

**YOLANDA FORD**  
Mayor

**VASHAUNDRA EDWARDS**  
Councilmember at Large Position No. 1

**CHRIS PRESTON**  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Councilmember at Large Position No. 2



**CHERYL STERLING**  
Councilmember District A  
**JEFFREY L. BONEY**  
Councilmember District B  
**ANTHONY G. MAROULIS**  
Councilmember District C  
**FLOYD EMERY**  
Councilmember District D

## **CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

The City Council of the City of Missouri City, Texas, met in special session on **Wednesday, June 24, 2020**, at the City Hall, Council Chamber, 1522 Texas Parkway, Missouri City, Texas, 77489, at **6:00 p.m.** to consider the following.

*Due to the COVID 19 Disaster and the Center for Disease Control's recommendation regarding social distancing measures, the Mayor, City Council, City Staff members, and members of the public were not physically present during this meeting. The meeting was made possible through the cloud-based video conferencing platform Zoom.*

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Those also present: Mayor Pro Tem Preston, Councilmembers Edwards, Sterling, Boney, Maroulis and Emery; Interim City Manager Atkinson, Assistant City Manager Martel, City Attorney Iyamu, City Secretary Jackson, Director of Financial Services Portis, Budget and Financial Reporting Manager Alexander, Accounting Technician Su, Communications Walker, Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kumar, Assistant Director of Public Works Brouhard, Utilities Manager Hoover, Director of Development Services Spriggs, Planning Manager Thomas Gomez, Director of Parks and Recreation Mangum, Recreation Superintendent Browne, Golf Course Manager Stittleburg, and Director of Human Resources and Organizational Development Russell.

### **2. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

(a) Presentation of the Fiscal Year 2021 proposed budget.

Interim City Manager Atkinson discussed questions addressed by City Council during the previous budget meetings held this week.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kumar provided an overview of the department's mission, vision, FY 2020 accomplishments, FY 2021 goals, proposed budget, supplemental requests, capital projects, five-year capital improvement plan (CIP), the special revenue fund for fleet/equipment replacement and supplemental requests, and the enterprise fund. Councilmember Emery asked about contract services for the street sweeper. Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kumar stated the service was evaluated and he felt it was more feasible to own the equipment and cost effective. Councilmember Edwards requested elaboration of the sidewalk replacement program for this year and next fiscal year. Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kumar explained the processes and priorities. Mayor Ford asked for the date of when the medians would be completed. Director of Public Works/City Engineer Kumar stated the contractor who won the bid also won the bid for the City of Friendswood and he would work with communications to provide notice to the public via a news release.

Director of Development Services Spriggs provided an overview of the department's mission, vision, FY 2020 accomplishments, FY 2021 goals, proposed budget, supplemental requests, and the special revenue fund

for the community development block grant. Councilmember Emery requested further information about the Development Coordinator position and asked if they were planning to reduce the hours from a part-time position. Director of Development Services Spriggs stated they were looking to compensate for the overage with the new fee schedule imposed and increased revenues.

Director of Parks and Recreation Mangum provided an overview of the department's mission, vision, FY 2020 accomplishments, FY 2021 goals, proposed budget, supplemental requests, and the special revenue fund for the hotel occupancy tax. Councilmember Maroulis asked if there was a desire to set funds aside for the Herrin Tract. Director of Parks and Recreation Mangum stated that this time, cost was prohibiting them from moving forward with developing this tract; however, he understands the Herrin Tract was a priority project. Councilmember Maroulis asked about cricket, Mangum stated the re-masterplan of StaMo Park was addressed with the community; and, the concept plan was presented to the Parks Board and later to City Council to repurpose this park. Mayor Ford asked when the last master plan was done. Director of Parks and Recreation Mangum stated it was approved in 2015. Mayor Ford stated there needs to be a focus on re-evaluating the master plan every five-years, moving forward. She added the City needed to work on building public and private partnerships. Councilmember Emery stated that in the 2020 accomplishments, Mangum did not recognize himself and two staff members who received recognition. Director of Parks and Recreation Mangum expressed support of City Staff members for their talents and devotion to the Parks and Recreation team. Councilmember Sterling commended the team. Mayor Pro Tem Preston asked how often infrastructure status checks were done. Mangum stated explained. Mayor Pro Tem Preston requested to speak about the art which was donated and how would be maintained. Mangum stated Tom and Regina Nichols donated the art and an agreement would need to be in place with the artist.

Director of Financial Services Portis addressed the debt service fund.

Missouri City Recreation and Leisure Local Government Corporation Golf Course Manager Stittleburg provided an overview of the corporation's mission, vision, FY 2020 accomplishments, FY 2021 goals, and proposed budget. Councilmember Emery asked about the fee structure. Golf Course Manager Stittleburg stated several of the fees were increased and they look to keep the prices at mid-market.

Director of Financial Services Portis went over the solid waste fund and supplemental requests of recurring and non-recurring expenses. Mayor Ford asked if the budget presented was based on the 3.5-percent increase of the base budget, Portis confirmed it was. Director of Financial Services Portis moved forward to present the estimated and distribution of property tax assessments and the general fund (GF) estimates for discussion purposes only uses preliminary assessed values that may be subject to change. Councilmember Boney asked if exemptions were included. Director of Financial Services Portis stated exemptions were not included in the models. Mayor Ford stated if the city choose to stay at the no-new revenue rate, would the city be able to fund all the supplemental requests. Director of Financial Services Portis confirmed. Councilmember Emery asked if the fund balance was at 32-percent, what impact it would have on the tax rate. Interim City Manager Atkinson the impact would be to the fund balance, not tax rate.

Councilmember Boney stated supplemental requests may need to be analyzed to determine which the City would be moving forward with; and, if that information could be provided to City Council in advance of them receiving the final proposed budget. Interim City Manager Atkinson stated supplemental requests were prioritized by departments, which would assist in analyzing the requests should cuts need to take place.

### **3. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

After proper notice was given pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the City Council went into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.

**Texas Government Code, Section 551.074** – Deliberations concerning the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee: the city manager, the city attorney and the city secretary.

**4. RECONVENE**

At 8:34 p.m., City Council reconvened into open session.

Councilmember Edwards moved to interview the top two candidates for the City Manager position. Mayor Pro Tem Preston seconded.

Councilmember Boney stated he does not believe now would be a good time to bring in a city manager in the mist of the pandemic and budget preparations; and, believes this has been a rushed processed. Councilmember Maroulis stated he believed the search should be expanded. Mayor Ford added over 50 applications were received and added for all the reasons Councilmember Boney noted, the City should move forward. Councilmember Emery stated the two candidates who were selected to be interviewed were adequate enough to run our City and requested an extensive city manager search with the search firm. Councilmember Sterling stated the top candidates were selected out of the pool of candidates. Councilmember Edwards stated the top candidates were over-qualified for the position of city manager and the city saved money due to moving forward the way the City did.

Councilmember Edwards moved interview the top two candidates for the City Manager position. Mayor Pro Tem Preston seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

- Ayes: Mayor Ford, Mayor Pro Tem Preston, Councilmember Edwards and Councilmember Sterling
- Nays: Councilmember Boney, Councilmember Maroulis and Councilmember Emery

The Mayor stated City Council would conduct the city attorney and city secretary evaluations during the next City Council meeting.

**5. ADJOURN**

The special City Council meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Minutes PASSED AND APPROVED this the 6th day of July 2020.

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Maria Jackson, City Secretary