

Minutes of the City of Harker Heights Council Meeting that was called to order on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at 5:00 p.m., in the Kitty Young Council Chamber at the Harker Heights City Hall at 305 Miller's Crossing, Harker Heights, Texas 76548, with the following members present:

ROLL CALL: Mayor Spencer H Smith
Councilmember Michael Blomquist
Councilmember Tony Canterino
Councilmember Sam Halabi

City Manager David Mitchell
Assistant City Secretary Ursula Paddie

EXCUSED: Mayor Pro Tem Jennifer McCann
Councilmember Lynda Nash
City Secretary Julie Helsham

MAYORAL PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS:

1. Council was presented with a Purple Heart Coin and Purple Heart Parking Sign for the City, from Tracy Brown Green, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Commander of Chapter 1876 and Texas Department Commander, and John Footman, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Senior Vice of Chapter 1876 and Texas Department Senior Vice.
2. Mayor Smith presented Jeff Achee, Parks and Recreation Director, Parks and Recreation Staff members and Parks Advisory Board members, a Proclamation declaring July 2022 as "Parks and Recreation Month" and July 15, 2022, as "Parks and Recreation Professionals Day".

CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Council discussed and considered approving the minutes of the meeting held on June 14, 2022.

Councilmember Blomquist made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 14, 2022 as written. Councilmember Halabi seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

INITIATIVE PETITION:

1. Council received the City Secretary's examination and Certification of Initiative Petition relating to elimination of Low-level Marijuana Enforcement and possible discussion relating thereof; Read proposed Initiative Ordinance; discussion and possible action regarding setting of date for a Public Hearing and Council consideration of Initiative Ordinance. David Mitchell, City Manager, and Charlie Olson, City Attorney, made the presentation.

The following citizens gave a presentation regarding the Initiative Petition:
Stacey Wilson, 2401 Creek Drive, Harker Heights, Texas 76548
Dr. Eddie West, 3203 Eagle Ridge, Harker Heights, Texas 76548
Kayren Gray, 813 Snow Bird Drive, Harker Heights, Texas 76548
Charles Wilson, 2401 Creek Drive, Harker Heights, Texas 76548

Councilmember Canterino made a motion to set a Public Hearing on the Initiative Petition proposed Ordinance for July 26, 2022. Councilmember Blomquist seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

REPORTS OF ADVISORY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:

1. Council received and discussed a presentation regarding an annual update on the Library Board activities in 2021. Barbara Kelly, Library Board Chairperson, made the presentation. No action taken.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Council conducted a Public Hearing to discuss and consider approving an Amendment to §155.0221 R1-I (Single Family Infill Dwelling District) of the Harker Heights Code of Ordinances to allow for Incentives; providing for an effective date of the Amendment. Kristina Ramirez, Planning and Development Director, made the presentation.

Councilmember Blomquist made a motion to approve an Amendment to §155.0221 R1-I (Single Family Infill Dwelling District) of the Harker Heights Code of Ordinances to allow for incentives based upon staff's recommendation and findings. Councilmember Halabi seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

2. Council conducted a Public Hearing to discuss and consider approving an Amendment to §155.0231 R2-I (Two Family Infill Dwelling District) of the Harker Heights Code of Ordinances to allow for Incentives; providing for an effective date of the Amendment. Kristina Ramirez, Planning and Development Director, made the presentation.

Councilmember Canterino made a motion to approve an Amendment to §155.0231 R2-I (Two Family Infill Dwelling District) of the Harker Heights Code of Ordinances to allow for incentives based upon staff's recommendation and findings. Councilmember Blomquist seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Council discussed and considered approving a request for Alcohol Services for the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Music Friendly Event scheduled for July 22, 2022, at the Carl Levin Park Amphitheater. Jeff Achee, Parks and Recreation Director, made the presentation.

Councilmember Halabi made a motion to approve a request for alcohol services for the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Music Friendly event at the Carl Levin Park Amphitheater for July 22, 2022. Councilmember Canterino seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

2. Council received and discussed the City Manager's Report. David Mitchell, City Manager, made the presentation. No action taken.

ITEMS FROM COUNCIL AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Councilmember closing statements.

Councilmember Blomquist stated that he attended the following events:

- June 18th – Harker Heights Farmers’ Market.
- June 21st – Harker Heights Employee Recognition Ceremony at the Harker Heights Activities Center.

Councilmember Blomquist stated the he was unable to attend the following events due to be away on business:

- June 23rd – Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Lunch Bunch at Bobby Lupos.
- June 25th - Harker Heights Farmers’ Market.

Councilmember Canterino stated that he attended the following events:

- June 21st - The Central Texas Council of Governments class for Newly Elected Officials.
- June 25th – His 4th consecutive visit to the Harker Heights Farmers’ Market with his dog Dutch.
- June 27th – Meeting with Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce President Gina Pence regarding an intern program with Central Texas College.
- Councilmember Canterino stated that every Tuesday night he either fishes or helps out as a scale worker, weighing the catch from teams who fish the “Tightlines Tuesday Night 3x9 Bass Tournament”.
- Canterino stated that he got his first adult Library card on June 21st.

2. Update and announcements from the Mayor.

Mayor Smith stated that he attended the following events:

- June 15th – Harker Heights City Hall meeting with City Staff.
- June 18th - Harker Heights Farmers’ Market.
- June 21st – Delivered presentation at the CTCOG Belton to Newly Elected Officials Class.
- June 21st – Harker Heights Employee Recognition Gathering at the Harker Heights Activities Center.
- June 22nd – Fort Hood Community Services Council Meeting at the Lone Star Conference Center.
- June 25th - Harker Heights Farmers’ Market.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:11 p.m. the Mayor announced a closed meeting for the following purposes:

1. Pursuant to the following designated section of the Texas Government Code, Annotated, Chapter 551, the Council may convene into executive session to discuss the following:
 - (A) Section 551.074 Personnel – Discuss and deliberate the employment, evaluation and duties of the City Manager.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN MEETING:

Mayor Smith reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:35 p.m.

1. Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session.

Councilmember Halabi made a motion to extend the contract for the City Manager with the following changes:

1. Extend contract for an additional two (2) years.
2. 5% Salary increase.
3. Increase City contribution to deferred compensation by \$10,500.00.
4. Increase the retention incentive by \$20,000.00.

Councilmember Canterino seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the City of Harker Heights City Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

CITY OF HARKER HEIGHTS, TEXAS:

Spencer H. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Julie Helsham, City Secretary