

SPECIAL SESSION

SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

The City Council of the City of Athens met in Special Session on Thursday, September 2, 2021, 5:30 p.m. in the Derek D. Daniels Conference Room of the Athens Partnership Center, 201 West Corsicana St., Athens, Texas.

with the following members present to-wit:

Toni Clay, Mayor
Aaron Smith, Mayor Pro Tem
SyTanna Freeman
Mark Carroll

Elizabeth Borstad, City Manager
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

Staff Present: Noemi Lopez, Administrative Clerk; Brooke Akins, Administrative Assistant; John Densmore, Chief of Police.

others present: Michael Hannigan, Deborah Deas, Michael Hill, Kiwana Hurd, Lakenia Wilson, Corey Frentress, Ron Hobbs, Wadona Stitch

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 Mayor Clay.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

There was no discussion.

Kiwana Hurd stated she was in full support of the new police station; however, not in its current location. She stated she did not want a multimillion-dollar facility surrounded by poverty.

DISCUSS, CONSIDER, AND TAKE ACTION, AS NECESSARY,
CONCERNING THE SELECTION OF A PROPOSED SITE LOCATION FOR
THE CITY OF ATHENS POLICE DEPARTMENT'S NEW POLICE STATION

Elizabeth Borstad, City Manager, stated staff was charged with finding the best location for the proposed police station. She stated recommendations were received from the City Council. She stated Councilmember Gross would like the facility to be visible.

Ron Hobbs of Ron Hobbs Architecture & Interior Design, LLP presented six (6) possible locations and explained both advantages and disadvantages of each property location.

Mr. Hobbs stated while looking at each location he was protective of the budget and the type of impact buying property would have on the budget.

The following locations were presented and discussed:

- W. Corsicana Street adjacent to O'Reilly Auto Parts (3.82 acres)
- E. Tyler Street across from City Hall (3.63 acres)
- E. Tyler Street adjacent VeraBank (4.62 acres)
- Pinkerton Street (3.32 acres excluding PD)
- N. Palestine Street (2.011 acres)
- County owned on Highway 175 (acreage TBD)

After much discussion and questions being answered throughout Mr. Hobbs' presentation, a motion was made by Mayor Clay, seconded by Councilwoman Freeman, to exclude the locations on W. Corsicana Street both locations on E. Tyler, and N. Palestine Street and the locations on Pinkerton St. and Hwy 175, are being considered with authorization given to the City manager to move forward with a preliminary site survey on the Hwy 175 property. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 13TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021

Toni Clay, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary