

KENNEDALE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING | MAY 17, 2022 AT 5:30 PM

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 405 MUNICIPAL DRIVE, KENNEDALE, TX 76060

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I. CALL TO ORDER

II.

Mayor Linda Rhodes called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Linda Rhodes, Mayor Pro Tem Jan Joplin Place 1; Gary Mitchell, Place 2; Kenneth Michels Place 3; Austin Degenhart Place 4; James Connor, Place 5. **MAYOR ELECT** Hollis Matthews. **ABSENT:** None **Staff:** *Interim City Manager Darrell Hull; Director of Human Resources and Administrative Services Caroline Green, Interim Police Chief Mike Holguin; Fire Chief James Brown, Director of Public Works Joe Walsh; Director of Finance Anne LeMere; Director of Community Development Elizzebeth Loomis, Administrative Assistant Rosie Ericson. CONSULTANT: Chance LeBlanc – Dunaway;*

III. ELECTION BUSINESS

A. Recognition of outgoing Councilmembers

There was no discussion at this time

B. Certification of official returns

Administrative Assistant Rosie Ericson stated that in the May 7, 2022 election, 796 valid and legal votes, of which 468 were cast early and 281 were cast on Election Day and that the certified cumulative returns are reported as follows:

- MAYOR: Hollis Matthews - 426; Jeff Nevarez 381
- City Council Place 2: Gary Mitchell – 604
- City Council Place 4: Austin Degenhart 424; Linda Rhodes – 372

Ericson added that, as a result of these tabulations, it would appear the following are hereby elected: Hollis Matthews, Mayor; Gary Mitchell, City Council Place 2; Austin Degenhart Place 4.

Motion Approve. Action Approve the certification of official returns by the City Secretary and approve that they be filed with the City Election Register as page 76. **Motion By** Joplin **Seconded By:** Connor. **Motion passes unanimously.**

- C. Consider approval of a Resolution, canvassing the returns and declaring the results of the General Election held on May 7, 2022, for the purpose of electing the places of Mayor and City Council Members Places 2 and 4 for the City of Kennedale

Motion Approve **Action** Approve the certification of official returns by the City Secretary. **Moved By** Connor **Seconded By** Michels. **Motion passes unanimously.**

- D. Oath of Office for Hollis C. Matthews, Mayor (2022-2024)

Interim City Secretary Caroline Green administered the Statement of Elected Official and the Oath of Office for Hollis Matthews and Mayor Matthews presented the Certificate of Election.

- E. Oath of Office for Gary Mitchell, City Council Place 2 (2022-2024)

Interim City Secretary Caroline Green administered the Statement of Elected Office and the Oath of Office for Gary Mitchell, Place 2 and Mayor Matthews presented the Certificate of Election.

- F. Oath of Office for Austin Degenhart, City Council Place 4 (2022-2024)

Interim City Secretary Caroline Green administered the Statement of Elected Official and the Oath of Office for Austin Degenhart, Place 4 and Mayor Matthews presented the Certificate of Election.

IV. WORK SESSION

A. WORK SESSION REPORTS

- B. Hold a discussion on the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) grant

Max Aransen with Shield Engineering updated the council on the TWDG grant regarding the Valley Lane Slope Stabilization project.

C. REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION OF ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

None at this time.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Matthews recessed into executive session at 6:57 p.m. (including a brief break)

- A. ***PURSUANT TO §551.071 — Consultation with the City Attorney pertaining to any matter in which the duty of the City Attorney under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct may conflict with the Open Meetings Act, including discussion of any item posted on the agenda, legal issues regarding the Open Meetings Act, and the following:***

1. City Manager
2. Hammack Creek (337 Kennedale Sublett Road)

B. **PURSUANT TO §551.074** — *Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee; and the following:*

1. City Manager

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

The Mayor reconvened into Regular Session at 7:40 p.m.

VII. REGULAR SESSION

A. INVOCATION AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. AND TEXAS FLAGS

Councilmember Gary Mitchell led the Invocation. Councilmember Michels led the U.S. and Texas pledges.

B. VISITOR AND CITIZEN FORUM

Sara Cotton Johnson, 700 Crestview Drive. Spoke about her upcoming Jazz in the Park that will be held on Thursday, May 19th in TownCenter. Carmen's Tex-Mex Food truck and DFW Snow Cone truck will be on site.

Azam Shaikh, 800 Shady Bend Drive. Welcomed the new Community Development Director Elizbeth Loomis, Interim Police Chief Mike Holguin. Spoke of his involvement in the City of Kennedale and serving the city and metroplex with homeless people and clinics.

John Hivale, 418 Coker Valley Drive speaker was not present when we call on speakers. The Mayor allow him to speak when he returned. Mr. Hivale congratulated the new elected offices; and asked that people leave the negative attitude. Complete change in the City Council and Mayors.

C. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

In addition to any items below, the Kennedale City Council, the presiding officer, and/or staff may give or receive reports regarding items of community interest, including, but not limited to, recognition of officials, citizens, staff, or departments; information regarding holiday schedules; and upcoming or attended events.

1. Updates from the City Council

Councilmember Connor stated he attended the TML Region 8 event in Hurst with Interim City Manager Darrell Hull in addition attended the Watauga Fest at the beginning of May.

Councilmember Degenhart had no announcements but wanted to thank the citizens for their support and he looks forward to serving the citizen for the next couple of years it's an honor and privilege.

Councilmember Michels was inaudible.

Councilmember Mitchell did not have any announcement; but wanted to thank and welcome the new Staff to the City; looking forward working with all the

people in the City.

Councilmember Joplin – Dittoed Councilmembers Mitchells comments. She also attending the Kennedale Chamber of Commerce with guest speaker Andy Nguyen, Tarrant County Commissioner. Also mentioned Jazz in the Park, May 19th. Attended a couple of Rotary meetings; very interesting one with the North Texas Hispanic Women spoke; they offer quite a few scholarships. Another rotary meeting had guest Deputy Bryan Woodard who hosts the Everyday Life of Deputy Bryan Woodard. Spoke of Rotary flags \$50.00 year to have the flags put in your yard. Welcomed new City staff.

2. Updates from the Mayor

- Proclaiming May 21, 2022 as Kids to Parks Day, Celebrated by KIDFISH at Sonora Park

Mayor Matthews asked Joe Taylor to come up and speak about the Kennedale Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Luncheon that is being held on Wednesday, May 18th.

3. Updates from the Interim City Manager

Darrell introduced the two new Directors for the City. Elizebeth Loomis, Community Development Director and Anne LaMere, Director of Finance.

Recognize Ms.Green who is graduating June 6 for her Public Management Certification at the State Capital.

In addition, Darrell attended PRB regular meeting, BOA regular meeting, TML Regional 8 meeting and introduced himself to the Seniors at the Senior Center last Wednesday. Recognized Stephen Roundtree for transporting the Senior to the Synergy Expo in Fort Worth. Reached out to all departments and let them know he is here to assist. Updated on the Diamond Jubilee. May 21 is KIDFISH at Sonora Park.

4. Staffing updates from Human Resources Director

Caroline Green gave an update on the City Manager search, Council is down to 5 candidates for City Manager. June 10 will be the meet and greet with the City Manager candidates. It will be a full day, starting with breakfast with city staff; individual interviews with each Councilmember. There will also be a public meet and greet. Ms. Green also update Council that our part-time permit clerk is now full time, in addition a fulltime temp is assisting permits and planning. Currently we full time temp in the Fire Department working as the Fire Administrative Assistant we are still working on filling that position full time. Two new employees for Public Works both with Class A (CDL licenses). Started interviewing for the City Secretary position as well as for the Code Enforcement Officer.

5. Financial Reports for the City

Anne LaMere spoke about changing the report to show where we are at this time and comparison to last year. Councilmember Connor questioned about our property taxes. Ms. LaMere stated she is at day 12 and not comfortable commenting without further research. Councilmember Connor asked about our

investments and Ms. LaMere will get them a quarterly updated and recommended changes. Anne discussed that the City is overall healthy; she sees opportunity for changes in the format of the financials and how we are budgeted. Needs to do analysis on the non-departmental budget. Councilmember Connor is concerned about the Senior Center budget. Not much off the budget is being utilized for the seniors. Interim City Manager asked Finance Director if we should have a budget amendment. She stated she did not believe we need to make one at this time.

6. Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony

This item was taken out of order. Swearing in took place directly after the swearing in of Mayor and Council Members.

Kenneth Howard & Brandon Burch were sworn in and their badges pinned on by their spouses after completing the 1-year probation period.

7. Police Department Swearing-In Ceremony

Eric Carlson was sworn in by Police Chief Hull; as Acting Sargent for the City of Kennedale. Sargent Carlson was previously with the Kennedale Police department for 18 years before his retirement in 2019.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes from the April 19, 2022 regular meeting
2. Approval of the minutes from the April 21, 2022 special meeting
3. Approval of the minutes from the April 28, 2022 special meeting
4. Consider an Ordinance amending the membership of the Keep Kennedale Beautiful (KKB) Commission

After further discussion. Motion to approve amending the membership of the KKB Commission. Motion by Connor Seconded by Mitchell. Motion passes unanimously.

5. Consider Resolution Repealing Resolution No. 598 which amended the certificate of formation and bylaws of the Kennedale Economic Development Corporation by adding two advisory nonvoting members

Motion To approve Action Approve the April 19, 2022 minutes; April 21, 2022 minutes, April 28 minutes. Remove #4 from Consent agenda until further discussion. Item 5 repealing resolution No. 598 . **Moved By:** Joplin
Seconded By: Mitchell. **Motion passes unanimously.**

E. ITEM FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

1. Consider authorizing the interim city manager to make an expenditure of \$36,000 for the repair of a fire truck

Chief Brown discussed that our front-line fire truck is in the shop broken with several items. Truck is 12 years old. The motor itself needs all the seals replace. This is its annual preventative maintenance. Currently we are running on our 22-year-old back up unit.

Motion To Approve. **Action** Approve **Moved By** Degenhart to authorize the interim city manager to make an expenditure of \$36,000 for the repair of a fire truck **Seconded By** Mitchell **Motion passes 4-1 Michels voting no.**

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Conduct a Public Hearing and consider approval of a Resolution, authorizing funding participation with Tarrant County Community Development and Housing for the 48th Year Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project for replacement of roughly 1,500 linear feet of clay sewer main, manholes, and services

Max Aransen made a correction to the public hearing. There are actually two city CDBG projects this is for 3rd street fixing the water line.

Public Hearing opened at 8:56 p.m.

No speakers at this time.

Public Hearing closed at 8:56 p.m.

Motion To Approve. **Action** Approve. **Moved By** Joplin authorizing funding participation with Tarrant County Community Development and Housing the 48th Year Community Block Grant (CDBG) **Seconded By** Degenhart. **Motion passes 4-0-1 Connor abstaining.**

ADJOURNMENT

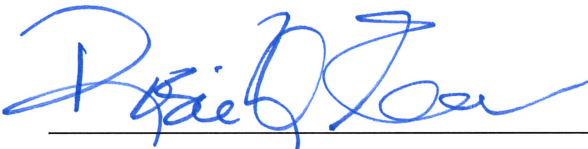
Motion To Adjourn Action Adjourn. Motion By Connor Seconded By Degenhart Motion passes unanimously.

Mayor Hollis Matthews adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:


MAYOR HOLLIS MATTHEWS


BOARD SECRETARY: ROSIE ERICSON

