

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 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Missouri City, Texas, met in special session on **Tuesday, September 7, 2021**, at the Missouri City Community Center, 1522 Texas Parkway, Missouri City, Texas, 77489, at **5:40 p.m.** to consider the following:

1. ROLL CALL

Mayor Elackatt called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

Those also present: Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis, Councilmembers Edwards, Clouser, Sterling, Boney, and Emery; Interim City Manager Atkinson, City Secretary Jackson, City Attorney Iyamu, Assistant City Manager Martel, Fire Chief Partida, Director of Financial Services Portis, Director of Economic Development Nettles, Director of Public Works and City Engineer Kumar, Director of Information Technology Cole, Assistant Director of Public Works Hoover, IT Manager Mathew, Assistant City Engineer Davis, Budget and Financial Reporting Manager Alexander, Chief Performance Officer Harris and Director of Communications Walker.

2. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

- (a) Present an Update on Texas Department of Transportation FM 1092 Median Improvement Project.

Assistant City Engineer Davis presented an update on Texas Department of Transportation FM 1092 Median Improvement Project. Councilmember Clouser inquired if they were confident the Lexington Village developer would work with TxDOT to make sure residents have the access needed. Davis noted they have not presented this to the developer yet but added if they were to get something implemented it would be at the section where there was a full access drive. Councilmember Emery asked why the project was starting at Highway 6 as opposed to Highway 99. Carlos Zepeda, with TxDOT Fort Bend Area Office, stated they had not spoken to the contractor about this yet as the project was awarded at the beginning of August. He added that they would have a preconstruction meeting and they would determine where the construction would start. Emery expressed his concerns and does not think adding medians was the best approach. Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis spoke about the congestion problem and suggested TxDOT resolve that issue. He also added that he believes the medians would hinder rather than help. Councilmember Edwards requested Police Chief Berezin and Fire Chief Partida's input. Chief Berezin stated they needed more lanes rather than medians. Chief Partida noted it limit their crossover to some degree.

- (b) Consider and discuss the appointment of a Community Development Advisory Committee member.

Councilmember Sterling presented on the vacancy on the Community Development Advisory Committee.

Councilmember Clouser moved appoint Sheryl L. Orloff to the Community Development Advisory Committee to fulfill the vacant term of Position 7. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- (c) Discussion on the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 budget.

Interim City Manager Atkinson presented an overview on the budget process. Director of Financial Services Portis presented on the proposed Fiscal Year 2022 budget. Councilmember Edwards asked if Atkinson believed they did everything they could to lower the tax rate. Atkinson confirmed. Edwards asked if they could have done something else besides lowering it by 2-cents. Atkinson stated if they would not hire firefighters nor fill vacant positions they may have lowered the tax rate. He noted a 3% increase for personnel and civil service costs were included. Edwards would like an advocacy for the residents. Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis inquired if there was an opportunity to convert the overtime into a full time position. Atkinson stated in working with the Fire and Rescues Services Department, they would reduce overtime with the addition of 12 firefighters. Fire Chief Partida noted that the majority of overtime for his department was FLSA overtime required by federal law for those who have worked 28 days and they must be compensated. Police Chief Berezin stated the increase in overtime in the Police Department had to do with being short staff, having City Council meeting security and Municipal Court choosing not to hire a bailiff. He added that with COVID they have had as many as 16 staff members out of the office. Councilmember Boney inquired on the reduction of the tax rate from 2020 through present. Director Portis stated the tax rate was .63 in 2020, .598035 in 2021 and .578035 for 2022. Councilmember Emery inquired if the LGC was able to absorb its costs with surplus. Atkinson stated that with the capital improvements fees and prior year deficits, the surplus would be of \$145,537.

3. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

After proper notice was given pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, the City Council went into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m.

Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 – Consultation with attorney to seek or receive legal advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act: (i) State Opioid Settlement; (ii) City's extraterritorial jurisdictional boundaries; and (iii) The House of God World Outreach (Miracle City Church).

4. RECONVENE

At 7:21 p.m., City Council reconvened into the special City Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Maroulis moved for the City Attorney to provide legal information to District A of a potential zoning. Councilmember Sterling seconded. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. ADJOURN

The special City Council meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Minutes PASSED AND APPROVED this the 20th day of September 2021.

Maria Jackson, City Secretary