

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACHSE

MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 20, 2020

The City Council of the City of Sachse held a regular meeting on Monday, April 20, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. via virtual teleconference. Those present were Mayor Mike Felix, Mayor Pro Tem Michelle Howarth, Councilmembers Brett Franks, Paul Watkins, Chance Lindsey, Cullen King, and Jeff Bickerstaff; City Manager, Gina Nash; City Secretary, Michelle Lewis Sirianni; Parks and Recreation Director, Lance Whitworth; Library Manager, Daniel Laney; IT Manager, Danny Wheeler; Strategic Services Manager, Lauren Rose; Finance Director, Teresa Savage; Public Works and CIP Director, Corey Nesbit; Development Services Director, Matt Robinson; Human Resources Director, Melinda Walter; Fire Chief, Marty Wade; and Police Chief, Bryan Sylvester.

Mayor Felix opened the regular meeting at 6:35 p.m.

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

Councilman Franks offered the invocation and Councilman King led the pledges.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING SPECIAL EVENTS:

Councilman King asked for citizens to continue to support 5 Loaves Food Pantry or any surrounding food banks in the community during this time. They rely on and need our donations to support those who are in need.

Councilman Franks reminded everyone of the Wellbeats program offered through the Community Center that allows residents to workout at home virtually.

CITIZEN INPUT:

No comments were submitted.

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 April 6, 2020, combined meeting.

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 regarding actions taken by the City as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and any future measures that may be necessary including city operations and facilities, public safety, financial employee impact, and the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.

Mrs. Nash gave an update regarding recent changes to the Dallas County amended order requiring face coverings when patronizing an essential business or using public transportation and Governor Abbott's Executive Order announcing the closure of schools through the end of this school year. The City has been continuing to operate the last weeks in the same manner with the buildings remaining closed to the public, with the option for residents to make appointments to meet with staff. At this time, the City has eight active COVID-19 cases. Details about the active and recovered cases are available on the City's COVID-19 website.

Councilman Watkins asked if the order of face coverings includes the Collin County portion that is in the City limits. Mrs. Nash replied yes it does.

Councilman King asked what impacts the citizens may see as far as road work, sidewalk repair, etc. and what areas can they ask for residents to be patient with City staff on during this time. Mrs. Nash replied the Public Works Department continues to do their work and the projects they can do while maintaining appropriate social distancing. Mrs. Nash added the biggest area needed for grace and patience is in Code Enforcement. The City's Code Enforcement team is conscientious of the shelter in place order and other additional challenges residents are working with during this time. As such, staff is holding off on proactive enforcement measures unless there is a public safety or emergency issue. Lastly, Mrs. Nash added that residents may wish to avoid Merritt Road while the overlay project is completed.

Councilman Bickerstaff asked if Governor Abbott issues a more lenient executive order, can Dallas County issue more stringent regulations. Mrs. Nash stated that it depends on how the executive order is structured. They are working through this now as areas that are more urban will most likely be different than rural areas. Dallas County continues to see new positive cases in the triple digits each day, which may impact their stance on regulations.

Consider approving a resolution awarding The American National Bank of Texas as the City's primary depository bank for the City of Sachse and authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreements necessary for said bank services.

Mrs. Savage presented an overview of the process including the timeline, eligible institutions, and selection criteria used. The City received proposals from three banks: BBVA USA, Prosperity Bank, and The American National Bank of Texas. All three exhibited acceptable financial strength and service abilities. Due to the major changes in the financial markets since the initial submittal and final analysis, the selection team agreed it was fair to request a "Best and Final Offer" from each of the applicants to allow proposers to respond to the recent changes in the market. The stability and consistency of services during these times resulted in consensus to retain the

incumbent depository bank. Therefore, staff recommends The American National Bank of Texas as the City's primary depository bank.

Councilman Watkins made a motion to approve a resolution awarding The American National Bank of Texas as the City's primary depository bank for the City of Sachse and authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreements necessary for said bank services. Mayor Pro Tem Howarth seconded that motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Receive a report regarding Library activities for 2019-2020.

Daniel Laney, Library Manager, presented an overview of the last year to the City Council. He reviewed statistics, which reflected increases in participation for all areas. He highlighted new programs and services including Hoopla, the board game collection, and 3D design classes. Most notably, the Library has received, for the second consecutive year, the Achievement of Excellence in Libraries from the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association. Mr. Laney stated the Library went fine free beginning in October 2019. Since that time, the Library has seen a decrease in both the 30-day overdue rate and item renewal rate, and overall has received a positive response from its patrons. As a result of COVID-19, the Library has made changes and additions in its online resources, creating a digital library card, hosting virtual story times, developing videos featuring songs, rhymes, and felt board stories, and using social media as a way to communicate educational resources and the new online book club. Lastly, Mr. Laney stated the Summer Reading Program this year will be done online via Beanstack. Registration and reading logs will be available through a mobile app and staff will track participation and conduct prize drawings.

Councilman King asked if the Library has experienced any technology road blocks as they have made changes due to COVID-19. Mr. Laney said everything has been going smoothly with only a few small hurdles. One being how to handle renewing all checked out items so that it didn't impact patron's ability to use the online resources. They are still learning Beanstack, but not anticipating any concerns.

Consider approving a four (4) year lease agreement with Dell Financial Services, purchased through GTS Technology Solutions, for a refresh of employee computers in the amount of one hundred and fifty-one thousand, eight hundred and twenty-five dollars and forty-eight cents (\$151,825.48).

Mr. Wheeler stated the majority of the current PC environment at the City is more than five years old and is out of warranty, with some machines approaching more than ten years in age. The IT Department currently fields multiple service requests per week for slow or failing equipment in all departments. Prior to 2018, PCs have been purchased mostly on an ad-hoc basis, with no standard specifications or platform defined. The needs have changed and technology has evolved since most of the fleet was purchased. Mr. Wheeler stated the COVID-19 pandemic has placed the aging technology into sharper focus. Most desktops are large and cumbersome to move, requiring some users to come to the office to file reports and complete other tasks instead of being able to work remotely. In addition, there are departments that use resource intensive software platforms that do not work well on older machines and struggle even more when used remotely. Many machines are

still using outdated operating systems and cannot be upgraded to Windows 10, which would allow users to take advantage of more of the City's cloud services. Hardware failures have drastically increased the number of "touches" required to assist users. Mr. Wheeler commented that they are coordinating with each department to determine what machine types and specifications are needed for replacements. This will be the first phase of replacements that will eventually have all machines on four-year lifecycles to ensure users have technology and equipment to adequately perform their roles and responsibilities. Mr. Wheeler provided an overview of the type of equipment and quantity breakdown, as well as an overview of the purchasing and financing costs within the fiscal year 2020 budget. Staff is recommending approval.

Councilman Lindsay asked if the City is set up to utilize a VDI (virtual desktop infrastructure) and if they foresee any software upgrades needed once machines are upgraded due to compatibility concerns. Mr. Wheeler responded that a VDI or remote desktop delivered through a remote connection is not in place at this time. The city is utilizing VPN and cloud services that allows users to work remotely. He noted that they also have been as proactive as they can to ensure and bring up to date any older software updates off legacy machines and onto the server, virtualizing to avoid any issues that could arise.

Councilman King asked how long it would take to roll through all the machines and if the Animal Shelter software will be able to be moved over to a new machine. Mr. Wheeler responded that the goal is to do majority now, with year two focused on 25 to 50 machines, with years three and four focused on the remaining machines. It will take four years to place all City machines on the four-year cycle, with concentration on being the oldest machines first. In regards to the Animal Shelter, they are on list to be upgraded. They are also looking into upgrading their internet line as well.

Councilman Franks encouraged virtual repairs as much as possible and is concerned about security of machines in general. He would rather see software updated to meet current technology if needed.

Councilman King made a motion to approve a four (4) year lease agreement with Dell Financial Services, purchased through GTS Technology Solutions, for a refresh of employee computers in the amount of one hundred and fifty-one thousand, eight hundred and twenty-five dollars and forty-eight cents (\$151,825.48). Councilman Lindsey seconded that motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Section §551.087: Economic Development Negotiations: Deliberation regarding economic development incentive for retail or commercial business projects seeking to locate within the City of Sachse.

At 7:40 p.m., the City Council recessed into Executive Session.

At 9:00 p.m., the City Council reconvened back into the regular session.

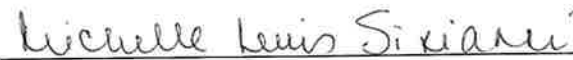
No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Felix adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.


MIKE J. FELIX, MAYOR

ATTEST:


Michelle Lewis Sirianni, City Secretary

