

CITY OF DEER PARK

CC 83-64

710 EAST SAN AUGUSTINE STREET

DEER PARK, TEXAS 77536

Minutes of

THE 1796TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS HELD IN CITY HALL, 710 EAST SAN AUGUSTINE STREET, DEER PARK, TEXAS ON JANUARY 18, 2022 AT 7:30 P.M., WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MAYOR
COUNCILWOMAN
COUNCILMAN
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 meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
2. INVOCATION – The invocation was given by Councilwoman Sinor.
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilman Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and led the Texas Flag Pledge.
4. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE – No comments received.
5. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING STAN GARRETT – Mayor Mouton presented a proclamation to Stan Garrett and declared January 18, 2022 as Stan Garrett Day. Mr. Garrett was recognized for his 18 year commitment as a member on the Board of Adjustment and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mr. Garrett commented, "I said this to the Planning and Zoning Commission of how much I enjoyed my time. They were family, they were great to work with. It was a very good group of people that came together to do what was best for the City of Deer Park. I appreciate the honor of serving with them and I appreciate the honor that the City Council allowed me to continue there as long as I did. I love this City. I watched it grow and it is a nice beautiful

City. I think, you Mayor and the City Council are doing a great job and hope you continue. I just enjoyed working with these folks. They were really good to me. Thank you very much.”

Planning and Zoning Commissioner Ray Balusek commented, “I am proud of Stan Garrett and what he has done for us. He has been a contribution to the City.”

6. RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS – City Manager James Stokes advised Council of the event held in October, the Texas Memorial Illumination at San Jacinto, and read a letter from Hal Vaughan recognizing the dedication and participation of Michael Moore and Michael Schreiber with this event.

Fire Chief Don Davis recognized several members of the Volunteer Fire Department for their dedication, loyalty and success of the following events:

Mike Castaneda, DPVFD President, for coordinating the "Fill the Boot" campaign for Muscular Dystrophy Research where \$9,155.84 of donations were collected.

Jonathan and Tiffany Neal for coordinating the "Gift of Christmas" campaign for needy families that helped over 50 families in need within the community.

Justin Crow and Kenneth D'Alessandro for coordinating the "Santa Around Town" event that involved three nights of driving Santa through every single street in Deer Park.

Chief Davis advised Council that every member of the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department supported and participated in all of these events in addition to other area events, such as school fire prevention programs, school career days and church carnivals.

7. SPECIAL PRESENTATION FOR DONNA TODD, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE – City Manager James Stokes advised Council of the retirement announcement from the Director of Finance Donna Todd and recognized her numerous contributions to Deer Park and the awards received due to the exemplary service Ms. Todd provided to include the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Excellence in Financial Reporting Awards, AAA Bond rating since 2016 and the Comptroller Leadership Circle Award. Ms. Todd is credited with investing in many beneficial investments, revisions of financial policies, serving as the Treasurer for the Crime and Fire District along with the Community Development Corporation, Senior Trust Committee and the Charity Committee. Ms. Todd has completed 10 City budgets, 10 sales of trash bags, bond sales and FEMA projects pertaining to prior storms and hurricanes.

Assistant City Manager Gary Jackson commented, “We had the pleasure of working together during the best of times and the worst of times. The good thing about Donna is that she has always been there to do the job, day and night, whatever it took to get it done. She works from home, she works in the office, she works whenever it is required. Through the budgets, we had some challenging times, but we stayed with it along with Purchasing Coordinator Tracy Peterson. Donna is the kind of person that does what it takes to get the job done, and that work ethic is hard to find these days.”

Mr. Stokes commented, "We are so much better because Donna was here. Donna is the absolute most thoughtful person I have ever known. She never forgets a birthday or a holiday. If your pet died, she is going to send you a card. She never forgot Boss' Day. She is very good at figuring out what you like. She discovered I liked Nature Valley almond butter granola bars and every Boss' Day she would always have one for me. Donna discovered that I would go through the snack mix bag and pull out the toast pieces. After that, Donna would go through and pick out all the toast pieces and put them in a cup for me. I talked to her Staff today and asked what they will miss most about Donna and they responded, "she makes great brownies". Purchasing Coordinator Tracy Peterson called her the "Excel spreadsheet queen". I will miss Donna's dogs barking in the background when we have Zoom meetings. I will miss Donna's discussion about her commute, trash bags and the golf course. My favorite story about Donna is that she does an annual Halloween candy audit, just for me. Every year, Donna buys a 2 lbs. bag of KitKats and she audits and counts the pieces. The reason I know this is because one year, maybe in 2015, Donna said she had about 13 kids come to her house. I then asked her how she knew that it was 13 kids. Donna responded, "Well, I bought a bag that said it had 50 pieces but I counted and there was only 47 pieces and at the end of the night, there were only 33 pieces left over." I hope that Donna will always, even in retirement, send me the Halloween candy audit every year."

City Council gave expressions of gratitude and well wishes for Donna Todd.

Finance Director Donna Todd commented, "I thank you all for the kind words. It is said the nights are long and the days are short. Indeed, as I retire, it is hard to believe, but it is a true statement as I am finding out. I have worked some long days here in Deer Park and it is hard to believe that I have served here for almost 10 years. I have probably driven the equivalent of 2 ½ years in that time. For anyone who doesn't know, I live near Conroe, so I have a 2 ½ to 4 hour drive daily depending on what the other drivers decide to do on my route. It is also hard to believe that I have been in my professional career for 47 years and life is definitely short. I can honestly say that. I could not have survived the last 10 years without my fabulous boss City Manager James Stokes, my closest colleague Assistant City Manager Gary Jackson or without the support of my great Staff and my fellow Directors. I have always strived to do my best like so many other hard working people here at the City. None of us are perfect, we all makes mistakes. It is my hope that people will stop confusing that with people not doing their jobs. It is very hurtful to hear or read undeserved and unfounded criticism, but I know that is a fact of life. I am most thankful for the grace of God that has helped me make the long drive and to work the long hours. I hope I am leaving the Finance Department in better shape than what I found it and I would say I did. It is not for me to say, but I thank you all for saying it and letting me hear that. I appreciate all the friendships I have made along the way, including my new friendship with the incoming Director. I know that will continue into my retirement. It is the people I will cherish and remember the most. Ultimately, this life is about relationships, the one with our Creator and the one we have with each other. I am grateful for the many good relationships I have formed here in Deer Park and I pray God's blessings on all of you. Thank you for letting me serve."

8. AWARDING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR MOWING SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF DEER PARK TO SERIL, INC. (HOUSTON GROTECH SERVICES) – Motion was made by Councilman Patterson and seconded by Councilman Haight to award the Request for Proposal for mowing services for the City of Deer Park to lowest bidder, Seril Inc. (Houston Grotech Services) in the amount of \$82,080. Motion carried 7 to 0.
9. CONSENT CALENDAR – Motion was made by Councilman Ginn and seconded by Councilman Haight to approve the consent calendar as follows:
 - a. Approval of minutes of workshop meeting on December 21, 2021.
 - b. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on December 21, 2021.
 - c. Approval of minutes of workshop meeting on January 04, 2022.
 - d. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on January 04, 2022.Motion carried 7 to 0.
10. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AN AGREEMENT WITH HOUSTON COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS – Motion was made by Councilwoman Garrison and seconded by Councilman Patterson on entering into an agreement with Houston Community Newspapers. Motion carried 7 to 0.
11. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE/INSTALLATION OF SECURITY/HURRICANE FILM FROM ASAP SECURITY SYSTEMS THROUGH TIPS (THE INTERLOCAL PURCHASING SYSTEM) #200203 – Motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Patterson to authorize the purchase/installation of security/hurricane film from ASAP Security Systems through TIPS (The Interlocal Purchasing System) #200203. Motion carried 7 to 0.
12. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES TO TRANSMIT FUNDS, WITHDRAW FUNDS, AND/OR TAKE ALL OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE FOR THE INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN TEXPOOL/TEXPOOL PRIME – After a proposed resolution was read by caption, motion was made by Councilman Ginn and seconded by Councilwoman Sinor to adopt Resolution No. 2022-01, captioned as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS AMENDING AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES TO TRANSMIT FUNDS FOR INVESTMENT, WITHDRAW FUNDS, AND/OR TAKE ALL OTHER ACTIONS NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE FOR INVESTMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN TEXPOOL/TEXPOOL PRIME. (J. Stokes, S. Robinson, T. Riley)

Motion carried 7 to 0.

13. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FY 2020-2021 BUDGET FOR THE LIMITED TAX REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2020 – After a proposed ordinance was read by caption, motion was made by Councilwoman Garrison and seconded by Councilman Patterson to adopt Ordinance No. 4288, captioned as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020-2021 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUMS SET UP THEREIN TO THE OBJECTS AND PURPOSES THEREIN NAMED.

Motion carried 7 to 0.

14. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE APPROVING REVISIONS TO THE PART TIME EMPLOYEE PAY RANGE CHARTS OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK – After a proposed ordinance was read by caption, motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Patterson to adopt Ordinance No. 4289, captioned as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4274 PROVIDING FOR REVISED PART-TIME CLASSIFICATION FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK.

Motion carried 7 to 0.

15. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 – After a proposed ordinance was read by caption, motion was made by Councilwoman Sinor and by seconded Councilman Patterson to adopt Ordinance No. 4290, captioned as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020-2021 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUMS SET UP THEREIN TO THE OBJECTS AND PURPOSES THEREIN NAMED.

Motion carried 7 to 0.

16. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT – After a proposed ordinance was read by caption, motion was made by Councilman Ginn and seconded by Councilman Patterson to adopt Ordinance No. 4291, captioned as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020-2021 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUMS SET UP THEREIN TO THE OBJECTS AND PURPOSES THEREIN NAMED.

Motion carried 7 to 0.

17. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 BUDGET FOR THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT – After a proposed ordinance was read by caption, motion was made by Councilwoman Garrison and seconded by Councilwoman Sinor to adopt Ordinance No. 4292, captioned as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020-2021 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS, AND APPROPRIATING THE SUMS SET UP THEREIN TO THE OBJECTS AND PURPOSES THEREIN NAMED.

Motion carried 7 to 0.

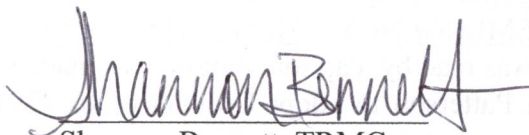
18. CONSIDERATION OF AND ACTION ON A REFERRAL FROM THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AND AN ORDINANCE CALLING A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING FROM THE REQUEST FROM OSCAR SALAZAR AND REPRESENTATIVE MANZOOR (MANNY) MEMON FOR THE PROPOSED REZONE OF LOT TR 101 DEER PARK OUTLOT (150 DIXIE DRIVE) FROM SINGLE FAMILY 1 (SF1) TO SINGLE FAMILY 2 (SF2) – After a proposed ordinance was read by caption, motion was made by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Patterson to adopt Ordinance No. 4293, captioned as follows:

AN ORDINANCE CALLING A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 15, 2022 BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF DEER PARK, TEXAS, ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 3886, THE ZONING ORDINANCE, PLACING IN THE SINGLE FAMILY TWO (SF-2) ZONING DISTRICT, A 0.201 ACRE TRACT OF LAND OUT OF OUTLOT 102, DEER PARK OUTLOTS ALSO KNOWN AS 150 DIXIE DRIVE, DEER PARK, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS, AND TAKING THE SAME OUT OF THE SINGLE FAMILY ONE (SF-1) ZONING DISTRICT.

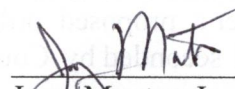
Motion carried 7 to 0.

19. ADJOURN – Mayor Mouton adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

ATTEST:


Shannon Bennett, TRMC
City Secretary

APPROVED:


Jerry Mouton Jr.
Mayor

Fire Fighters Michael Schreiber and Michael Moore provided a standby Grass Truck for the Illuminate Texas Memorial event. While on standby assignment, they responded to numerous Illumination Bag flareups that occurred in their standby area. We began to have an increase in Illumination Bag failures beginning around 2300 hours, once the candles started burn down low in the holders. The decision was made to begin extinguishing the Illumination Bags in remote and high risk areas, to prevent the possibility of fire spread as they failed, once the event was over at 2400 hours. Once the event was over, they assisted me in extinguishing Illumination Bags in a number of those remote and high risk areas. They volunteered to bring a Grass Truck for a standby assignment, they ended up spending most of the early morning hours helping extinguish literally around a thousand or more of Illumination Bags. They understood I was going to be there on fire watch overnight, by myself, and did not want to leave me alone. They helped me until around 0300 hours Sunday morning, after I convinced them I was not going to extinguish any more, just provide a fire watch position to ensure the other Illumination Bags did not have any fire spread if they failed, at which time they returned their unit back to the station. They could have returned to service at 2400 hours and not be concerned about any of the issues going on, but due to their dedication and professionalism, they went the extra mile for a brother firefighter, me. And that is what the brotherhood of the fire service and the commitment to the public is all about!

Sincerely,

Hal Vaughn