

## Regular Council Meeting

February 4, 2025

Meeting called to order by Mayor Pro Tem J. Micheal Evans at 6pm

Invocation led by Mayor Pro Tem J. Micheal Evans

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Justin Wright

Welcome Extended to all by Mayor Pro Tem J. Micheal Evans

Present were Mayor Pro Tem J. Micheal Evans, Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr., Councilman Justin Wright, Councilman Edward Armijo, and City Attorney Rebecca Tydings; absent from meeting City Administrator Krista Bedingfield.

### Public Comments

Recognition was given to former councilman Randall Wright, who was present.

No public comments were made.

Adoption of Minutes: Motion made by Councilman Justin Wright to adopt both sets of minutes as written; seconded by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. Motion carried. Unanimous.

- January 7, 2025
- January 28, 2025 Council Work Session

### Old Business

- There is no old business tonight.

### New Business

Presentation- Dedication and Service Certificate (Randall Wright): Some participants were unable to attend tonight's meeting and it was recommended to table to a later read. Motion made by Councilman Justin Wright to table; seconded by Councilman Edward Armijo. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Discussion- Recycling Center: Mayor Pro Tem J. Micheal Evans opened the discussion regarding a grant the city received to relocate and improve the Recycle Center; as well as taking a moment to acknowledge the employees that work at the center, including Mr. Randall Wright. Mr. Wright resigned from his part-time position effectively February 4, 2025. Discussions have been had about various ways to move forward, including the mention of suspending operations for a period of time, until the Recycle Center can be relocated and operational. Councilman Robert Bird asked for a timeline of when the city would close the Recycle Center, and determined that it was too soon to close. Councilman Edward Armijo expressed the importance of the Recycle Center to our community, therefore requested the city hold off on closing the current location and allow work to continue until the city was ready to shut down and relocate. Mayor Pro Tem J. Micheal Evans explained that the minimum number of personnel needed to staff the Recycle Center would be two employees. Councilman Bird acknowledged that the city has policies in place regarding staffing, and the Governing Authority should talk about this more at a later time, since there are some personnel concerns. Councilman Edward Armijo expressed his opinion that the center has adequate staff, and that the recycle center pays for itself, no city funds are used. Councilman Justin Wright inquired about liability waivers for volunteers. Mayor Pro Tem J. Micheal Evans explained that the staff are paid as part time employees, but was unsure what the liability issues would be regarding any volunteers. Councilman Robert Bird feels it is premature to close the recycling center, nor should any decisions regarding staffing be made at this time. Motion made by Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. to table item until further instruction; seconded by Councilman Edward Armijo. Motion carried. Unanimous.

Discussion Moratorium Zoning and Annexation Matters: City Attorney Rebecca Tydings introduced a resolution for approval by the council, which would allow for a temporary halt on the acceptance of applications for zoning and annexation, as well as, on rezoning variances. Due to the lack of a quorum, beginning in early April and lasting until June 24, 2025. It would not be in the interest of the city to have an application be submitted and granted by the other boards, without the Governing Authority having the capability of reviewing and acting on those applications themselves. Mrs. Tydings recommended that a temporary moratorium be put in place, set to begin Saturday, February 8, 2025 through sunset on Monday, June 23, 2025. Councilman Justin Wright asked the community to not be alarmed with the language of this resolution, and assured everyone that this would only be temporary. Mrs. Tydings confirmed that the resolution is narrow in scope. Motion made by Councilman Justin Wright to grant the temporary moratorium as written; seconded by Councilman Edward Armijo. Motion carried. Unanimous. (Resolution 2025-7)

Approval FY 2026 Budget Calendar and Appoint Budget Sub-Committee: Councilman Justin Wright presented the 2026 budget preparation calendar, noting that this is the same framework used every year with just the appropriate dates in place for the 2026 year. Councilman Justin Wright mentioned two key dates; the first public hearing set for June 24<sup>th</sup>, with the final adoption set for July 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilman Wright requested the appointment of Councilman Edward Armijo and Councilman Robert D. Bird, Jr. for the 2026 budget committee. Motion made by Councilman Justin Wright to approve budget calendar and appoint Councilman Armijo and Councilman Bird as the budget committee; seconded by Councilman Edward Armijo. Motion carried. Unanimous.

#### Comments from Council

Post 1- Councilman Bird thanked all city employees and offered his appreciate to citizens for attending the meetings.

Post 2- Councilman Wright announced that since the snow last week, Lowes Home Improvement is offering a sale on heaters.

Post 4- Councilman Armijo expressed gratitude to Utility Superintendent Chris Coleman, the utilities staff and City Administrator Krista Bedingfield for their efficiency and responsiveness in addressing road repair concerns.

Post 3- Councilman Evans highlighted the effectiveness of public safety measures, mentioning a recent case that was resolved with the help technology. Thanks to the use of the county's surveillance system, known as FLOCK cameras, which are located in the city, the individual was identified and warrants have been issued for an impending arrest. Councilman Evans concluded by thanking participants for their attendance and engagement.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Micheal Evans adjourned meeting at 6:21pm

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Mayor Pro-Tem J. Micheal Evans

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Attest by City Clerk Lee Siefert

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Date