

**MINUTES FROM THE HUNTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY 2020, IN THE CITY HALL, LOCATED AT 1212 AVENUE M, IN THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, COUNTY OF WALKER, TEXAS, AT 6:00 P.M.**

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**The Council met in a regular session with the following:**

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:** Daiquiri Beebe, Blake Irving, Russell Humphrey, Dee Howard Mullins, Bert Lyle, Joe P. Rodriguez, Andy Brauning, Clyde D. Loll

**COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT:** Mari Montgomery

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Aron Kulhavy, City Manager; Brenda Poe, City Secretary; Leonard Schneider, City Attorney

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**MAIN SESSION [6:00 P.M.]**

**CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Brauning called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGES**

*U.S. Flag and Texas Flag: Honor the Texas Flag. I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state, under God, one, and indivisible.*

Councilmember Blake Irving gave the invocation and Mayor Brauning led the pledges.

**PROCLAMATION –** Mayor Brauning presented a proclamation for Huntsville’s 185 birthday to the Walker County Historical Society.

**PRESENTATION –** Mayor Brauning recognized Police Chief Kevin Lunsford’s recent award of Lifetime Achievement Award from the 100 Club.

**1. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Public Comments will be called for by the presiding officer before action is taken on these items. (Approval of Consent Agenda authorizes the City Manager to implement each item in accordance with staff recommendations. An item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Statutory Agenda for full discussion by request of a member of Council.)**

- a. **Approve the minutes of the City Council meeting held on June 16, 2020. [Brenda Poe, City Secretary]**
- b. **Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract for the rehabilitation of sanitary sewer manholes in the RC-04 Basin, a sub-basin of the Robinson Creek Watershed – Project No. 20-10-07. [Y. S. “Ram” Ramachandra, City Engineer]**

Councilmember Loll made a motion to approve the consent agenda; the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez. The motion was adopted, 8-0.

**2. CITY COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY**

- a. **FIRST READING - Consider Ordinance 2020-30 for the proposed dis-annexation of approximately 147.33 acres located on the east side of FM 1791, near the intersection of SH 30 and FM 1791, and known as “Area G.2,” first reading. [Aron Kulhavy, City Manager]**

Councilmember Beebe made a motion to suspend the two reading requirements of section 4.12 of the Charter and approve Ordinance 2020-30 for the dis-annexation of approximately 147.33 acres located on the east side of FM 1791, near the intersection of SH 30 and FM 1791, and known as “Parcel 15” in the attached exhibit; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Loll; The motion was adopted, 8-0. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-30 for the dis-annexation of approximately 147.33 acres located on the east side of FM 1791, near the intersection of SH 30 and FM 1791, and known as “Parcel 15” in the attached exhibit; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Beebe. The motion was adopted, 8-0.

- b. **Presentation on the preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021, including updates to major funds and how the new budget compares to Fiscal Year 2019-20.**

Finance Director Steve Ritter presented a slideshow featuring the proposed budget in early stage.

City Attorney advised Council to consider moving to 6a due to outside legal counsel. The Council adjourned to Executive Session for 6a at 6:37 p.m. Council reconvened at 7:07 p.m. and took action listed in 6a before resuming at 3a.

### **3. REQUESTS FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

**An opportunity for citizens to be heard on any topic and for the City Council to participate in the discussion. No action will be taken.**

- a. Allan Rushing would like to discuss corrupt HPD officers.

Rushing addressed issues with HPD that his late wife experienced.

- b. Jason Copes would like to introduce the Community Peace Coalition.

Copes presented a slideshow detailing the mission and objections of the Community Peace Coalition.

- c. Jason January would like to speak to the council about the fact that his retirement insurance was not given to him.

January did not attend the meeting.

### **4. MEDIA INQUIRIES RELATED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

None

### **5. ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**

**(Hear announcements concerning items of community interest from the Mayor, Councilmembers, and City staff, for which no action will be discussed or taken.)**

The Mayor announced the Walker County Office of Emergency Management is supporting the Texas Department of Emergency Management and the military operating the Mobile COVID-19 Test Collection site from 9 am to 6 pm tomorrow, July 8, at the Walker County Fairgrounds. You do not have to be symptomatic to test, however you must register at [txcovidtest.org](https://txcovidtest.org) or call 512-883-2400. A valid ID is required at check-in. Please do your part #HomeSweetHuntsville to slow the spread of this virus.

Councilmember Rodriquez invited the public to the City of Huntsville Parks and Leisure Department's Carpool Cinema featuring the new movie, ALADDIN, on Friday, July 17, at Kate Barr Ross Park, in field 6 parking lot. Showing starts at 9 p.m. and citizens are asked to stay inside their vehicles to practice social distancing. Please bring your own snacks and popcorn! For more information, call 936-294-5721 or [kwheeler@huntsvilletx.gov](mailto:kwheeler@huntsvilletx.gov).

Councilmember Loll reminded citizens to escape the big box stores and head to the Huntsville Downtown Farmers Market for fresh produce and artisan goods. Happening every Saturday beginning May 23 through July from 8 am to Noon, on University Avenue near Rather Park. For more information, call 936-291-5920 or [mainstreet@huntsvilletx.gov](mailto:mainstreet@huntsvilletx.gov).

Councilmember Humphrey spoke about the Democratic Runoff that begins with early voting from 8am – 5pm through July 10th at Walker County Annex. Election day will be 7 am to 7 pm at the Walker County Annex. There is No Republican Runoff. The City of Huntsville will begin taking applications for the four at-

large City Council positions on Monday, July 20th, for the November 3, 2020 Election. For more information, contact City Secretary Brenda Poe at 936-291-5413 or [citysecretary@huntsvilletx.gov](mailto:citysecretary@huntsvilletx.gov).

Councilmember Lyle encouraged citizens to look at registering for the National Night Out. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, organizers of the National Night Out campaign are strongly recommending that all National Night Out 2020 areas celebrate on October 6th, the first Tuesday in October. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. The state of Texas and select areas celebrate the first Tuesday in October. Find out how to register your neighborhood at [natw.org](http://natw.org).

Mayor Brauningering also spoke about the Fireworks show held July 4<sup>th</sup> and thanked the City Manager for making it happen.

## **6. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a. **City Council will convene in closed session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, 551.071 to receive legal advice on the annexation of Area E and the annexation of areas "A" thru "G" and lawsuits filed in Cause No. 1929442, Billingsley, et al v City of Huntsville, regarding said annexation. [Leonard Schneider, City Attorney]**

Council addressed item 6a, due to outside legal counsel at 6:37 p.m. Council reconvened at 7:07 p.m. See item 9a for Council action.

- b. **City Council will convene in closed session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, 551.072 – deliberation regarding purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property – Raven’s Nest Golf Course.**

The Council adjourned to Executive Session for 6b and 9a at 7:44 p.m.

## **8. CITY COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY continued**

- a. **Consideration, discussion and possible action to approve settlement agreement with Plaintiffs Danny L Billingsley, Ragna Lynn Billingsley, GOAB Investments, LP, Champe W. Miller, Champe W. Miller Corporation, Perry and Eloise Little Living Trust, J.L. Gaut, Over & Under Properties, LLC, FM 1791, LLC and Thomas R. Cole, Jr. in Cause No. 1929442, Billingsley, et al v City of Huntsville.**

Councilmember Loll made a motion to accept the settlement agreements with plaintiffs Danny L Billingsley, Ragna Lynn Billingsley, GOAB Investments LP and Thomas R Cole Jr; the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriquez. The motion was adopted, 8-0. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriquez mad a motion to approve the final settle agreement with Champe W. Miller Corporation, Champe W. Miller, Perry and Eloise Little Living Trust, J.L. Gaut; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Beebe. The motion was adopted, 8-0.

## **9. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a. **City Council will convene in closed session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, 551.074 – personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of the City Manager.**

The Council reconvened at 9:18 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriquez made a motion to renew the City Manager’s contract with a \$5,000 raise per year; the motion was seconded by Beebe. The motion was adopted, 8-0.

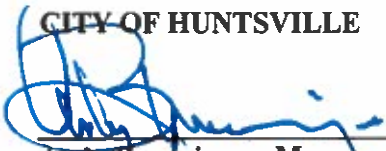
## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Brauningering adjourned the meeting without objection at 9:18 p.m.

Brenda Poe, City Secretary

ATTEST:

  
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Brenda Poe, City Secretary

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andy Brauninger, Mayor