

KENNEDALE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING | JUNE 01, 2019 AT 8:00 AM
TARRANT COUNTY COLLEGE – SOUTH CAMPUS
BUILDING SFOD, CONFERENCE ROOM 1502C
5301 CAMPUS DR, FORT WORTH, TX 76119

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brian Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:11 a.m.

City Manager George Campbell announced that the City would receive a Regional Cooperation Award (along with the City of Arlington) at the North Central Texas Council of Governments Annual General Assembly on June 14, and invited the Mayor and Council to attend.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Brian Johnson; Mayor Pro Tem Sandra Lee, Place 3; Chris Pugh, Place 2; Linda Rhodes, Place 4; Chad Wandel, Place 5; **Absent:** Josh Altom, Place 1

Staff: City Manager George Campbell, City Secretary & Communications Coordinator Leslie E. Galloway, Former Finance Director Brady Olsen (engaged as a consultant), Interim Finance Director Debby Scott, Director of Planning & Economic Development Melissa Dailey, Public Works Director Larry Hoover, Director of Human Resources & Administrative Services Danielle Clark, Library Director Amanda King, Police Chief Tommy Williams, Fire Chief James Brown

III. WORK SESSION

- A. Receive and discuss a presentation from former Finance Director Brady Olsen regarding the City's financial and budget positions and strategies for the current and future years

Former Finance Director Brady Olsen (engaged as a consultant) began with an overview of the department's mission, responsibilities, goals, achievements, needs, challenges, and policy issues for Council consideration. He then discussed monthly reporting, transparency procedures and considerations, policies, investment, the annual audit process, the City's fund structure, and the budget calendar. Olsen also provided highlights from the major funds for the current fiscal year, current fund balances, and scenarios and projections for the next budget cycle. Finally, there was brief discussion regarding recent changes to state law that might affect tax rates.

Discussion among Council included: the drawdown of the Street Fund due to decreasing franchise fees; leveraging County bond programs for streets; low staffing levels; transparency software; how the General Fund drawdown might impact the bond rating; cooperation between departments to fund projects; water rate structure; revenues from new development; the ratio of property tax to sales tax; and revenue streams. Olsen was available throughout to answer questions from Council.

- B. Receive and discuss presentations by each Department Head including, but not limited to, highlights and accomplishments from the current fiscal year, short-term and long-term goals, identified needs and challenges for FY2019-20, and policy issues for consideration by the City Council

Director of Human Resources & Administrative Services Danielle Clark provided an overview of the department's mission, responsibilities, goals, achievements, needs, challenges, and policy issues for Council consideration. There was some discussion regarding topics including: reduced insurance costs; the Public Safety Step Plan; technology needs throughout the organization; a civilian compensation study; the need for an employee wellness program, disability coverage, and employee assistance; and low staffing levels and limited office space. Clarke was available throughout to answer questions from Council.

Director of Planning & Economic Development Melissa Dailey provided an overview of the department's mission, responsibilities, goals, achievements, needs, challenges, and policy issues for Council consideration. There was some discussion regarding topics including: increased code compliance; the Tarrant County HOME Program; the National Parks Service (NPS) Greenways grant; EDC initiatives; defining desires within the community; redevelopment of Kennedale Parkway; providing a variety of housing; enhancing connectivity and walkability; encouraging quality development; redevelopment of the southwest portion of the City; new parks; additional staffing needs; and the advantages of maintaining a common vision regarding community development. Dailey was available throughout to answer questions from Council.

City Secretary & Communications Coordinator Leslie E. Galloway provided an overview of the department's mission, responsibilities, goals, achievements, needs, challenges, and policy issues for Council consideration. There was some discussion regarding topics including: a forthcoming web redesign; increase in proactive communication; records management needs and goals; amendment to the Charter; increase in digital subscriptions and followers; support to boards and focus on Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act Training; streaming public meetings; facility needs at the Senior Center; potential for expanding the Youth Advisory Council (YAC); demands and costs of open records requests; and the potential of rebranding. Galloway was available throughout to answer questions from Council.

Public Works Director Larry Hoover provided an overview of the department's mission, responsibilities, goals, achievements, needs, challenges, and policy issues for Council consideration. There was some discussion regarding topics including: low staffing levels and aging equipment; a need for asset management, work order tracking, and storm water management software; need for stable funding sources; cooperation with Tarrant County; developing a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and maintenance schedule; streets in critical condition; park improvements and events; the arbovirus program; forthcoming upgrades to the ballfields; coordination with the NPS for trails and regional connectivity; the Parks Master Plan including connection to the Veloweb; potential creation of a Recreational Division; desire for community involvement and a common vision for park and open space development; Integrated Stormwater Management (ISWM) Silver Certification and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) MS4 Permit; erosion concerns; and the need to develop the budget, training, and equipment necessary for the newly-created building maintenance department. Hoover was available throughout to answer questions from Council.

Library Director Amanda King provided an overview of the department's mission, responsibilities, goals, achievements, needs, challenges, and policy issues for Council consideration. There was some discussion regarding topics including: the economic impact of library services; grants received; increased utilization of library services; low staffing levels and competitive compensation; the Limitless Library program; technology updates and needs; need to expand the Library facility; library automation needs; removing late fees and adding a non-resident fee; and training needed. King was available throughout to answer questions from Council.

Fire Chief James Brown provided an overview of the department's mission, responsibilities, goals, achievements, needs, challenges, and policy issues for Council consideration. There was some discussion regarding topics including: maintaining full staffing levels and competitive compensation; continued education and training; AED installation in City facilities; facility evaluation and station improvements; evaluation of contracts for EMS billing and the Medical Director; the need for a capital replacement plan to address aging equipment; technology needs including staffing and asset management software; evaluation of revenue recovery on fire and EMS responses; additional public education opportunities; increasing businesses' compliance with fire code; and a focus on creating a positive work environment. Chief Brown was available throughout to answer questions from Council.

Police Chief Tommy Williams provided an overview of the department's mission, responsibilities, goals, achievements, needs, challenges, and policy issues for Council consideration. There was some discussion regarding topics including: advantages of cooperation with Mansfield for

dispatch and jail services; continued provision of auto theft task force and School Resource Officer (SRO) programs after grant funding ended; inaugural Youth Police Academy class; the reserve program; grant-funded technology improvements; prioritizing training and leadership; potential for a Community Resource Officer (CRO) and a Citizen Police Academy; succession planning, low staffing levels, facility expansion, and equipment needs; immediate need for three more patrol officers and an investigations secretary; desire to add an exercise room; continued compensation evaluation; population growth and specialized demographic groups; crime rates in freeway corridors; recruitment of a more diverse workforce; and increased training requirements. Chief Williams was available throughout to answer questions from Council.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

APPROVED:


BRIAN JOHNSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:


LESLIE E. GALLOWAY, CITY SECRETARY

