

  
Nancy Sawyer, City Secretary