



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

A WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS HELD AT CITY HALL, 710 EAST SAN AUGUSTINE STREET, DEER PARK, TEXAS ON DECEMBER 05, 2023 BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

JERRY MOUTON
SHERRY GARRISON
TJ HAIGHT
TOMMY GINN
BILL PATTERSON
GEORGETTE FORD

MAYOR
COUNCILWOMAN
COUNCILMAN
COUNCILMAN
COUNCILMAN
COUNCILWOMAN

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

JAMES STOKES
SARA ROBINSON
JIM FOX
ANGELA SMITH

CITY MANAGER
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
CITY ATTORNEY
CITY SECRETARY

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Mouton called the workshop to order at 6:30 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE – No comments received.

1. PRESENTATION OF THE ONGOING PROGRESS OF THE DEER PARK PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN BY TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – An overview was given on the progress report pertaining to the Open Space Master Plan being created by Texas A&M University. The proposed mission statement reads “Enriching the City of Deer Park as a vibrant culturable hub, to enhance existing parks and recreation facilities, to ensure universal accessibility to promote active living and to create a legacy of well-being and safe community connections to shape the future generations.” There will be a continuation to work on the proposed goals for the Master Plan through the summer of 2024. The final report will have seven chapters.
2. PRESENTATION ON THE FUTURE CHRISTMAS DECORATION SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF DEER PARK – Parks and Recreation Director Charlie Sandberg spoke of the challenges the department faces with storage, equipment and staff time for the Christmas decorating season. Mr. Sandberg also discussed the concerns with different vendors and invited one of the vendors, Dekra-Lite, to present their potential services and solutions for the City of Deer Park.

Account Executive Nancy Palo gave a presentation of her company which included who they are and what services they can provide to the city. Ms. Palo spoke of the products

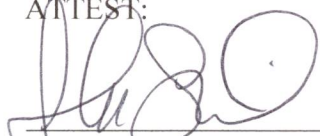
along with their holiday concepts of cohesive programming, interactive décor, religious overlay and an introduction to the new City of Deer Park Mascot Tex which she read a poem that told the story of Tex. Ms. Palo gave an overview of the timeline on the visit to determine the décor concept, selection of the décor concept and the installation of the décor itself. Dekra-Lite handles IRS (installation, removal and storage) for all the Christmas decorations. Her company is also a BuyBoard vendor which helps reduce cost by going to them directly instead of through a middle man. Dekra-Lite offers lease options to assist with the new decorations. Once the initial investment of lease or purchase is made there is only the annual IRS cost (installation, removal and storage). Currently the storage location is in San Antonio but they may look for closer locations in the future. Freight cost is only charged once at the purchase time and not each time they are moved. Per City Manager Stokes, the city is looking at the lease option, city council liked the presentation and the lease option.

3. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR PROJECTS IN THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT – Parks & Recreation Charlie Sandberg spoke about the proposed budget amendments. There are three items on the council agenda, 1) work on tennis court lights at Dow Park, 2) playground installation, and 3) splash pad repairs. The playground equipment was originally to be installed by City personnel however it has been determined that it requires a third-party engineering assistance on the concrete work. It is very deep and large concrete boxes that secure the equipment to the ground. Splash pad replacements was thought to be able to work for an additional year but there are cracks at the base and if they are not replaced, the splash pad will not be able to be opened until repaired. Tennis lights have metal halide bulbs now, they are going out very fast and it takes a lot to replace with bucket trucks as well as the software is outdated. Staff can't control or maintain the lights with the current software. By changing to LED lights and the new software staff will be able to have maintenance come out and repair timely with a reduction in down time. These three items are very necessary. Council had no questions for Mr. Sandburg.

4. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 34-25 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE FEE SCHEDULE –EMS Chief Andrew Smith spoke on the ordinance change. The last time it was changed was 2019 and it listed itemized billing. The new ordinance will show a bundled amount for different levels of services instead of itemized billing. In addition, effective January 1, 2024, SB 2426 goes into effect which eliminates surprise billing for EMS services and prohibits services to balance bill customers. EMS is required to enter their new rates into the Texas Department of Insurance portal which will make the insurance companies pay the ambulance fees as listed. Council had no questions for Mr. Smith. Mayor Mouton commented that EMS is always appreciated for what they do in their department.

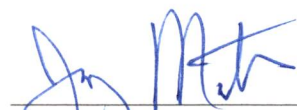
ADJOURN – Mayor Mouton adjourned the workshop meeting at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST:



Angela Smith, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

APPROVED:



Jerry Mouton
Mayor