

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS HELD ON THE 7TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023.

On the 7th day of February, 2023, the City Council of the City of Lufkin, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall with the following members, thereof to wit:

Mark Hicks	Mayor
Robert Shankle	Mayor Pro Tem
Guessippina Bonner	Councilmember, Ward No. 1
Brent Watkins	Councilmember, Ward No. 3
Wes Suiter	Councilmember, Ward No. 4
Rocky Thigpen	Councilmember, Ward No. 5
Trent Burfine	Councilmember, Ward No. 6
Kevin Gee	City Manager
Kristi Skillern	City Attorney
Gerald Williamson	Assistant City Manager
Kara Andrepont	City Secretary
Adriana Thomasee	Human Resources
David Thomas	Police Chief
Buddy Cross	Assistant Police Chief
Jesse Moody	Fire Chief
Ryan Watson	Assistant Fire Chief
Jessica Pebsworth	Communications Director
Eddie Aguilar	Engineering Services Director
Scott Rayburn	Planning Director
Calvin Toups	Building Official

being present when the following business was transacted.

INVOCATION – The meeting was opened with prayer by Assistant City Manager Gerald Williamson.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mayor Mark Hicks opened the meeting for public comment on any posted agenda item at 5:01 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the public comment period.

Mayor Mark Hicks recognized those in attendance with the Leadership Lufkin class.

BUSINESS AGENDA

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 17TH, 2023 - APPROVED.

Councilmember Robert Shankle moved to approve the minutes of the meeting as presented. Councilmember Rocky Thigpen seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

2. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS BY CHANGING THE ZONING TO “RESIDENTIAL LARGE” ON PROPERTY ADDRESSED AS 4621 COLLEGE DRIVE – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated the applicant, Michael G. Parker, on behalf of Dillon Renfro, had requested a zone change from “Agricultural” to “Residential Large” for 4621 College Drive. City Manager Gee furthered prior to future development, the property was required to be reclassified to a standard zoning classification. City Manager Gee stated the property was ninety-three (93) acres and was currently non-developed. City Manager Gee furthered the purpose of the zone change was for future development of a single-family residential subdivision. City Manager Gee highlighted the location of the property and surrounding uses. City Manager Gee stated Staff found the proposed zone change consistent with the City’s adopted plans and surrounding uses. City Manager Gee furthered the request was unanimously recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission at their regular meeting on January 9th, 2023. City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended Council conduct a Public Hearing and consider approval of the Second Reading of an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Lufkin, Texas by changing the zoning to “Residential Large” on property addressed as 4621 College Drive.

Mayor Hicks opened the Public Hearing at 5:03 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the Public Hearing and requested comments from City Council.

Councilmember Guessippina Bonner moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

3. **PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS BY GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR A HOTEL ON PROPERTY ADDRESSED AS 3701 SOUTH MEDFORD DRIVE – APPROVED.**

City Manager Kevin Gee stated the applicant, Kevin Patel, on behalf of Lufkin Hotel II, LLC had requested a Special Use Permit for a “Hotel” within the Garden District Shopping Village. City Manager Gee furthered the applicant intended to construct a Home 2 Suites by Hilton Extended Stay Hotel which would consist of four (4) stories and have ninety-two (92) guest rooms. City Manager Gee highlighted the location of the property and surrounding uses. City Manager Gee stated the request was unanimously recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission at their regular meeting on January 9th, 2023. City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended Council conduct a Public Hearing and consider approval of the Second Reading of an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Lufkin, Texas by granting a Special Use Permit for a hotel on property addressed as 3701 South Medford Drive.

Mayor Hicks opened the Public Hearing at 5:05 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the Public Hearing and requested comments from City Council.

Councilmember Wes Suiter moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Councilmember Guessippina Bonner the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

4. **PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVAL OF THE ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES(S) OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE IN THE CITY OF LUFKIN – APPROVED.**

City Manager Kevin Gee stated by City Ordinance no person may operate a non-emergency ambulance for hire on any street of the city without first having obtained from city council a certificate declaring that the public convenience and necessity (“Certificate”) requires such an operation. City Manager Gee furthered Acadian Ambulance Service and Allegiance Ambulance Service possessed a Certificate, which expires at the end of June 2023. City Manager Gee stated over the past year, Fire Chief Moody had received and investigated many complaints regarding extended response times on both emergency and non-emergency transfers. City Manager Gee furthered neither of the two (2) companies currently providing services could increase their operational capacity at the time. City Manager Gee stated Staff had recently received two (2) additional applications from City Ambulance Service and Texan EMS. City Manager Gee furthered due to the increase in need for service; Chief Moody had recommended that both companies be approved and issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate in the City of Lufkin. City Manager Gee stated both companies came with high recommendations from both hospitals and the Certificate would be issued for a period of three (3) years.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council consider approval of the issuance of Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to City Ambulance Service and Texan EMS.

Mayor Hicks opened the Public Hearing at 5:07 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the Public Hearing and requested comments from City Council.

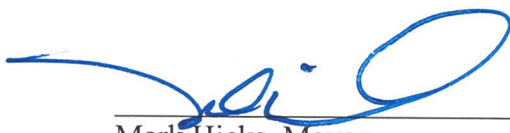
Councilmember Robert Shankle moved to approve the issuance of Certificates as presented. Councilmember Guessippina Bonner seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

There being no further business, Mayor Mark Hicks adjourned the meeting at 5:07 p.m.



ATTEST:


Kara Andrepont, City Secretary


Mark Hicks, Mayor