

Minutes of the of the City Council meeting held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23, 2021, by a telephonic meeting to contain the spread of COVID-19 in accordance with Governor Abbott's declaration of the COVID-19 public health threat and action to temporarily suspend certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act issued on March 16, 2020:

Roll Call:	Spencer H. Smith	Mayor
	Michael Blomquist	Mayor Pro-tem
	Jennifer McCann	Councilmember Place 1
	Jackeline Soriano Fountain	Councilmember Place 3
	Lynda Nash	Councilmember Place 4
	Jody Nicholas	Councilmember Place 5
	David Mitchell	City Manager
	Julie Helsham	City Secretary

Mayoral Proclamations and Presentations:

1. Mayor Smith presented a Certificate of Appreciation to VFW Post 3892 Commander Willie Keller, Senior Vice Commander Jimmie Surles, Junior Vice Commander Warren Close, and Auxiliary President, Pamela Duncan, Auxiliary Chaplain Michelle Booker, and Auxiliary member Ana-Luisa Tapia, in recognition of the assistance they provided to the citizens of Harker Heights, Texas, during the February 2021 Severe Winter Storm event.
2. Mayor Smith recognized Assistant City Manager Jerry Bark for receiving the Dan Whitworth Fellow Award, the highest honor the Texas Recreation and Park Society can bestow.

Consent Items:

1. Council discussed and considered approving the minutes of the meeting held on March 9, 2021. McCann made the motion to approve as written. Seconded by Nicholas. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
2. Council discussed and considered approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, amending Ordinance 2020-06 of the Harker Heights Code to extend the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration through May 3, 2021. Blomquist made the motion to approve. Seconded by Fountain. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
3. Council discussed and considered approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, amending Ordinance 2021-08 of the Harker Heights Code to extend the Winter Storm State of Disaster Emergency Declaration through April 30, 2021. McCann made the motion to approve. Seconded by Fountain. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
4. Council discussed and considered approving the Appointment of Steve Moody as Presiding Election Judge and Patricia Darnell as Alternate Judge for the May 01, 2021, Joint Harker Heights Municipal Election with Killeen Independent School District. Nash made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nicholas. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
5. Council discussed and considered approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, amending Ordinance 2010-33, Section 34.04 of the Harker Heights Code to modify the designation of the Records Management Officer within Chapter 34 of the Harker Heights Code of Ordinances. Fountain made the motion to approve. Seconded by Blomquist. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

New Business:

1. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, authorizing continued participation with the Steering Committee of Cities Served by Oncor; and authorizing the payment of six cents Per Capita to the Steering Committee to fund Regulatory and Legal Proceedings and activities related to Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC. Ayesha Lealiiee, Finance Director, made the presentation. Nicholas made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
2. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, authorizing the City Manager to sign the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Temple, Texas, for the use of a decommissioned Temple Fire Engine. Paul Sims, Fire Chief, made the presentation. McCann made the motion to approve. Seconded by Blomquist. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
3. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, awarding a contract for the Central Fire Station Pavement Reconstruction Project in the amount of \$139,270.00 to HCS, Inc Commercial General Contractor; authorize the City Manager to act and sign on behalf of the City. Mark Hyde, Public Works Director, made the presentation. Blomquist made the motion to approve. Seconded by McCann. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
4. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, awarding a contract for the Pinewood Drive Drainage Channel Scour Protection Project in the amount of \$179,926.00 to Myers Concrete Construction, LP; authorize the City Manager to act and sign on behalf of the City. Mark Hyde, Public Works Director, made the presentation. McCann made the motion to approve. Seconded by Fountain. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Items from Council:

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist stated that we are rapidly approaching April 1st which is going to be the last day for submitting Voter Registration Applications in time to vote in the upcoming Municipal and Killeen Independent School District Election. Blomquist urged all citizens that have not registered to vote or need to submit a transfer of registration in time to vote to make sure to get out there to make this deadline of April 1st. Blomquist stated that it is one week closer to the Farmers' Market starting its Grand Opening for this Spring, and he is excited to steal some of the City Manger's thunder to announce that the new location for the Farmers' Market is going to be at the Harker Heights City Hall starting on May 8th.

Councilmember Fountain stated that on Saturday, March 14th she attended with Councilmember Nash the Celebration of Female Veterans at the VFW and it was an excellent event. She visited the Parks and Recreation Center and learned of a program which allows citizens to rent a bag of sport gear to enjoy the outdoors. Fountain stated that she got to attend one of the kid's soccer games and is glad to see the kids playing soccer.

Staff Reports:

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

Announcements:

Councilmember Fountain stated that she got a chance to visit the City landfill. Fountain stated that the City is going through a transition and the landfill personnel were doing a great job. Every container was full this weekend because citizens were taking their trash to the landfill to make sure that they were doing their spring cleanup. Fountain thanked Bob Massey, KDH reporter, for running the articles regarding the new solid waste process for the City and what citizens are supposed to do. Fountain stated there are still residences not doing what they are supposed to do, and the City really needs the citizens help to be able to get the program to run efficiently and be as seamless as possible.

Mayor Smith followed up with the comments made by Councilmember Fountain and stated that a lot of citizens are unaware of the new changes. Mayor Smith stated we have the opportunity to help our neighbors. Most of the citizens are doing it the right way by having the trashcan handle pointed towards their house with the lids down, those are the folks that understand it, and they need to tell their neighbors. That is what the City needs, citizens being neighborly.

Mayor Smith stated that he had a lot of time to reflect while he was away and thought about all the City has gone through with COVID-19 and the Winter Storms and just wanted to read one of his favorite quotes from President Abraham Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address on Saturday, March 4, 1865:

“With malice toward none, and charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan – to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.

Adjournment:

There being no further business the City of Harker Heights City Council Meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

CITY OF HARKER HEIGHTS, TEXAS:

Spencer H. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Julie Helsham, City Secretary