

Regular Council Meeting

September 1, 2020

Meeting called to order by Mayor Harley at 7:00pm.

Invocation given by Mayor Harley.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Wright.

Welcome Extended to all by Mayor Harley.

Present were Mayor John Harley, Councilman Cameron Andrews, Councilman Justin Wright, Councilman J. Micheal Evans, City Attorney Rebecca Tydings. Absent Councilman Edward Armijo.

Public Comments

None

Adoption of Minutes - Motion made by Councilman Andrews to adopt both sets of minutes as written; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

- August 4, 2020
- August 18, 2020 Council Work Session

Old Business

None

New Business

Approval-Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Addendum-Vision Insurance Participation Agreement: Councilman Evans made motion to approve; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Home Based Business-Rags to Riches (owner: Tangeneka Desouza, 617 Collins Ave Lot 5): Councilman Evans made motion to approve; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried.

Windstream Agreement for Center Park at Centerville: Councilman Evans stated he was really excited as we move forward on Center Park. Staff has worked diligently to find a wi-fi option that is more reasonable in cost. Councilman Evans recognized Director Hogan. Mrs. Hogan stated that a great amenity for citizens and visitors is to provide free 1G Wi-Fi to the park. Director Hogan feels that this is very important. IT Specialist Larry Whitney has been very crucial during this process, making sure to find the best plan for the park. Director Hogan thanked Mayor and Council for bringing on in-house IT personnel. Councilman Evans made a motion to approve moving forward with the agreement contingent on Windstream's agreement with changes/revisions suggested by City Attorney Tydings; seconded by Councilman Andrews.

Mrs. Hogan reported that the City also reached out to Cox about providing this Wi-Fi service. After two months, Cox provided a quote for 200MB, although the City indicated that we wanted

1 GB. In talking with Windstream and ICB, the City's IT Specialist, Mr. Whitney, stated he was confident that Centerville could cut some cost and own its own Wi-Fi, which he could install in December and be up and running. Councilman Wright mentioned concerns re: Windstream related to issues that held up the Church Street road project. Director Hogan and Director Brumfield indicated that those issues had been resolved and had no bearing on the Wi-Fi matter.

Mayor Harley called for question. Motion carried.

Adoption Ordinance 2020 Millage Rate: Mayor Harley recognized City Accountant Harrison who stated that the Ordinance proposes adoption of the 11.944 roll back slight, which amounts to a decrease for property taxes. The advertisement with the 5 year levy was placed in Houston Home Journal as required by law. Attached to the Ordinance is the PT 32.1 form used to calculate the rollback rate. The City will need to check the box stating that an ordinance has been adopted. Motion made by Councilman Wright; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried. See Ordinance 2020-6.

Councilman Wright stated that he remains excited about department heads being good stewards of finances. We can cover our operating costs and provide services - thanked everyone for their hard work in putting us in the position to adopt the roll back rate.

Approval Prepayment of Synovus Loan-Fire Station: Councilman Evans stated that department heads are working hard to find ways to be able to save the citizens some money. Councilman Evans recognized City Accountant Harrison, who explained that when the City went into the bidding process of the fire station, one of the favorable terms offered by Synovus was the ability to pre-pay without penalty. Currently, the City is in a situation where it has some SPLOST money which is in a low-interest rate earning savings account. Pre-paying a portion of the Fire Station project loan would be more cost effective than leaving the amount in the savings account. Tonight Councilman Evans is presenting City Accountant Harrison's recommendation to exercise the pre-payment option and amend SPLOST budget accordingly. Motion seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried. Councilman Evans recognized City Accountant Harrison for staying on top of this and City Attorney Tydings for their hard work and good team work.

Motion made by Councilman Evans to add item to agenda Reinstate merit raises; seconded by Councilman Andrews.

Reinstate Merit Raises: City Accountant Harrison stated that the Mayor had come to her and asked her to provide an estimate of the cost to reinstate merit increases for the 2020-2021 budget year. The estimate was based on providing merit increases for those due a raise as of July 1. Motion to approve Councilman Andrews; seconded by Councilman Wright. Motion carried. City Accountant confirmed the City has received Cares Act funding. Employees who were due merit increases in July, August would see the raise in the next pay period. Motion carried. Mayor thanked the employees. Councilman Wright wanted to state it's very rare to see where taxes are lowered and raises are reinstated at the same time which is a testament to how everyone handles finances in the City.

Comments from Council

Post 1 Councilman Andrews, no comment.

Post 2, Councilman Wright, no comment.

Post 3, Councilman Evans, no comment.

Executive Session Personnel Matters: Mayor Harley called for motion. Motion made by Councilman Evans to enter into executive session at 7:27pm; seconded by Councilman Andrews. Motion carried.

Affidavit & Resolution: City Attorney Tydings read resolution. Motion made by Councilman Andrews to approve; seconded by Councilman Evans. Motion carried. Affidavit executed by Mayor Harley and notarized by City Clerk Bedingfield. Affidavit & Resolution attached and made part of official minutes.

Mayor Harley adjourned meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

Mayor John R. Harley

Attest by City Clerk Krista Bedingfield

Date