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KENNEDALE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING | February 15, 2018
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 405 MUNICIPAL DRIVE
WORK SESSION - 5:00 PM | REGULAR SESSION - 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Jan Joplin called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m.
Mayor Brian Johnson arrived at 5:25 p.m.

II. WORK SESSION

A. Hold interviews of candidates for appointment to City Boards and Commissions

At this time, City Council interviewed Jadey James in the Jury Room.

B. Discussion of items on Regular Session

There was no discussion at this time.

C. Hold a discussion and provide staff direction regarding the development of a policy for the calling of Special Meetings of the City Council and for the identification of items to be included on the Council's Agenda for future consideration

City Manager George Campbell asked for direction from Council so that a policy could be drafted. City Attorney Wayne Olson stated that the Charter provides that a Special Meeting may be called at the request of three Councilmembers, but that because three members constitutes a quorum, Council must be careful to operate in such a way as to avoid violations of the Open Meetings Act. He suggested adopting a policy so that, in time-sensitive situations, Council would have an avenue for calling a Special Meeting outside of discussion during a posted open meeting.

After lengthy discussion, Council requested that Olson draft a policy regarding the calling of Special Meetings and the placement of items on the agenda to be presented to Council at the Monday, March 5 Special Meeting.

D. Discussion of budget amendments

Mayor Pro Tem Jan Joplin stated that she requested this item because during the budget process, there was consideration of cutting several line items that ended up being included in the budget. She requested individual discussion of her proposed cuts and potential adjustments to Fire Department salaries. Council requested that this discussion of specific line item cuts be placed on the next agenda.

E. Discussion of water/sewer rate review/reduction

Councilmember Gilley stated that he believed the Water & Sewer Fund is now healthier than the last time Council had considered an adjustment in Summer 2017, and asked that discussion of the health of the Water & Sewer Fund and what effect rate adjustments might have on that fund be placed on an upcoming agenda.

F. Discussion of Charter amendments

Council discussed the possibility of term limits, single-member districts, and caps on water and wastewater rate increase percentages. Mayor Johnson asked that Council forward their nominations for three members for a Charter Review Committee, which would include himself and Councilmembers Gilley and Lee, with the goal of having proposed Charter amendments on either the November 2018 or May 2019 ballot.

G. Discussion of Purchasing Matrix Amendment

Finance Director Brady Olsen stated that he had surveyed other cities, focusing on those in the region and/or of a similar population. City Manager Campbell pointed out the restrictiveness of limiting staff's power to $10,000 without requiring Council approval. Finance Director Brady Olsen was directed to prepare an updated purchasing matrix and further comparison data for the next meeting.

Council recessed at 6:43 p.m., until the Regular Session.

III. REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Johnson opened the Regular Session at 7:05 p.m.

IV. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Johnson (arrived at 5:25 p.m.); Mayor Pro Tem Joplin, Place 5; Rockie Gilley, Place 1; Liz Carrington, Place 2; Sandra Lee, Place 3; and Kelly Turner, Place 4. **Absent:** None

Staff: *City Manager George Campbell, City Secretary and Communications Coordinator Leslie Galloway, Finance Director Brady Olsen, Fire Chief Mike McMurray, Police Chief Tommy Williams, Public Works Director Larry Ledbetter, Public Works Superintendent Larry Hoover, Library Director Amanda King, City Attorney Wayne Olson*

V. INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem Jan Joplin provided the invocation.

VI. UNITED STATES PLEDGE AND TEXAS PLEDGE

VII. VISITOR/CITIZENS FORUM

No one requested to speak.

VIII. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Updates from the City Council

Councilmember Gilley stated that he spent some time researching the initiative sponsored by Governor Greg Abbott to give citizens the ability to cap property tax rates.

Councilmember Lee thanked the Mayor for inviting her to the Mayor's Council and some other upcoming events. She added that she had spent some time visiting with the NAACP and her attorney.

Mayor Pro Tem Joplin stated that the last Council meeting was adjourned early because, in her opinion, the agenda was not chronological, and that she had since contracted outside counsel to negotiate agenda items for a Special Meeting and was appreciative that those requested items were on tonight's agenda. She stated that she attended the Parks & Recreation Board and Planning and Zoning Commission meeting and learned about several upcoming events and potential developments in the City, and met with the President of the Kennedale Professional Firefighters Association and discussed turnover and the desire for a salary step plan.

Councilmember Turner stated that he had attended several meetings of the Tarrant County Emergency Preparedness Planning Committee and about $1.8 Million would soon be allotted to this area (16 counties) for items including night vision goggles, bomb team training and resources, traffic direction devices, and communication equipment.

B. Updates from the City Manager

City Manager George Campbell stated that water contract discussions with the City of Arlington were ongoing, the site tour was complete, an agreement was being drafted, and plans to repair the water tower had been put on hold as it may not be necessary, depending on negotiations. He added that preliminary discussions had begun with Arlington regarding improvements to Sublett Road and the bridge near the new Kroger (at 287), but that, if these talks proved successful, it would be a multi-year process.

C. Updates from the Mayor

Mayor Johnson stated that Theatre in the Park was rehearsing, with a play scheduled for late April; Tarrant County College and the Kennedale Historical Society are partnering for monthly history lectures at the Kennedale Library; he recently spoke to Dr. Allan Saxe's class at UTA; he was appointed as chair of "Partners in Hope" a One Safe Place committee aimed at engaging the public in conversations about domestic violence; he attended the Tarrant Regional Transportation Coalition (TRTC) meeting where mass transit and infrastructure needs were discussed; he attended the Mayor's Council where homelessness, child advocacy, and flu season were the focus; on February 22, the Mayor's Council will discuss distribution of CDBG funding; he attended the Southeast Tarrant Transportation Partnership (SETTP) meeting and encouraged the public to be engaged in the discussion about the redesign of the I-20/820/287 interchange; and he is running a marathon with Burleson Mayor Ken Shetter to raise funds to send children to Camp Hope through One Safe Place.

IX. MONITORING INFORMATION

A. Monthly Financials – January 2018

There was no discussion at this time.

B. Schedule of Investment Activity for quarter ending December 31, 2017

There was no discussion at this time.

X. INCIDENTAL ITEMS

XI. REQUIRED APPROVAL ITEMS (CONSENT)

A. Consider approval of minutes from January 12, 2018 regular meeting

B. Consider adopting Resolution 518 for a grant application to the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for rifle-resistant body armor

C. 2017 Racial Profiling Report from the Police Department

Motion To Approve all required approval items on consent agenda, except item B (Resolution 518). **Action** Approve, **Moved By** Turner, Seconded By Carrington. **Motion passed Unanimously.**

In response to Councilmember Lee's question, Police Chief Tommy Williams confirmed that there were no matching funds required from the City.

Motion To Approve adoption of Resolution 518. **Action** Approve, **Moved By** Turner, Seconded By Lee. **Motion passed Unanimously.**

XII. DECISION ITEMS

A. Presentation by City Secretary of Certifications of Citizens Petitions for recall under Article XI of the City Charter

City Secretary Leslie Galloway certified to Council that two separate recall petitions were filed by John Clark on Monday, January 8, 2018 – one regarding Sandra Lee, Place 3 (containing 501 signatures, of which at least 425 were verified as adequate and complete); and one regarding Jan Joplin, Place 5 (containing 498 signatures, of which at least 421 were verified as adequate and complete). She added that this was a sufficient number of verified signatures on each, and that the Charter directs the City Council to call a Special Election to determine whether these two Councilmembers shall be recalled. She added that the next Special Election date that meets the requirements of the charter and state law is Saturday, May 5, 2018.

City Attorney Wayne Olson stated that it was the City Secretary's duty to certify the petition and that the Charter requires the City Council, after that certification, to vote to hold a recall election. Mayor Pro Tem Joplin stated her opinion that those circulating the petitions had misrepresented the facts to signers.

B. Consider approval of Resolution 516, calling a Special Election for May 5, 2018, pursuant to Article XI of the City Charter

Motion To Approve adoption of Resolution 516. **Action** Approve, **Moved By** Turner, Seconded By Carrington. **Motion passed 4-0, with Joplin abstaining.**

C. Consider approval of Resolution 517, calling the General Election for May 5, 2018

Motion To Approve adoption of Resolution 517. **Action** Approve, **Moved By** Lee, Seconded By Turner. **Motion passed Unanimously.**

D. Discuss and consider scheduling a Special Session of the City Council
Mayor Johnson stated that there had been a lengthy discussion during the Work

Session and that there would be a Resolution establishing a policy for calling Special Meetings and placing items on the agenda at an upcoming meeting.

City Council decided to hold a Special Meeting on Monday, March 5, to further discuss several items from tonight's Work Session, including budget amendments, a policy for calling special meetings and placing items on the agenda, and the purchasing policy. Councilmember Gilley also asked that, going forward, Economic Development Corporation (EDC) financial and activity reports be added to Council agendas.

E. Consider making appointments to various Advisory Boards and Commissions including: the Economic Development Corporation Board, Parks and Recreation Board, Board of Adjustment/Building Board of Appeals, and Planning and Zoning Commission

Motion to Approve the appointments of Stan Seat to the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Place 1; Ralph Grimes to EDC Place 5; Councilmember Sandra Lee to EDC Place 7; Josh Hayes to the Parks & Recreation Board Place 6; Jadey James to the Planning & Zoning Commission Place 6; to move Josh Altom to Place 2 of the Board of Adjustments/Building Board of Appeals, leaving Place 8 vacant. **Action** Approve, **Moved By** Gilley, Seconded By Mayor Pro Tem Joplin. **Motion passed Unanimously.**

F. Consider appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission

Council asked that the Planning & Zoning Commission membership forward a recommendation for Chair and Vice Chair.

G. Consider appointment of Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Adjustment/Building Board of Appeals

Council asked that the Board of Adjustment/Building Board of Appeals membership forward a recommendation for Chair and Vice Chair.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council did not meet in Executive Session.

XIV. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION, AND TAKE ACTION NECESSARY PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION, IF NEEDED

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

APPROVED:

Brian Johnson

BRIAN JOHNSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY OF KENNEDALE SEAL TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

Leslie Galloway

LESLIE GALLOWAY, CITY SECRETARY