

SPECIAL SESSION

JANUARY 12, 2018

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Special Session on Friday, January 12, 2018, 12:15 p.m. in the Derek D. Daniels Conference Room of the Athens Partnership Center, 201 W. Corsicana St., Athens, Texas with the following members present, to-wit:

Monte Montgomery, Mayor
Ed McCain, Mayor Pro-Tem
Toni Clay
Robert Gross
Aaron Smith

Thanasis Kombos, Assistant City Manager
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

others present: Ryan Adams, Barbara Holly, Adrianna Hinds, John McQueary, Buddy Hill, Randy Williams, Dan Caldwell, Tom and Lynn Leathem, Cliff Bomer, Roy Clay, Mary Waddell, Paul Benson, Carol Morton, Rich Flowers, Michael Hannigan, Commissioner Ken Geeslin, Lacey Lowry, and other interested citizens;

constituting a quorum at which time the following proceedings were enacted, to-wit:

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Mayor Montgomery.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS:

Charlie Tidmore, expressed support of a new pool, however, he is against other improvements.

Cliff Bomer expressed support of the Cain Center Project and after remodeling efficiencies would be gained in operational cost.

Paul Benson expressed support of the Cain Center Project and asked the City Council to consider what they promised the Cain Center Board in keeping the pool and the Multipurpose Hall.

Lacey Lowry stated the Cain Center may have functioned, however when those who were here voted for the Cain Center Project, sewer and water were not at the forefront. It is now, completely different priorities.

UPDATE ON UTILITY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Ryan Adams, Managing Director of Public Services, stated the Capital Improvement Program was previously presented to the City Council on November 7, 2017 along with information regarding different funding options from Hilltop Securities Inc.

Mr. Adams presented a draft of the five (5) year Utility Capital Improvement Program.

Mr. Adams reviewed the following:

- System Pressure
- Distribution System
- Collection System
- Wastewater Treatment

Discussion between the City Council and staff occurred regarding the capital improvements.

The City Council took no action on the draft five (5) year Utility Capital Improvement Program.

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION, AS NECESSARY,
CONCERNING 2017 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES

Thanasis Kombos, Assistant City Manager, stated the item is a continuation from the January 8, 2018 Regular Session as Councilmember Gross requested an item to select a funding opportunity for the Cain Center Project. He stated it also includes funding for Capital Improvement.

Mayor Montgomery opened the floor for Citizens Comment.

There were no comments from the floor at this time.

Councilmember McCain stated the original concept of the Cain Center was to have Administrative Offices locate there.

Councilwoman Clay brainstormed the idea of moving the Henderson County Clint W. Murchison Library to the top floor of the Cain Center. Councilwoman Clay stated it could become a modern library available to the community. Pictures of a modern library were presented.

Much discussion occurred regarding the possibility of partnering with the county and working with the Board of the Public Library Fund for an alternative to using the Cain Center.

It was the consensus of the City Council over the next thirty days (30) to research the possibility of the Henderson County Clint W. Murchison Library moving to the top floor of the Cain Center.

Mayor Montgomery opened the floor for Public Comments.

Several Citizens spoke regarding the Cain Center Project.

The City Council recessed at 2:32 p.m.

The City Council returned to Special Session at 2:41 p.m.

Mr. Kombos reviewed funding opportunities.

Additional discussion occurred regarding the funding opportunities.

A motion was made by Mayor Montgomery, seconded by Councilmember Gross to approve the column labeled “**Opportunity E**” for the 2017 Capital Improvement Program funding, with an allocation of \$5,804,050 from the City of Athens plus the \$2.5 million donation from the Cain Foundation for the Cain Center Project. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL’S REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no requests for future agenda items.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 22nd DAY OF JANUARY, 2018.

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Monte Montgomery, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary