

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 FEBRUARY 16, 2021 BEGINNING AT 7:00 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

JERRY MOUTON, JR.  
SHERRY GARRISON  
TJ HAIGHT  
TOMMY GINN  
BILL PATTERSON  
RON MARTIN  
RAE SINOR

MAYOR  
COUNCILWOMAN  
COUNCILMAN  
COUNCILMAN  
COUNCILMAN  
COUNCILMAN  
COUNCILWOMAN

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

JAMES STOKES  
SHANNON BENNETT  
JIM FOX

CITY MANAGER  
CITY SECRETARY  
CITY ATTORNEY

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – Mayor Mouton called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. RECESS/RECONVENE – Mayor Mouton recessed the workshop at 7:00 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 7:21 p.m.
3. COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE – No comments received.
4. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO AMENDING THE SECTIONS 22-30 THROUGH 22-39 OF THE SOLICITORS ORDINANCE – City Secretary Shannon Bennett advised Council of the complaints of aggressive sales tactics relating to active door-to-door solicitors in Deer Park. An amendment to the current Solicitors ordinance to include adding language under the prohibited acts such as “Engage in any conduct in solicitations that are fraudulent or harassing to residents” is recommended.

Councilman Patterson asked, “If anyone wants to go door to door, do they have to get registered?”

Ms. Bennett responded, “They register in the City Secretary’s Office.”

Councilman Patterson asked, “How do you know if someone is registered and has a permit?”

Ms. Bennett responded, “You can ask them. Usually, the residents call the City Secretary Department to verify if a permit was issued or not. The permit is assigned in our office.”

Councilman Patterson asked, “If someone comes to my door and they do not have a permit and refuse to leave, I can call the Police?”

Ms. Bennett responded, “Yes, you can call the non-emergency number.”

5. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 BUDGET CALENDAR – City Manager James Stokes advised Council of key dates for the proposed budget presentation. (Exhibit A1)

Mr. Stokes commented, “If those dates don’t work for Council for any reason, please let us know and we will try and adjust the calendar. If those days do work, the rest of the calendar should fall in line nicely.”

6. DISCUSSION OF ISSUES RELATING TO THE INSTALLATION OF LED STREET LIGHTS – City Manager James Stokes gave an overview of the program that CenterPoint Energy has, whereby current high pressure sodium street lights can be exchanged with new LED lighting. There have been some municipalities in the greater Houston area that have transitioned to LED street lights in partnership with CenterPoint Energy. This program would benefit the City of Deer Park in reduced electricity costs as well as assist the City in achieving state mandated energy reduction goals. CenterPoint’s process is initiated upon a municipality’s signing an “LED Street Light Installation Agreement”. Currently, there is a six (6) month waiting period before the street light exchange begins. This program would be funded through a temporary tariff which would allow CenterPoint to recover its’ capital costs associated with the conversion.

Councilman Patterson asked, “How much is the cost to switch over?”

Mr. Stokes responded, “They do not know right now because they have to come out and look at every light, but it would be hundreds of thousands of dollars that we would pay for passed through the tariff. Let’s just say in a 5-7 year period, our electric bill may go up a dollar or so a month until the tariff is paid off. After a number of years and the tariff is paid, you are left with better street lights that cost less to operate.

7. ADJOURN – Mayor Mouton adjourned the workshop meeting at 7:29 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

---

Shannon Bennett, TRMC  
City Secretary

---

Jerry Mouton, Jr.  
Mayor

