

MINUTES FROM THE HUNTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE 1ST DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2020, IN THE CITY HALL, LOCATED AT 1212 AVENUE M, IN THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, COUNTY OF WALKER, TEXAS, AT 6:00 P.M.

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, Mari Montgomery

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: None

OFFICERS PRESENT: Brenda Poe, City Secretary; Leonard Schneider, City Attorney

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 Mullins gave the invocation and Mayor Brauning led the pledges.

PROCLAMATION –

- Huntsville Texas Pride Day
- Emergency Preparedness Month.

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 August 18 and 25, 2020. [Brenda Poe, City Secretary]
- b. Consider authorizing the City Manager to execute Amendment B to the agreement with RPS Infrastructure, Inc. for professional engineering services for IH-45 Segment 2A Utility Relocation Design Project #18-03-01. [Y.S. “Ram” Ramachandra, City Engineer]

Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez made a motion to approve the consent agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Loll. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

2. STATUTORY AGENDA

- a. Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Kendig Keast Collaborative for the update of the Huntsville Horizon Comprehensive Plan. [Kevin Byal, Director of Development Services/Building Official]

Councilmember Beebe made a motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Kendig Keast Collaborative for the update of the Huntsville Horizon Comprehensive Plan in the amount of \$175,000; the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

- b. Consider the award of a fiber optic line installation project to Network Cabling Services, Inc (NCS) for the installation of conduit and fiber optic line from Smith Hill Road to the new Police Station building on FM 2821. [Bill Wavra, IT Director, and Y.S. “Ram” Ramachandra, City Engineer]

Councilmember Howard made a motion to award the fiber installation project to Network Cabling Services, Inc. (NCS) in the amount of \$120,601.48 for the installation of conduit and fiber from Smith

Hill Road to the new Police Station building on FM 2821; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Beebe and Irving. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

3. CITY COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY

- a. **Consider approving nominees for City boards, committees, and commissions. [Andy Brauninger, Mayor]**

The Mayor moved his nominations as presented. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

Huntsville Cemetery Advisory Board – James Patton, Joe Boaz, and Donna Coffen	Huntsville Housing Authority – Sally Dowis and Vera Demman, Resident Commissioner
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Nelson Amaya, Debra Jones, & George Perry	Planning Commission – Woody Woods, Jr.
Board of Adjustments – Cheryl Reader and David Zuniga	Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) Board – Deanna Hightower and Heather Robbins
Main Street Advisory Board – Sandra Gray and Cheryl Spencer	Walker County Public Safety Communications Center - Craig Schlicher

- b. **Consider approving Decision Packages for the 2020-21 Budget and discussion of adoption process. [Steve Ritter, Finance Director]**

Councilmember Montgomery made a motion to approve the Decision Packages listed as items 3b (1-6) on the City Council agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Lyle. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

4. 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.

Mayor Brauninger allowed Armatus Reintegration Program Rick and Kris Pritchard to present about local efforts to rehabilitate incarcerated veterans.

5. MEDIA INQUIRIES RELATED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

None

6. 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 talked about Home Sweet Huntsville. when everybody counts, everybody wins. Register to vote by October 5th. Complete your 2020 Census online or by mail to avoid the knock on your door. Funding for the City is based on the Census. We need you to be counted.

Councilmember Montgomery announced the City of Huntsville, Walker County, Huntsville Memorial Hospital & the Walker County Hospital District have joined together to offer residents FREE drive-thru COVID testing MON-FRI 4-8pm & SAT-SUN 8am-noon at 125 Medical Park Drive. Registration requested but not required by calling 936-293-4619.

Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez reminded citizens that the Cleaner, Greener Huntsville is back with the quarterly free dumpsters being place on Sept. 14 at 7 a.m. and being available to the residents of the City under 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19. Please remember to follow the rules and place all trash inside the dumpster. For more information, call 936-294-5712.

Councilmember Lyle spoke about the annual Electronics Recycling Day will take place from 9 am to noon

Saturday, Sept. 12 at the Recycling Center located at 590 Interstate 45 North. For a full list of items accepted, please visit HuntsvilleTX.gov or find the event information on our Facebook page.

Councilmember Beebe introduced a new video to promote tourism in Huntsville. While travel has been down due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Economic Development Department has been working with a local production company to reintroduce Huntsville as a travel destination. The video showcases historic downtown, Sam Houston State University, family-friendly annual events, cultural arts and museums, and outdoor activities. It also features the Sam Houston Wine Trail, a new tourist attraction that includes wineries in Huntsville and Walker County. The Economic Development Department will utilize the video for online marketing, face-to-face marketing at the Visitor's Center, and even feature clips at future Sam Houston State athletic events as we continue to put Huntsville First.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. **City Council will convene in closed session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Section 551.074 – personnel matters regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee, concerning City Secretary Brenda Poe.**

The Council convened into Executive Session at 7:09 p.m.

8. RECONVENE

The Council reconvened at 8:03 p.m. Councilmember Beebe made a motion to authorize the City Secretary to hire a Deputy City Secretary and to amend the contract to receive a market adjustment on January 1, 2021; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Irving and Lyle. The motion carried, 9-0.

ADJOURNMENT

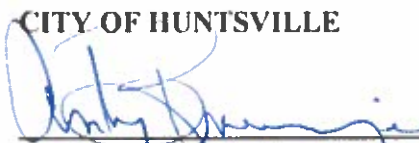
Mayor Brauninger adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:04 pm

Brenda Poe, City Secretary

ATTEST:



Brenda Poe, City Secretary

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE


Andy Brauninger, Mayor