

710 EAST SAN AUGUSTINE STREET

DEER PARK, TEXAS 77536

Minutes

of

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 JULY 11, 2017, BEGINNING AT 6:45 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

JERRY MOUTON
SHERRY GARRISON
TOMMY GINN
BILL PATTERSON
RON MARTIN
RAE A. SINOR

MAYOR
COUNCILWOMAN
COUNCILMAN
COUNCILMAN
COUNCILMAN
COUNCILWOMAN

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

JAY STOKES
GARY JACKSON
SHANNON BENNETT

CITY MANAGER
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
CITY SECRETARY

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – Mayor Mouton called the workshop to order at 6:45 p.m.
2. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATED TO THE ECONOMIC ALLIANCE ANNUAL PRESENTATION – HOUSTON PORT REGION - Chad Burke, President of the Economic Alliance and Chad Carson, Director of Economic Development gave an overview of the annual report of the Economic Alliance and highlighted the Mission, who is represented (12 cities), the Impact of Houston Port Region (Economic Development Projects), Public Policy (Transportation Taskforce), Workplace Development, Quality of Life and Member Development. (Exhibits A1-A5)

Mr. Burke thanked the City of Deer Park for being and active member of the Economic Alliance.

Councilwoman Garrison asked that a copy of the budget be presented to Council for their review.

3. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATED TO PURCHASING THE SERVICE OF VAUGHT SERVICES, LLC TO PERFORM THE ERIN GLEN CT STORM SEWER UPSIZING PROJECT – Bill Pedersen, Public Works Director, commented, “We will be pulling a twenty-four inch pipe through an eighteen inch pipe to improve the drainage issues on Erin Glen Ct. It won’t solve all the drainage problems, but it will help out a lot.

Councilwoman Garrison asked, “What exactly are the drainage problems?”

Mr. Pedersen commented, “The street floods.”

Councilwoman Garrison asked, “Does that happen all the time?”

Mr. Pedersen commented, “I am not sure.”

Councilwoman Garrison asked, “Why this street?”

Mr. Pedersen commented, “This has been an ongoing complaint from the neighborhood.”

Mayor Mouton commented, “We do have a list and we will be working on that list.”

Mr. Pedersen commented, “It is expensive. It cost \$240,000 to do this project.”

4. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATED TO A REQUEST FROM DEER PARK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TO OPERATE AN OUTDOOR WARNING SIREN – Jay Stokes, City Manager, commented, “We were approached by some officials at the school district about some new technology that they are exploring that will allow you to set a parameter and get notifications if there is a lightning strike in the area. There will also be a siren and flashing lights to let school officials know that they would know to suspend play for thirty minutes. We have agreed that they would pilot it for one year. They will have one siren and see how that goes for Deer Park High School South. It states in the City Code that there cannot be any unauthorized use of a siren. To do so, Council must have Jim Fox, City Attorney draft an ordinance that will amend the code to allow DPISD will be an exception.”

Steven Harrell, Principal, commented, “I brought Jim Davis our Athletic Trainer and he is the driver behind this and I support that. We have a system in place now that will allow us to get students off the field safely if there is a lightning strike.”

Mayor Mouton asked, “Is this a public safety incentive that gets funded out of your budget?”

Mr. Harrell commented, “Yes it is.”

Councilwoman Garrison asked, “Where is it going to be placed in the stadium?”

Mr. Harrell commented, “We don’t know yet. What we are expecting is that it will be between the stadium and the south campus. We want it to cover the stadium, the softball field and the practice fields. ”

Mayor Mouton asked, “Will there be multiple sirens or one siren?”

Mr. Davis commented, “One siren.”

Mayor Mouton asked, “Will it be a different sound?”

Mr. Harrell commented, "Yes, and we can adjust how long it is."

Councilwoman Sinor asked, "How does it work right now?"

Mr. Harrell commented, "We have a text alert system. When lightning strikes within fifteen miles and six miles, we get an alert. UIL restrictions is six miles, but it will likely go out to eight. This will also be beneficial if a coach during practice leaves their phone in the building. You can also set it to have quiet time."

Mayor Mouton asked, "Will it only be set when children are practicing or playing and safety is an issue?"

Mr. Harrell commented, "Right."

Councilwoman Sinor asked, "Is this only at the South Campus during this trial period?"

Mr. Harrell commented, "Yes."

Councilman Martin asked, "Is the trial period a year?"

Mr. Harrell commented, "A year and if we get complaints about the siren, we can discuss it."

Mayor Mouton commented, "This is a safety initiative and it is up to all of us to inform the public on what the intent is and what this is for."

Councilman Sinor asked, "If we decide to move forward, how many more sirens would be placed?"

Mayor Mouton commented, "We would like to have six. One at South, one at North, and possibly the four Junior High Schools where we have most of our athletic outdoor activities."

Mr. Harrell commented, "In a meeting with Jay Stokes, City Manager and Greg Grigg, Police Chief, we talked about having literature to handout to educate people on what it is and what is happening."

Councilman Sinor asked, "How quick would you have one in place?"

Mr. Harrell commented, "For one siren, they can have it in place before school starts. There are eight horns, but if it is too loud, you can disengage them."

Councilman Ginn asked, "How long would it take to get all six?"

Mr. Harrell commented, "We plan to see how this one year goes then meet with city officials and then expand."

5. ADJOURN – Mayor Mouton adjourned the workshop meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Shannon Bennett, TRMC
City Secretary

Jerry Mouton
Mayor