

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 25, 2019

The City Council of the City of Athens met in a Regular Session on Monday, February 25, 2019, 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the City Hall Annex, 501 N. Pinkerton St, with the following members present, to-wit:

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

Elizabeth Borstad, City Manager
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

others present: Buddy Hill, Thanasis Kombos, Russ Marshall, Jennifer Robertson, Audrey Sloan, Randy Williams, Mandie Quigg, Lisa Denton, Jeaneane Lilly, Rich Flowers, Gail Chock, Bob and Carol Morton, Deborah Deas, Chet Patel, Denise York, Kelley Townsend, and other interested citizens;

with the following member absent: Robert Gross

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

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Councilwoman Clay.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councilwoman Clay filed a Conflict of Interest concerning the approval of a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to include the placement of the Athens Independent School District “Hornet” Logo onto the Loop 7 Water Tower as part of the Water Tower Rehabilitation Project.

MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL AND/OR CITY MANAGER UPDATES
INVOLVING COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ISSUES OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Mayor Montgomery provided the following updates:

- He stated Keep Athens Beautiful is having an event. Carol Morton announced the Home and Garden Show, March 2, 2019 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Henderson County Fairgrounds
- A presentation to honor the late Mr. Robert Gould Sr. will occur during the March 11, 2019 City Council meeting

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS:

There was no discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) CONSIDER APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2019 REGULAR SESSION
- b) CONSIDER A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH HENDERSON COUNTY FOR ELECTION SERVICES AND CONDUCTING ELECTION DAY VOTING

- c) CONSIDER A RESOLUTION ADOPTING ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE'S (ES&S) EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN ELECTION DAY VOTING
- d) CONSIDER A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION JUDGE AND ALTERNATE ELECTION JUDGE FOR THE MAY 4, 2019 CITY OF ATHENS GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTION
- e) CONSIDER FINAL READING OF AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING A REQUEST FROM BARBARA & JESSIE TREVINO FOR APPROVAL OF A ZONING CHANGE FROM SINGLE-FAMILY – 5 (SF-5) TO TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (MF-2) FOR LOT 6A OF BLOCK 17 OF THE T. PARMER SURVEY A-782 ALSO KNOWN AS 223 SOUTH PINKERTON STREET
- f) CONSIDER FINAL READING OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ATHENS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT TO HENDERSON COUNTY REGIONAL FAIR PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,000
- g) CONSIDER A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO 2019 T-HANGAR LEASE AGREEMENT FOR T-HANGAR NO. 9 AT ATHENS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
- h) CONSIDER A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FIRE CHIEF TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT DIVISION (HSGD), FOR GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM (SHSP), AS MANAGED BY THE EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
- i) RECEIVE THE 2018 RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary, read the captions of the Ordinances aloud.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Clay, seconded by Councilmember McCain to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON CODE ENFORCEMENT AND DISCUSS EXCESSIVE LITTER WITHIN THE CITY OF ATHENS

Audrey Sloan, Director of Development Services, presented a chart of code enforcement cases generated from October 2018 to present. Ms. Sloan explained that tall grass and rubbish and debris violations are the top two (2) violations. She stated the department has identified problem areas, with goals being created to ensure the department operates in an efficient manner.

Ms. Sloan explained the department goals as follows:

- Proactive Code Enforcement
- Reorganization of Department
- Focus on key areas/issues
- Improve record keeping & reporting

Mayor Montgomery stated Ms. Sloan has addressed every issue he had. He explained that he received complaints regarding Highway 31. Mayor Montgomery stated he spoke with Ms. Morton and the Keep Athens Beautiful clean-up is scheduled for April. He stated there was discussion regarding having a weekend clean-up prior to the April clean-up date.

Ms. Borstad stated in the future there may be a possibility to have a small on-call contract to pick up trash within the problem areas. She stated she will research this possibility.

After discussions, it was the consensus to have a "call for" a Saturday clean-up day prior to the KAB April clean up and invite sponsors to provide lunch.

Councilmember Smith stated it is everyone's responsibility to keep Athens clean.

DISCUSS FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019 FOR ALLOCATION OF GENERAL FUND \$38,322.00, EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT FUND \$62,645.00, HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX FUND \$18,596.76, AND UTILITY FUND \$56,817.53

Mandie Quigg, Finance Director, explained the item is the first reading of an Ordinance amending the total appropriations budget for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2019. She stated there were outstanding projects for which the City had committed to procuring and the budgeted appropriations for those approved projects were not incurred as anticipated in Fiscal Year 2018. Ms. Quigg further explained the purchase commitments must be re-encumbered to the FY 2019 year, reallocating the Fund Balance for the expenditures.

Ms. Quigg reviewed the following purchase order commitments from Fiscal Year 2018:

General Fund:

Peach Park Improvements Athens, TX 75751	\$38,322.00
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Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund:

Downtown Façade Improvements	\$18,596.76
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Utility Fund:	\$56,817.53
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Ms. Quigg explained the supplemental appropriation is for equipment to be used in the Fire Department. She stated staff has recommended the use of the Equipment Replacement Fund to fund the request to purchase eight (8) MSA Air Packs and 19 Face Masks at a cost of \$62,645.00.

Ms. Hambrick read the caption of the Ordinance aloud.

DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION, AS NECESSARY, CONCERNING THE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO INCLUDE THE PLACEMENT OF THE ATHENS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT “HORNET” LOGO ONTO THE LOOP 7 WATER TOWER AS PART OF THE WATER TOWER REHABILITATION PROJECT

Randy Williams, Utilities Director, explained staff is requesting Council’s direction for the appearance of logos on the Loop 7 Water Tower. He stated the project includes specifications for two (2) logos 10 feet in size and up to five (5) colors. He stated the contractor’s cost is \$5,000 for each unit.

Mayor Montgomery asked if the school had requested to place the hornet logo onto the Loop 7 tower, with Mr. Williams stating yes.

There was discussion regarding the placement of the logo.

Councilmember McCain asked if Trinity Valley Community College had contacted the City about placing the cardinal logo on the tower, with Mr. Williams stating no.

After discussion, Councilmember McCain asked that staff contact Trinity Valley Community College (TVCC) to find out if they are interested in the placement of the “Cardinal” logo on the tower.

After a brief discussion Mayor Montgomery entertained a motion to approve a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to include the placement of the Athens Independent School District “Hornet” logo onto the Loop 7 Water Tower as part of the Water Tower Rehabilitation Project.

The item died due to the lack of a motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.087 (DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS; CLOSED MEETING) DELIBERATIONS REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FOLLOWING PROSPECTS:

- a) PROSPECT # 1764
- b) PROSPECT # 1785

The City Council adjourned to Executive Session at 6:04 p.m.

The City Council returned to Regular Session at 7:00 p.m.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION, AS NECESSARY, RESULTING FROM DELIBERATIONS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, SECTION 551.087 (DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS CLOSED MEETING) DELIBERATIONS REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FOLLOWING PROSPECTS:

- a) PROSPECT # 1764

No action was taken.

- b) PROSPECT # 1785

No action was taken.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL'S REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Councilmember McCain requested an update on the airport. He further stated the City Council needed a plan to develop the loop. He stated by developing the loop, it would aide Athens Economic Development Corporation tremendously in their recruitment of businesses to Athens.

Mayor Montgomery stated to expand he would like to add face-to-face meeting with AEDC to discuss the very things that Councilmember McCain has mentioned.

Mayor Montgomery stated that a presentation honoring former Councilmember Robert Gould Sr. will occur on the March 11, 2019 City Council agenda.

Mayor Montgomery requested an update on street and repairs.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 11th DAY OF MARCH, 2019.

Monte Montgomery, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary