

WORK SESSION

APRIL 12, 2019

The City Council of the City of Athens met in a Work Session on Friday, April 12, 2019, 3:00 p.m. at The Texan Theater, 209 East Tyler Street, Athens, Texas, with the following members present, to-wit:

Monte Montgomery, Mayor
Aaron Smith
Robert Gross
Toni Clay

Elizabeth Borstad, City Manager
Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary

others present: Katie Birk, Pamela Smith, Chet Patel, Michael Hannigan, Kim Carroll, Renee Smith, Mary Waddell, Chris House, Cheyenne Johnson, Gary and Becky Penn, Mo Morrison, Paul Pruett, Jaime Cortez, Deborah Deas, Lisa Hardin, Rich Flowers, Keaton Wiese, Chris Tinsley, Carol Morton, Anne Perryman, Cliff Bomer, and other interested citizens;

with the following member absent: Ed McCain

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Monte Montgomery.

DISCUSS CAIN CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE'S PRESENTATION REGARDING THE CIVIC AND AQUATIC CENTER RENOVATION (CAIN CENTER PROJECT)

Mayor Montgomery stated at the last City Council Regular meeting Steve Grant and the Committee presented their plans, cost, and gifts that were secured for the Cain Center Project. He stated during the meeting the Council did not allow for questions from the audience. Mayor Montgomery stated the work session was called to allow the City Council to further discuss the plans and allow for questions from the Citizens.

Mr. Grant stated the work of the Steering Committee was divided into four (4) different committees:

- Cost Committee
- Planning and Pool Committee
- Budget/Finance/Operations Committee
- Public Awareness and Relations Committee

Mr. Grant provided highlights of the report. He stated the cost of construction has been lowered by roughly \$2 - \$2.5 Million with an Estimated Capital Costs for the Cain Center of **\$6,125,000**, which includes \$1 Million for Contingency Fees. He explained the UT Health has expressed interest in working with the City to operate the physical therapy and rehabilitation components of the center.

Throughout the presentation the Steering Committee Members answered questions from the City Council regarding the renovations of the Cain Center.

Mo Morrison explained the majority of the expenses are associated with the mechanical, electric and plumbing aspects of the project.

Mr. Morrison explained the next steps are to test the pool for leaks, test or operate the chillers, test and test the water lines.

At 4:12 p.m. Mayor Montgomery allowed questions from the audience.

Lisa Hardin spoke in favor of a therapy pool.

Renee Smith asked if the pool is attached to the UT Health Clinic with Mr. Grant stating that would be part of the lease negotiations with UT Health Clinic. Ms. Smith also asked the dimensions of the pool with Mr. Morrison stating 20 x 30. Ms. Smith stated the need for a bigger pool.

Anita Davis spoke in favor of a weight room, and asked that the tennis courts outside be addressed and the multipurpose room be lined for pickle ball.

Deborah Deas stated she has not heard any reference to county funding, she asked if there would be different rates for those who pay city taxes, with Councilwoman Clay stating there should be a reflection of some difference in membership dues.

Mr. Grant stated the county and school district are part of the stakeholders and the committee would follow up with those entities.

Gary Penn thanked the Committee for considering the competitive pool and therapy pool.

Chris Tinsley, Planning and Use Committee, stated the idea of the tennis courts and the competition pool are completely related. He stated renovations should not focus only on the Cain Center, but the park in its entirety. He stated not just swim meets, but basketball tournaments, racquetball tournaments, tennis tournaments, Frisbee, golf, softball, baseball and soccer tournaments could be held. He stated a baseball tournament could generate \$8,000 -\$15,000 each weekend.

Chet Patel asked what naming category will be used for the Center, as HOT Funds can be used to support the Cain Center based on how the center is named.

Mayor Montgomery stated the Cain Center item will appear on the April 22, 2019 City Council agenda for further discussion.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 22nd DAY OF APRIL, 2019.

Monte Montgomery, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonnie Hambrick, City Secretary