

Minutes of the City of Harker Heights Council Meeting held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, in the Kitty Young Council Chamber at the Harker Heights City Hall at 305 Miller's Crossing, Harker Heights, Texas 76548:

Roll Call:	Spencer H. Smith	Mayor
	Jennifer McCann	Mayor Pro-tem
	Michael Blomquist	Councilmember Place 2
	Jackeline Soriano Fountain	Councilmember Place 3
	Lynda Nash	Councilmember Place 4
	Sam Halabi	Councilmember Place 5
	David Mitchell	City Manager
	Julie Helsham	City Secretary

Consent Items:

1. Council discussed and considered approving the minutes of the meeting held on August 10, 2021.

Blomquist made the motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 10, 2021, with a change to "Public Hearing, Item 6" motion to read as follows: "Fountain made the motion to approve an Ordinance to allow Harker Heights Ceramic Coatings, LLC to conduct a car detailing business in accordance with the June 18, 2021, application as a Home Occupation on Stonewall Ridge Phase II, Lot Four (4), Block Three (3), generally located at 1206 Stonewall Ridge, Harker Heights, Bell County, Texas, based on staff's recommendation and findings".

Seconded by Fountain. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Mayor Smith moved to Item IX. New Business, Number 1.

New Business:

1. Council discussed and considered a Preliminary Ad Valorem Tax Rate, take a Record Vote on the Preliminary Ad Valorem Tax Rate, schedule the Public Hearing. Ayesha Lealiiee, Finance Director, made the presentation.

Blomquist made a motion to place a proposal to adopt the tax rate of \$0.6519 per \$100 valuation on the September 14, 2021, council agenda. The proposed rate cannot exceed \$0.6727 and is the highest rate the City Council will be able to approve at the September 14, 2021, Council Meeting. For the motion to be valid, it must be approved by a "record" vote. Seconded by Halabi. Mayor Smith conducted a record vote. The results are as follows: McCann voted aye, Blomquist voted aye, Fountain voted aye, Nash voted aye & Halabi voted aye. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Nash made the motion to schedule the public hearing for the tax rate for September 14, 2021. Seconded by McCann. Mayor Smith conducted a record vote. The results are as follows: McCann voted aye, Blomquist voted aye, Fountain voted aye, Nash voted aye & Halabi voted aye. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Mayor Smith moved to Item X. Reports of Advisory Boards & Commissions, Number 1.

Reports of Advisory Boards & Commissions:

1. Council received and discussed a presentation by Jack Palmer, Public Safety Commission Chair, regarding an Annual Update on the Public Safety Commission Activities in Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Phil Gadd, Police Chief, and Jack Palmer, Public Safety Commission Chair, made the presentation. No action taken.

Mayor Smith moved back to Item VII. Public Hearings.

Public Hearing:

1. Council conducted a Public Hearing to discuss and consider approving an Amendment to §72.21 Heavy Vehicle Parking Regulations and §155.061 Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements of the Harker Heights Code of Ordinances to add exceptions to clarify the intent of the Ordinance; providing an affirmative defense; and providing for an effective date of the amendments. Kristina Ramirez, Planning and Development Director, made the presentation.

Fountain made the motion to approve an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, Sections §72.21 Heavy Vehicle Parking Regulations and §155.061 Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements of the Harker Heights Code of Ordinances to add exceptions to clarify the intent of the Ordinance; providing an affirmative defense; and providing for an effective date of the amendments, based upon staff's recommendation and findings. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

New Business:

2. Council discussed and considered approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, amending Section 90.01 – Definitions to the Code of Ordinances to add definition of “Community Cat”, “Community Cat Caregiver”, “Ear Tip”, “Shelter-Neuter-Return”, and “Trap-Neuter-Return”; Adding Section 90.34: Permitted Acts; Amending Section 90.36 and 90.60 to authorize a Community Cat Program; providing regulations regarding Trap-Neuter-Return and Shelter-Neuter-Return Program for Community Cats. Gary Bates, I. T. Director, made the presentation.

Nash made the motion to approve an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, amending section 90.01 – definitions to the code of ordinances to add definition of “community cat”, “community cat caregiver”, “ear tip”, “shelter-neuter-return”, and “trap-neuter-return”; adding section 90.34: permitted acts; amending section 90.36 and 90.60 to authorize a community cat program; providing regulations regarding trap-neuter-return and shelter-neuter-return program for community cats. Seconded by McCann. 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 New (Second) Belt Filter Press Project in the amount of \$898,500.00 to Archer Western Construction, LLC. Mark Hyde, Public Works Director, made the presentation.

Blomquist made the motion to approve a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, awarding a contract for the New (Second) Belt Filter Press Project for the Base Bid amount plus Add Alternates 1, 2 and 3 in the amount of \$898,500.00 to Archer Western Construction, LLC. Seconded by Nash. 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 2021 Street Improvement Projects in the amount of \$2,732,271.06 to Lonestar Grading & Materials, LLC. Mark Hyde, Public Works Director, made the presentation.

Halabi made the motion to approve a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, awarding a contract for the 2021 Street Improvement Projects, Parts “A” through “K” in the amount of \$2,732,271.06 to Lonestar Grading & Materials, LLC. Seconded by Blomquist. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

5. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, establishing policies and procedures for Ceremonial Documents. Jerry Bark, Assistant City Manager, made the presentation.

McCann made the motion to approve a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, establishing policies and procedures for ceremonial documents. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

6. Council discussed and considered approving an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, amending Section 30.11, Order of Business, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Harker Heights. David Mitchell, City Manager, made the presentation.

Fountain made the motion to approve an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, amending Section 30.11, Order of Business, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Harker Heights. Seconded by Blomquist. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Staff Reports:

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

Items from Council:

1. Council member closing statements.

Mayor Pro-tem McCann stated that she attended the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting in conjunction with her duties in planning the Food, Wine & Brew Fest, "Cheers to Our Hometown Heroes", that is scheduled for September 11, 2021.

Councilmember Blomquist stated that he attended the following events:

- August 14th – Harker Heights Rotary Fund Drive for the Harker Heights Pet Adoption Center at Petco;
- August 14th – Harker Heights Farmer's Market;
- August 18th – Firewise Community Meeting at the Harker Heights City Hall.

Councilmember Fountain stated that she assisted the Mexican Consulate at the Killeen Lutheran Church and the processed over 200 passports for Latino citizens and assisted with getting them the COVID-19 vaccine.

Councilmember Nash stated that she attended the following events:

- August 3rd – Meeting with the City Manager and Killeen ISD Superintendent Dr. Craft;
- August 4th – Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Meeting;
- August 11th – Hill Country Transit District Meeting;
- August 19th – Harker Heights Zoning Board of Adjustments Meeting;
- August 21st - Innovation Black Chamber of Commerce Gala;
- August 23rd – Meeting with the City of Harker Heights Finance Director.

Announcements:

1. Updates and comments from the Mayor.

Mayor Smith stated that he attended the following events:

- August 13th – Texas Attorney General Representatives Meeting regarding Global Opioids Settlement;
- August 14th – Harker Heights Farmer's Market;
- August 17th – Harker Heights City Council Workshop;
- August 18th – Killeen Tempo Metropolitan Planning Organization and Review (Virtual);
- August 21st – Harker Heights Farmer's Market.

Recess into Executive Session:

1. At 6:35 p.m. the Mayor announced a closed meeting for the following purposes:
 - A) Pursuant to §551.074 of the Texas Government Code to discuss and deliberate the appointment of the Municipal Judge.

Reconvene into Open Session:

Mayor Smith reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:55 p.m.

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

Blomquist made the motion to approve a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, to reappoint Billy Ray Hall, Jr. as the Municipal Court Judge for a term of two (2) years from October 1, 2021, through October 1, 2023, with an increase in base salary of 3%, increase in cell phone stipend to \$100 monthly and to increase the health stipend for Medical Insurance to match the City's contribution for City Employees. Seconded by Fountain. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Adjournment:

There being no further business the City of Harker Heights City Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

CITY OF HARKER HEIGHTS, TEXAS:

Spencer H. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Julie Helsham, City Secretary