

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS HELD ON THE 21ST DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2023.

On the 21st day of November, 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
Wes Suiter	Councilmember, Ward No. 4
Adam Lowther	Councilmember, Ward No. 6
Kevin Gee	City Manager
Kristi Skillern	City Attorney
Gerald Williamson	Assistant City Manager
Brian Bray	Assistant City Manager
Kara Andrepont	City Secretary
David Thomas	Police Chief
Buddy Cross	Assistant Police Chief
Jesse Moody	Fire Chief
Belinda Melancon	Finance Director
Eddie Aguilar	Engineering Services Director
Scott Rayburn	Planning Director
Buddy Timme	Parks Nd Recreation Director
Albert Duffield	Utilities Director
John Smith	Fleet Maintenance Director

being present; and

Brent Watkins	Councilmember, Ward No. 3
Rocky Thigpen	Councilmember, Ward No. 5

being absent 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 5:02 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the public comment period.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 7TH, 2023 - APPROVED.**
- 2. SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A CLASSIFICATION PLAN FOR THE LUFKIN FIRE DEPARTMENT - APPROVED.**
- 3. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2023-2024 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 5) APPROPRIATING FUNDING IN THE GENERAL FUND, CONVENTION SERVICES FUND, SPECIAL RECREATION FUND, ELLEN TROUT ZOO BUILDING FUND, TOURISM AND MARKETING FUND, WATER AND WASTEWATER FUND, AND THE EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION AND REPLACEMENT FUND- APPROVED.**
- 4. APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) – APPROVED.**
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE OF AN AUTOMATED MATERIALS HANDLING (AMH) SORTER FOR THE KURTH MEMORIAL LIBRARY - APPROVED.**

Councilmember Wes Suiter moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

BUSINESS AGENDA

6. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS, BY AMENDING THE BUILDING HEIGHT REGULATIONS WITHIN THE “LOCAL BUSINESS” ZONING DISTRICT – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated the current zoning ordinance limited building height within the “Local Business District” to a maximum of forty-two feet (42’). City Manager Gee furthered the proposed Ordinance would amend the height regulations within the Local Business District to a maximum of seventy feet (70’) in height which would match the height limitations within both the “Central Business” and the “Commercial” zoning districts. City Manager Gee stated he current maximum height of forty-two feet (42’) limited the ability for development of multi-story structures within the “Local Business” zoning district.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council consider approval on Second Reading of an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of City of Lufkin, Texas by amending building height regulations in the “Local Business” zoning district.

Mayor Mark 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 Robert Shankle moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Councilmember Wes Suiter seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

7. PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND 2023 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, FISCAL YEAR BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM FUNDING AND FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2023-2024 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. (4) APPROPRIATING FUNDING FOR THE SAME – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated the Lufkin Police Department had been awarded funding in the amount of \$17,749.30, including matching funds, (FY 2022 - \$11,380 & FY 2023 - \$6,369.30) through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Assistance, Bulletproof Vest Program. City Manager Gee furthered the funds would be utilized to purchase new and replacement vests for the Lufkin Police Department. City Manager Gee stated in order to receive the funds, a Public Hearing must be conducted and a Resolution authorizing acceptance approved by City Council. City Manager Gee furthered an Ordinance authorizing a Budget Amendment must be approved in order to appropriate funding. City Manager Gee stated the grants also required matching funds in the amount of fifty percent (50%) of the grant award with matching funding available in the Patrol Uniform Account.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council conduct a Public Hearing and approve Resolutions authorizing acceptance of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership program funding and First Reading of an Ordinance authorizing Budget Amendment No. 4 appropriating the same.

Mayor Mark Hicks opened the Public Hearing at 5:04 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 Resolutions and Ordinance as presented. Councilmember Wes Suiter seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

REPORTS

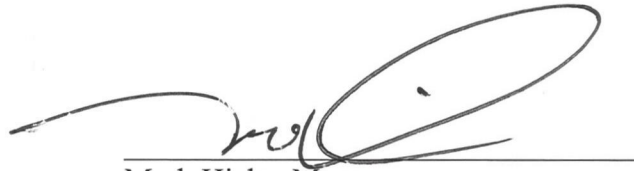
8. FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

City Manager Kevin Gee updated City Council on the financial status of the City. City Manager Gee offered to answer any questions. There were none.

Mayor Mark Hicks extended thoughts and prayers to Councilmember Rocky Thigpen and family for the lose of his mother, Jimmie Thigpen.

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




Mark Hicks, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kara Andrepont, City Secretary