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KENNEDALE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING | SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 AT 11:00 AM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS | 405 MUNICIPAL DRIVE, KENNEDALE, TX 76060

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Kenneth Michels, Brad Horton, Jeff Nevarez, Bryant Griffith; **ABSENT:** ; ***STAFF:*** *City Manager Darrell Hull, City Secretary Raeanne Byington, Director of Planning and Economic Development Nathan Gonzales, Director of Finance Jonathan Horton, Library Director Elizabeth Partridge, Director of Human Resources Caroline Green, Public Works Director Kristian Sugrim, Fire Chief James Brown, Police Chief Michael Holguin.*

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

"Honor the Texas Flag; I Pledge Allegiance to Thee, Texas, One State under God; One and Indivisible."

Councilmember Horton led the invocation and Councilmember Michels led the pledges.

II. WORK SESSION

A. WORK SESSION REPORTS

1. Updates to the proposed FY24 budget.

Finance Director Jon Horton presented the budget with the following changes:
General Fund (01)

- Finance: Salaries were corrected to remove Temporary/Part-Time wages ($39,923).
    1. In a corresponding move, the incoming transfer from the EDC Fund (15) to cover Department of Finance expenditures was lowered to $81,800.
- Community Development: Moved $10,000 from Office Equipment to Software
- Police: Moved $4,000 from Office Supplies to Software. No change to department total.
- Fire: Moved $8,000 from Office Supplies to Software. No change to department total.
- Library: Salaries were corrected to remove Temporary/Part-Time Wages ($42,000)
- Communications: Software was reduced by $5,000. Civic software was also listed under City Secretary
- Non-Departmental: An outgoing transfer of $68,958 to the Street Improvement Fund (17) was added
    1. This to cover a Pavement Management System (Special Services) and additional street repair

EDC Fund (15)

- The reduction in Department of Finance expenditures caused a decrease in the outgoing General Fund
  transfer. The total transfer is now $408,105, with $81,800 designated for the Department of Finance.
- Updated fund balances and prior year adjustment to reflect audited figures and updated transfer formulas.

Street Improvement Fund (17)

- Salaries were corrected to remove Temporary/Part-Time Wages ($23,740).
- Added a $68,958 incoming transfer from the General Fund
  - $32,000 will be used for a new Pavement Management System. This has been placed in Special Services. The total budget for expenditures in Special Services is now $32,500
  - $36,958 has been added to Street Maintenance, bringing the total to $176,958

Councilmember Horton had questions on the math of the salaries in Finance and Library. There was confusion about the new position in the Library that is shared with the EDC.He will get offline with Mr. Horton.
Councilmember Griffith asked about reserve funds.Jon Horton.

Mayor Joplin then moved Item IV.A.1. Financials for the City next in the meeting.

2. Discussion regarding Place 1 Council Seat Vacancy.
Mayor Joplin gave the 3 options: Appoint, Hold Special Election (missed Nov. Ballot), or leave Vacant till May 2024.
Councilmember Nevarez doesn't mind appointment but he had a couple citizens contact him on the perception of appointment. Due to the timing, he suggests appointment.
Councilmember Griffith is in agreement with concerns about so many that are appointed. He feels we should consider letting the citizens vote in May 2024.
Councilmember Michels discussed the provision that was pulled from the charter, leaving us nothing other than appointment if we go by the Charter, meaning 5 people on the council. He suggested appointing Chris Evans, who ran against Councilmember Gilley and lost by only 3 votes (meaning 49% of the votes were for him).
Councilmember Horton is torn on the best course of action in this case. In a perfect world, he'd like an election. But doesn't want to spend $25-35k for that.
Councilmember Griffith feels that we have to do the appointment as it is normally done. By people sending their application and doing interviews.

Poll:
Horton - May Election
Michels - Per Charter we need to appoint.
Griffith - May Election
Nevarez - Appoint
Joplin - Appoint

Last week Sept/First week Oct.

B. DISCUSSION AND/OR REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION OF ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

III. VISITOR AND CITIZEN FORUM

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IV. REGULAR SESSION

A. 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. Financial Reports for the City for July 2023.

Finance Director Horton presented the Financials for July 2023. He discussed the year end and his comfort level on predicting it at this time.

City Manager Hull discussed the needs of the Police and Code Enforcement totaling $180000. He is asking to move forward with these purchases at this time and have a potential savings for the FY24 budget. No objections by council.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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.*

B. ***PURSUANT TO §551.072*** *— Deliberation regarding the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property.*

C. ***PURSUANT TO §551.087*** *— (1) Deliberation regarding commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations; or (2) to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect described by Subdivision.*

D. ***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.*

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

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion Adjourn . **Action** ADJOURNMENT, **Moved By** Jeff Nevarez, **Seconded By** Brad Horton. **Motion passed unanimously.**

APPROVED:

Jan Joplin

MAYOR JAN JOPLIN

ATTEST:

Raeanne Byington

CITY SECRETARY RAEANNE BYINGTON