

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 MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Missouri City, Texas, met in regular session on **Monday, July 6, 2020**, at the City Hall, Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, 1522 Texas Parkway, Missouri City, Texas, 77489, at **7:00 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. **ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ford called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

Those also present: Mayor Pro Tem Preston, Councilmembers Edwards, Sterling, Boney, Maroulis, and Emery; Interim City Manager Atkinson, City Attorney Iyamu, and City Secretary Jackson.

2. The **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Police Chief Berezin.

3. **PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Mayor Ford administered the oath of office to certain members of the City of Missouri City's boards, committees, and commissions; and, proclaimed the month of July as "Parks and Recreation Month" in the City of Missouri City, Texas. Councilmember Emery proclaimed July 6, 2020, as "Missouri City Police Department Appreciation Day" in Missouri City, Texas.

There were no **PUBLIC COMMENTS**.

5. **STAFF REPORTS**

(a) Receive the Police Department's Annual Report.

Police Chief Berezin presented the Police Department's Annual Report. Mayor Pro Tem Preston thanked the men and women of the Police Department; he asked that for minor infractions, residents be educated and be provided with levels of warning; and, he asked it were possible to work with the Communications Department to let citizens know that raw data was available for them in a newsletter. Berezin stated they had the open data initiatives on the website but would collaborate with the Communications Department. Berezin noted Code Enforcement Officers do provide warnings and placards before citations were issued.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

(a) Consider approving the minutes of the special and regular City Council meetings of June 15, 2020, and the special City Council meetings of June 22, 2020, June 23, 2020 and June 24, 2020.

Councilmember Emery moved to approve the Consent Agenda pursuant to recommendations by City Staff. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Nays: None

There were no **Zoning Public Hearings and Ordinances, Public Hearings and related actions or Appointments** on this agenda.

9. AUTHORIZATIONS

- (a) Consider authorizing the execution of a professional services contract for the design of the Parks Department maintenance facility.

Director of Public Works Kumar provided an overview and requested that City Council consider awarding the contract to Ziegler Cooper. He stated the plan was to demolish and built a new Parks Department maintenance facility.

Councilmember Maroulis moved to authorize the execution of a professional services contract for the design of the Parks Department maintenance facility. Councilmember Boney seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Nays: None

- (b) Consider authorizing the negotiation and execution of a contract for the remodeling of Fire Station No. 3 and No. 4.

Chief Campbell presented an overview on the remodeling of Fire Station No. 3 and No. 4. Councilmember Emery asked if the stations would be taken out of service during the remodeling. Campbell stated they would not be out of service. Mayor Ford asked that the funding sources for the renovations be identified. Campbell stated there were three general bonds and one general fund that would renovate the stations.

Councilmember Emery moved to authorize the negotiation and execution of a contract for the remodeling of Fire Station No. 3 and No. 4. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Nays: None

- (c) Consider authorizing a change order for vehicle equipment.

Fleet Superintendent Tubbs stated the increase for the purchase order was to accommodate additional vehicles that were not planned on from the Fiscal Year 2020 budget. These vehicles were involved in accidents and were total losses and which was why additional funds were needed.

Councilmember Boney moved to authorize a change order for vehicle equipment. Councilmember Emery seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Nays: None

- (d) Consider authorizing a change order for sidewalk construction and repair.

Assistant Director of Public Works Brouhard stated the current contract had a cap but because they have actively worked to complete the sidewalk repairs project, they have reached the contract threshold. He stated they were requesting a 25-percent increase allowed through the procurement policy. Councilmember Emery asked where the additional funds were coming from. Brouhard stated they have funds dedicated to them though the bond program and METRO funds for the continuation of the work.

Councilmember Maroulis moved to authorize a change order for sidewalk construction and repair. Councilmember Emery seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Nays: None

- (e) Consider withdrawing authorization for the city attorney, or her designee, to initiate civil proceedings for the enforcement of city ordinances at 12646 Grove Park Drive and 12622 Grove Park Drive.

Councilmember Boney moved to authorize the city attorney, or her designee, to initiate civil proceedings for the enforcement of city ordinances at 12646 Grove Park Drive and 12622 Grove Park Drive. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Nays: None

- (f) Consider authorizing the city attorney, or her designee, to initiate civil proceedings for the enforcement of city ordinances at 4402 Ringrose Drive.

Councilmember Maroulis moved to authorize the city attorney, or her designee, to initiate civil proceedings for the enforcement of city ordinances at 4402 Ringrose Drive. Councilmember Boney seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Nays: None

10. ORDINANCES

- (a) Consider an ordinance amending the personnel policy of the City of Missouri City by establishing a notification process for employment claims against City Council's appointed officials, establishing a time limit for reporting potential paycheck errors for city employees, and requiring notification to the human resources department for certain employee absences; and consider the ordinance on the first of two readings.

Mayor Pro Tem Preston moved to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Ford, Mayor Pro Tem Preston, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, Councilmember Maroulis and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

- (b) Consider an ordinance amending Chapter 62, Municipal Court, of the Missouri City Code; deleting provisions regarding certain municipal court fees; and consider the ordinance on the first of two readings.

Mayor Pro Tem Preston moved to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Maroulis seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Ford, Mayor Pro Tem Preston, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, Councilmember Maroulis and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

11. RESOLUTIONS

- (a) Consider a resolution finding a public purpose and ratifying certain donations related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) disaster.

Assistant City Attorney Santangelo presented an overview on the resolution and noted the Texas Constitution prohibits a City from lending credit or granting something of value in aid of a private individual and/or corporation unless there was a public purpose.

Mayor Ford asked if it was something that was recently put in place. Santangelo stated they had done similar resolutions in the past for charitable events and/or instances. He noted it was not a requirement but it would help close the loop if there was a public purpose for an event. Santangelo stated it was not a requirement but the want to make sure they had a document declaring a public purpose for the event.

Councilmember Emery asked if the public purpose was identified, should it be shown as a collective action by City Council or could an individual on Council do it. Santangelo stated the item was to demonstrate a public purpose and it would take a Council vote to declare it.

Councilmember Maroulis asked if the language of the resolution was similar to other cities. Santangelo stated that as a home rule municipality, Missouri City was able to declare and authorize events as such. Interim City Manager Atkinson noted that the Mayor, as the Director of Emergency Management, does have some powers beyond the declaration of a disaster by the governor. City Attorney Iyamu confirmed, but noted that this item was separate and apart from the authority granted to the Mayor as the Emergency Management Director.

Councilmember Edwards asked what prompted the resolution to be on the agenda. City Attorney Iyamu it was requested at the first COVID-19 meeting. Iyamu noted the item was specifically related to the utilization of public resources for private benefit. Mayor Ford asked if items had been donated what were the resources. Iyamu stated that once the City takes possession of an item it becomes City property.

Councilmember Boney moved to approve the resolution. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

Nays: None

12. CITY COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Preston thanked staff for their work and dedication to the citizens amid the pandemic; reminded residents to mask up; and, congratulated the board members who took their oath.

Councilmember Edwards reminded residents to continue to social distance and wear a mask in public; she added she wanted everyone to have their mental health in check and utilize City parks; and, she invited everyone to the park clean up event on July 11.

Councilmember Sterling stated she was working with HGAC to establish a virtual career fair and she asked that everyone mask up.

Councilmember Boney expressed his condolences for the late Mayor Leonard Scarcella; he thanked the Texas Legislative Black Caucus for allowing him to moderate a panel discussion related to issues affecting African Americans; and, he encouraged everyone to vote.

Councilmember Emery expressed his appreciation and support for the Police Department; and he asked everyone to be mindful by practicing social distancing and wearing masks.

Mayor Ford sent condolences to the family and City of Stafford for the passing of Mayor Scarcella; and, she thanked volunteers, staff, and sponsors who assisted at the PPE drive.

13. ADJOURN

The regular City Council meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Minutes PASSED AND APPROVED this the 20th day of July 2020.

Maria Jackson, City Secretary