

Council Work Session

July 21, 2015

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 5:00pm.

Invocation given by Councilman Nichols

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Harley

Welcome extended to all by Mayor Harley

Present were Mayor John R. Harley, Councilman Cameron W. Andrews, Councilman Randall Wright, Councilman J. Micheal Evans, Councilman Jonathan Nichols and City Attorney Tydings.

Public Comments

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Resolution: Planning and Zoning Commission Appointment – Michelle Kopsick-Members Term Amendments: Director of Operations Brumfield reported that he has spoken with Mrs. Kopsick and she is willing to serve a 4 year term. There is a new law that requires 4 year terms for each member and they have to be staggered.

Motion made by Councilman Wright to approve and appoint Michelle Kopsick; seconded by Councilman Nichols. Motion carried. See Resolution 2015-9.

Authorization – Signature Approval of Lease Supplement with GMA to Finance Police Fleet: City Accountant Carol Harrison reported that the Mayor and Council approved the lease supplement with GMA at June 16, 2015 work session. A copy of lease provided to Mayor and Council in their packets- 4 year term at 1.73 interest rate; seeking authorization and designation of Mayor as signatory on lease. Motion to approve made by Councilman Nichols; seconded by Councilman Andrews. City Attorney Tydings stated this is a lease purchase agreement. Motion carried

Points of Information: Director of Police Services- Edward Tucker

1. Vehicle Date Completion-Tentative: Working with Brannen Ford possibly August 2015.
2. Striping of Tahoes: The font needed to be bigger on the doors of the Tahoes.
3. Uniform Suggestions: Current uniforms are dated and worn; something more tactical; 5/11 makes a great uniform, will take the current uniform and make it a dress uniform for court. The 5/11 tactical uniform will be more practical for the officers to do daily jobs. Cost effective \$62 per uniform vs \$84 with current. Trying to improve/ retention/ want officers to have input. Funding is currently in FY 2015-2016 budget \$3080 cost, the budget line item is \$10,000 well within constraints. Not seeking approval, waiting for

a sample uniform and will bring it before the Mayor and Council at the August work session.

4. Possible Take Home Allowance of Vehicles: 12 patrolman and 1 commander; 3 of Tahoes are designated for command staff. ET would give up his Tahoe and look at alternative-Crown Vic.
5. Purchase of Additional Used Crown Victoria: Looking at 4 crown vics (Director Tucker, 2 investigators and Code Enforcement); unmarked with lights. This would allow the staff to do their jobs a little better. Why? Currently the vehicles are “hot seat”; continuously on the road. If approved can now hold the officers responsible for their assigned vehicle. Funds are available in the budget. Officer morale is at all-time low right now; shows support and appreciate what they do. If there was an emergency, he would have 15 responders and this can be crucial. This would be a privilege. Please consider recommendation. Will get hard numbers from Brannen Ford and bring back to Council for consideration.

Councilman Andrews, stated that the city would have to develop a take home policy. Director Tucker suggested 30 mile radius for the take home policy.

Director Tucker met with Houston County- NAACP- Ruthie Jackson. The Police Department will do any and everything to support this organization. Director Tucker has known her for many years. Wants Police Department to be a part of all NAACP events. Their slogan-“Unity & Community”. Have to change perception of how the community/ world views law enforcement.

Council Comments

Post 4 Councilman Nichols, very grateful that he has had the opportunity to meet, talk and listen to the employees of the Police Department. There is a great group of individuals that work there and appreciates their input. Thanked the Police Department for the opportunity.

Mayor Harley reported that when personnel are hired the city follows the legal advice from City Attorney Tydings, city charter, state and federal laws. Have to realize that the Mayor and Council will do the best for the city.

Executive Session-Future Acquisition of Land and Personnel Matters: Councilman Wright made motion to enter into executive session at 5:34pm; seconded by Councilman Evans. Motion carried.

Meeting reconvened at 6:30pm. Motion to reconvene by Councilman Nichols; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Affidavit & Resolution-City Attorney Tydings read resolution. Motion made by Councilman Nichols to approve resolution as written; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried. Affidavit executed by Mayor Harley and notarized by City Clerk Bedingfield. Affidavit & Resolution attached and made part of official minutes.

Pay Adjustment Director of Operations & City Attorney: Councilman Wright made motion the following employees: Director of Operations Mike Brumfield, City Attorney Rebecca Tydings, and City Accountant Carol Harrison an additional of 1% increase in basic pay above the 3%; granted earlier retroactive back to the last pay period; seconded by Councilman Andrews.

Expenditure will be paid from Water Sewer Fund (Director of Operations Brumfield) & General Fund Contingency (City Accountant Harrison & City Attorney Tydings). Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 6:35pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date