

ROBIN J. ELACKATT
Mayor

VASHAUNDRA EDWARDS
Councilmember at Large Position No. 1

LYNN CLOUSER
Councilmember at Large Position No. 2



CHERYL STERLING
Councilmember District A
JEFFREY L. BONEY
Councilmember District B
ANTHONY G. MAROULIS
Mayor Pro Tem
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, March 15, 2021**, 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 Elackatt called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m.

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

2. The **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Director of Financial Services Allena Portis.

There were no **PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Pearlie Byrd, 622 Stephanie Drive, requested assistance from officials for code enforcement issues in Hunters Glen I and II subdivisions.

Earnice Jenkins, 511 Whippoorwill, expressed concerns as businesses was being run in the subdivision, specifically on Twining Oaks Lane.

5. **STAFF REPORTS**

Acting Fire Chief Mario Partida presented a COVID-19 update and stated the cases were continuing to drop. He noted that within the last week, 1,300 vaccinations came to the City. Emergency Management Coordinator Jewett provided an update on state vaccinations.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- (a) Consider approving the minutes of the special and regular City Council meetings of March 1, 2021.
- (b) Consider an ordinance temporarily suspending certain regulations regarding temporary display signs as set forth in Section 4, Definitions, and Section 13, Sign Regulations, of Appendix A, of the Missouri City Code, entitled "The City of Missouri City Zoning Ordinance;" providing a penalty; providing an effective date; and consider the ordinance on the second and final reading.
- (c) Consider authorizing the City Manager to negotiate and execute a lease contract for replacing the existing lease at the end of cycle for citywide desktops and laptops.

- (d) Consider authorizing the execution of contracts for the city's municipal court judges.
- (e) Consider authorizing the city manager to negotiate and execute an agreement for the extension of grant program services.

Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis moved to pull item 6e if the Consent Agenda for discussion. Councilmember Boney seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis noted he was not in agreement with the amount being charged by MPACT since the item was first brought to City Council and felt frustrated with the MPACT.

Councilmember Boney moved to approve the Consent Agenda items 6a-6d pursuant to recommendations by City Staff. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

There were no **Zoning Public Hearings and Ordinances, Public Hearings and related actions or APPOINTMENTS.**

9. AUTHORIZATIONS

- (a) Consider authorizing the negotiation and execution of an agreement to fund wastewater treatment facility rehabilitation for the Steep Bank Flat Bank Wastewater Treatment Facility between the City of Missouri City and Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 42, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 46, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 115, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 129, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 149, and First Colony Municipal Utility District No. 9.

Utilities Manger Hoover presented the proposed agreement which memorialized the contribution of Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 42, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 46, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 115, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 129, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 149 and First Colony Municipal Utility District No. 9 to the rehabilitation of the City of Missouri City treatment plant that serves those districts and the Steep Bank Flat Bank Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility Plant. Councilmember Emery asked if there were any concerns expressed from the MUDs about their portion of the allocation of the cost. Hoover stated they were questions asked and answers were provided with collaborative discussions.

Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis moved to authorize the negotiation and execution of an agreement to fund wastewater treatment facility rehabilitation for the Steep Bank Flat Bank Wastewater Treatment Facility between the City of Missouri City and Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 42, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 46, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 115, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 129, Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 149, and First Colony Municipal Utility District No. 9, as recommended by city staff. Councilmember Emery seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

- (b) Consider authorizing staff to enter into a settlement agreement relating to *City of Missouri City v. William M. Pace, Jr. and Cynthia Ann Pace* for the acquisition of land by eminent domain for the Knight Road project.

Assistant City Attorney Quintal stated the City approved the project and the acquisition of 17 parcels of land in January 2020. He noted eight were acquired without any eminent domain lawsuits and the City did file against three parcels in which two were owned by the Pace family. Councilmember Emery inquired on the appraised value. Quintal stated the appraiser came up with a value of \$64,702. He noted the landowner offered to settle and drop his demands for \$65,000. Emery asked about the third parcel. Quintal stated the landowner had not accepted the City's offer and that there was an eminent lawsuit filed.

Councilmember Emery moved to authorize staff to enter into a settlement agreement relating to *City of Missouri City v. William M. Pace, Jr. and Cynthia Ann Pace* for the acquisition of land by eminent domain for the Knight Road project, as recommended by city staff. Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

- (c) Consider authorizing the execution of an amendment to an updated service agreement for temporary solid waste services.

Assistant City Manager Atkinson stated that on or about March 5 the City entered into an agreement with WCA for additional temporary solid waste services, including construction and demolition waste collection services which may be required due to damage caused by the winter storm. The initial scope of work included a geographic area of the portions of Missouri City situated in Harris County only. Atkinson noted that because Fort Bend County was unable to operate a debris collection program as first conveyed, the City had supplemented the aforementioned contract with WCA, as provided in the agreement, to now provide debris collection services citywide as a result of Winter Storm Uri. He noted the services for debris collection would be carried out on Saturdays beginning March 13. He added that residents would not need to call in for service, and may place the debris out for collection on March 13, 20 and 27.

Councilmember Edwards inquired if the waste management services had enough man power to complete tasks that Public Works staff assisted with. Atkinson noted WCA was providing such services to all their customers at the same time. Matt Cartier, WCA, echoed what Atkinson stated and noted that as they prepared for the aftermath of the storm. Cartier stated they realigned their schedule when they were notified that their services were needed.

Edwards asked if the Public Works department were being compensated for the extra tasks. City Manager Jones stated it was part of their normal work duty when the Emergency Operations Center was activated.

Mayor Elackatt asked that this be looked at by the committee to see who were the stakeholders that could take care of these situations. Atkinson stated they would be following up to make sure they have a response to situations as such.

Councilmember Boney stated he was impacted by trash not being picked up regularly and hoped that regular services would improve. Cartier apologized and would work with Council and staff to improve their service.

Councilmember Clouser moved to authorize the execution of an amendment to an updated service agreement for temporary solid waste services, as recommended by city staff. Councilmember Edwards seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

10. ORDINANCES

- (a) Consider an ordinance amending the general budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020, and ending September 30, 2021; transferring various appropriations among accounts; appropriating supplemental revenue to various fund accounts; amending the authorized staffing for Fiscal Year 2021; authorizing the appropriate city officials to take steps necessary to accomplish such transfers; making certain findings; and consider the ordinance on the first and final reading.

Director of Financial Services Portis spoke on the three transactions that the budget amendment entailed. Councilmember Boney stated a question was asked by Councilmember Emery relative to the amount of \$90,000. City Attorney Iyamu stated the proposed amount was the estimated cost of the civil service setup and orientation expenses that were included in the contract authorized by Council last year. She noted the setup cost was of \$50,000 while training and orientation was of \$40,000. Iyamu noted she did not think the City would spend that much based on what has been done so far.

Councilmember Boney moved to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

- (b) Consider an ordinance temporarily suspending certain landscaping regulations set forth in Section 11, Landscaping, of Appendix A of the Missouri City Code, entitled "The City of Missouri City Zoning Ordinance;" suspending the imposition of certain development fees; providing a penalty; declaring an emergency; providing an effective date; and consider the ordinance on the first and final reading.

Councilmember Boney moved to adopt the ordinance. Councilmember Emery seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

11. RESOLUTIONS

- (a) Consider a resolution granting consent to Missouri City Management District No. 2 to annex approximately 42.93 acres of land situated within the City of Missouri City, Texas.

Director of Public Works Kumar presented on the petition from the Missouri City Management District No. 2 to annex approximately 42.93 acres of land situated within the City.

Councilmember Emery moved to approve the resolution. Councilmember Edwards seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

- (b) Consider a resolution granting consent to Sienna Plantation Municipal Utility District No. 10 to annex certain land situated within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Missouri City, Texas.

Utilities Manager Todd Hoover presented on the petition for Sienna Plantation Municipal Utility District No. 10 to annex certain land situated within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City.

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

Ayes: Mayor Elackatt, Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmember Edwards, Councilmember Clouser, Councilmember Sterling, Councilmember Boney, and Councilmember Emery
Nays: None

12. CITY COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis sent prayers to the family who lost a family member in the tragic fire and thanked the Missouri City Fire and Police for assisting; he thanked Missouri City Green for their successful electronic recycling event; and, he invited the public to the March 17 TxDOT meeting.

Councilmember Edwards echoed Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis' sentiments regarding the City's Fire and Rescue Department and sent condolences to the affected family; she had the opportunity to join the Parks and Recreation Department in cleaning the Sta-Mo Park and gave kudos to the department for hosting the event; and, she encouraged residents to keep following the CDC guidelines.

Councilmember Clouser thanked her colleagues who supported the grand opening drive thru for Wonderfully Made Pediatrics; she stated the community was also able to help the Women's Fort Bend Center and thanked the community for their contributions; she thanked D-Mars.com who honored her as a community hero; and, she encouraged small businesses in the City to apply for the Small Business Advisory Committee.

Councilmember Sterling gave kudos to the Fire and Rescues Department; she assisted in various PPE drives; gave kudos to Councilmember Clouser for a great donation event; she participated in the Mayor's Youth Commission and meet with the Southeast Coalition of HOA; she was also able to participate in the METRO tour along with her fellow colleagues; and, she gave kudos to staff who addressed the issues in Fonmeadow.

Councilmember Boney thanked Councilmember Clouser for the event at Wonderfully Made Pediatrics; he attended the National League of Cities congressional conference in which they signed the American Rescue Plan; he, along with Congressman Al Green, were able to deliver \$7.4 million directly to Missouri City as opposed to it going to the state; he participated in the Mayors Youth Commission last week; he thanked Manish Seth of Seth and Alexander Advisors who provided meals to Missouri City residents; he thanked

METRO representatives for the tour and update on services they were providing; he was heading to Austin with Police Chief Berezin to testify on Bill HB194; and, he wished his wife a happy anniversary.

Councilmember Emery echoed Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis' sentiments regarding the March 17 TxDOT median project input meeting; he thanked METRO for a great tour; he was able to participate in with the Mayors Youth Commission meeting last week; and, he attended a ribbon cutting ceremony for Our Kids Edition.

Mayor Elackatt thanked Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis and Director Walker for helping have the COVID presentation with Houston Methodist Hospital; he noted that any councilmembers were welcomed to join the monthly Mayors Youth Commission meetings; he thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for doing a great job with the Mayors Youth Commission; he was able to attend CABO Dogs gumbo cook-off and visited other new places to promote local businesses; he thanked Maroulis for his work with Le Blue cleaners; he thanked Missouri City Green for their recycling events; he also thanked Manish Seth for providing 1,000 meals and Niagara Water for providing water supplies; and, he had the opportunity to be with Congressman Green to speak about the American Rescue Plan.

13. ADJOURN

The regular City Council meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Minutes PASSED AND APPROVED this the 5th day of April 2021.

Maria Jackson, City Secretary