

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACHSE

MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

The City Council of the City of Sachse held a workshop and regular meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, 3815 Sachse Road, Sachse, Texas. Those present were Mayor Mike Felix, Mayor Pro Tem Bill Adams, Councilmembers Brett Franks, Michelle Howarth, Paul Watkins, Cullen King, and Jeff Bickerstaff; City Manager, Gina Nash; City Secretary, Michelle Lewis Sirianni; Strategic Services Manager, Lauren Rose; Economic Development CEO, Leslyn Blake; Finance Director, Teresa Savage; IT Manager, Danny Wheeler; Parks and Recreation Director, Lance Whitworth; Development Services Director, Matt Robinson; Human Resources Director, Melinda Walter; Fire Chief, Marty Wade, Police Chief, Bryan Sylvester; Assistant Police Chief, Steven Baxter; and Police Lieutenant, Marty Cassidy.

Mayor Felix opened the workshop meeting at 6:33 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section §551.087 Economic Development Deliberations: Discussion of a Development Agreement between the City of Sachse and PMB Acquisitions LLC and/or its affiliates to provide incentives related to the development of approximately 119 acres of land within the PGBT Area Zoning District.

The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section §551.087 Economic Development Deliberations: Deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive relating to the development of Project Trinity.

At 6:34 p.m., the City Council recessed into Executive Session.

At 7:37 p.m., the City Council reconvened back into the workshop meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Felix adjourned the workshop at 7:38 p.m.

Mayor Felix opened the regular meeting at 7:38 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO U.S. AND STATE FLAG:

Councilman King offered the invocation and Mayor Pro Tem Adams led the pledges.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING SPECIAL EVENTS:

Councilman King announced the 15th anniversary celebration at North Point Church on September 14, and the fundraiser being done by 5 Loaves Food Pantry in coordination with North Texas Giving Day.

Councilwoman Howarth announced upcoming Library events.

Mayor Felix announced upcoming events including Public Safety Day on September 14, the Sachse Homecoming parade on September 25, the X-treme Green event on September 28, and the first responder's cookout on October 15 at Charles Smith Funeral Home.

Presentation of Texas Police Chief's Best Practices Recognition certificate.

Mayor Felix introduced the item.

Mike Sullivan, Police Chief for the City of Farmersville, provided history and background information on the Best Practices Program and the requirements set forth that must be met. Chief Sullivan indicated that the City of Sachse has been recognized for the past eight years, which is commendable. Chief Sullivan presented the Sachse Police Department with a certificate of re-recognition.

Chief Sylvester presented Lieutenant Cassidy a Chief's Coin in honor of his dedication, continual work, and for overseeing the department's re-certification for the Best Practices Program.

CITIZENS INPUT:

Drew Shubzda, 3331 Meadow Bluff, invited the City Council and the citizens to the upcoming Sachse Lions Club golf fundraiser.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and will be acted on by one motion, with no separate discussion of these items unless a City Councilmember or citizen so requests.

- 1. Approve the minutes of the August 19, 2019, joint workshop meeting.**
- 2. Approve the minutes of the August 19, 2019, regular meeting**
- 3. Accept the monthly revenue and expenditure reports for the period ending July 31, 2019.**

4. Approve an agreement for the terms and conditions by and between Dallas County and the City of Sachse for fire protection services.

5. Approve an agreement for the terms and conditions by and between Dallas County and the City of Sachse for ambulance services.

Councilman Bickerstaff made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Councilman King seconded that motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

Receive an update on the Sachse Road/5th Street widening project with Dallas County and consider a resolution affirming the City's ability to fund Dallas County MCIP Project #22804 in the amount of six million, three-hundred thousand dollars for the reconstruction of 0.75 miles of Sachse Road.

Mrs. Nash gave an update of the Sachse Road and 5th Street widening project, which included a description and background. The project was bid by Dallas County in March 2019. The bids were opened in May 2019. Dallas County Public Works staff has requested confirmation that the City has its share of the project's funding identified prior to taking the contract to the Commissioner's Court for approval and award. Mrs. Nash reviewed the project funding. The project has been delayed several times, resulting in an \$800,000 funding gap. The City can cover that gap by using \$600,000 of Dallas County Road and Bridge District #2 funds offered by Commissioner Koch and by pulling \$200,000 from the General Fund. The \$600,000 from Dallas County will be distributed throughout three fiscal years on a reimbursement basis. Staff will also continue to work with the City's partners for other cost saving alternatives. Staff recommends the City Council approve the funding strategy for the Sachse Road project and adopt a resolution affirming the City's ability to fund its share of the project.

Councilman Franks questioned why the project has taken so long. Mrs. Nash replied that part of the delay stemmed from new procurement rules and the re-design efforts by staff. John Mears with Dallas County also indicated that it took time for right-of-way acquisition and utility relocation.

The City Council expressed their readiness to begin the project.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve the funding strategy as proposed and a resolution affirming the City's ability to fund Dallas County MCIP Project #22804 in the amount of six million, three-hundred thousand dollars for the reconstruction of 0.75 miles of Sachse Road. Councilman Bickerstaff seconded that motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Conduct the second public hearing on the proposed tax rate for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Mrs. Savage stated this is the second of two mandated public hearings on the tax rate due to the proposed tax rate exceeding the Effective Tax Rate.

Mayor Felix opened the public hearing.

No comments were made.

Mayor Felix closed the public hearing.

No further comments were made.

Conduct a public hearing on the proposed 2019-2020 fiscal year budget.

Mrs. Savage stated there have been no changes on the operation side since the last presentation. She presented an overview of the General Fund, Utility Fund, departmental summaries, and General and Utility Fund supplementals. She also reviewed the proposed capital projects and funding sources.

Mayor Felix opened the public hearing.

Kirk Wood, 6322 Falcon Crest, stated he is disappointed with the half million-dollar change that has occurred halfway through the budget process.

Mayor Felix closed the public hearing.

No further comments were made.

Discuss and consider eliminating fines for overdue Library items, waiving outstanding overdue fine balances, and waiving outstanding fines for older lost and damaged library materials.

Mr. Laney, Library Manager, presented information about why libraries are eliminating fines. Mr. Laney reviewed the City's current overdue fines fee structure, lending policies, and fines collected from FY 2012 to projected in FY 2019. A one-week overdue fine study was conducted by the Library. The data showed that they had 28 fine interactions, which reflects \$78.95 in fine revenue resulting in an average payment per patron of \$2.82. One to two employees processed the interactions, resulting in an estimated labor costs of \$54.44 (69%). Mr. Laney also stated other libraries in the DFW area have eliminated fines and reviewed their experiences. At the August 12 Library Board meeting, the Board recommended to remove overdue fines, suspend borrowing privileges once items are overdue, declare unreturned items 'lost' after 30 days overdue, and update the Library Circulation Policy to reflect these changes. Staff is recommending to eliminate fines for overdue items, waive outstanding fine balances, and waive outstanding fines for older lost and damaged items.

Councilman King asked how much inventory would they be writing off and what was a normal year write off. Mr. Laney responded the existing total to write off is \$39,522.52.

Councilman Bickerstaff expressed concern regarding the incentive to return items and access to other materials if they have an overdue item. He believes there needs to be accountability. Councilman Bickerstaff asked how long are items typically kept. Mr. Laney stated that in March,

8% of items were considered overdue. Of that 8%, 6.87 % were returned in 30 days, 0.5% were returned within 30-120 days, and 0.63% were considered 'lost'.

Councilwoman Howarth shared comments from the Library Board meeting and shared the same concerns as Councilman Bickerstaff. She indicated that her mind was changed after hearing comments about potentially preventing patrons from visiting the Library due to being embarrassed by the fines and with the policy change of lost items declared going from 120 days to 30 days.

Mayor Pro Tem Adams stated it is worth trying the new policy for a year and that they may also revisit the item if necessary.

Councilman Franks stated the email notifications work in his household to remind them to return an item. Mr. Laney noted that the notifications have proven to be most effective.

Mayor Felix stated that if they keep the fines, they should be increasing them.

Councilman King agreed with Mayor Pro Tem Adams about revisiting the item in a year before budget.

Kirk Wood, 6322 Falcon Crest, stated a fine of \$5.00 will not encourage someone to bring back an item. He agreed the emails are very effective method.

Councilman Franks made a motion to approve eliminating fines for overdue Library items, waiving outstanding overdue fine balances, and waiving outstanding fines for older lost and damaged library materials. Councilman Watkins seconded that motion.

Councilman Bickerstaff stated for clarification, he supports the waiving of the fines, but not the policy regarding the lost items.

The motion passed with a 6-1 vote. Councilman Bickerstaff voted no.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section §551.074: Personnel - regarding the annual review of the City Secretary.

At 8:59 p.m., the City Council recessed into Executive Session.

At 9:47 p.m., the City Council reconvened back into the regular meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Adams made a motion to approve workshop item A2 as presented, the first amendment to the development agreement and consent to assignment between the City of Sachse and PMB, The Station Developer, LLC relating to The Station development. Councilwoman Howarth seconded that motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

No action taken on workshop item A3 (Project Trinity).

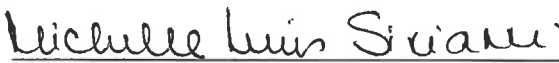
Councilman Bickerstaff made a motion to increase the City Secretary's annual salary by 3%. Councilman King seconded that motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Felix adjourned the regular meeting at 9:51 p.m.


MIKE J. FELIX, MAYOR

ATTEST:


Michelle Lewis Sirianni, City Secretary

