

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACHSE
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2024**

The City Council of the City of Sachse held a regular meeting on Monday, February 19, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Sachse City Hall, 3815-B Sachse Road. Councilmembers present were Mayor Jeff Bickerstaff; Mayor Pro Tem Brett Franks; Councilmembers Michelle Howarth, Frank Millsap, Chance Lindsey, Lindsay Buhler, and Matt Prestenberg.

MEETING OPENING

1. Call to Order

Mayor Bickerstaff called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance.

Mayor Bickerstaff offered the invocation and Webelos Arrow of Light Den, Cub Scout Pack 243 presented the Colors and led the pledges. Afterwards, the Mayor presented the troop members with a Mayor's Award of Excellence for their honorable service to the community through the Scouts.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident, Matthew Holboke, addressed Council regarding rules for speaking, High Ridge Alley, and taxes.

Councilmember Matt Prestenberg arrived at 6:38 p.m.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORTS AND UPDATES:

1. Mayor and City Council announcements regarding special events, current activities, and local achievements.

Mayor Pro Tem Franks announced a Glow in the Dark Dodge Ball tournament at the Michael J. Felix Community Center on March 1.

Mayor Bickerstaff's announcements:

- The 2024 Sachse Scholarship is still open for applicants. Sachse residents in their senior year of high school are encouraged to apply through the City website.
- The Primary Election is coming up. This is to determine the candidate for political parties in the County, State, and Federal elections. No local items will be on this ballot. Early voting for the Primary Election is February 20 – March 1, and Election Day is March 5. See county election websites for details.
- The candidate filing period for City Council Places 1 and 2 has closed. The Drawing for the Order on the Ballot will be at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers on Thursday, February 22. Details about the election are on the website or you may contact City Secretary Leah Granger with questions.
- Heritage Park will be the site of the first Pop-Up Park experience on March 6 from 4:30 – 6 p.m. The City has outfitted a trailer with games, equipment, and fun activities. It will be brought to parks around Sachse for kids to enjoy for a couple of hours. No registration required.

- There are several Easter Egg hunts happening on Saturday, March 23. Check out the Parks and Recreation Special Events page for details.
- The Police Department will be hosting a Senior Fraud and Scam Prevention seminar at the Senior Activity Center from 1 – 2 p.m. on Tuesday March 12. All are welcome to attend.
- City offices will be closed on March 29 in observance of Good Friday.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approve the February 5, 2024, regular meeting minutes.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute a renewal of the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement for three years in the amount of \$104,050.86 per year, through SHI Government Solutions, Inc., using the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) purchasing cooperative.

Councilmember Howarth made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilmember Buhler seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Receive a briefing regarding the update to the contract with Community Waste Disposal, the City's solid waste and recycling provider.

Assistant City Manager Lauren Rose reviewed the contract proposal from Community Waste Disposal (CWD) that was presented at the September 5, 2023, Council meeting. At that time, Council confirmed some preferences. However, members of Council asked for a comparison of prices between one 10-cubic yard bulk trash pick up per month and two 6-cubic yard bulk trash pickups per month. A commercial franchise with CWD for the city would provide a valuable discount for all residents. After working hard over the last year to gain compliance on the current once a month pick up, staff recommends the commercial franchise and the once per month 10-cubic yard pick up. Staff also recommended a six month notice to commercial businesses before an effective date of October 1.

Councilmember Prestenberg asked if the City has the authority to cancel a contract between two other parties and how this will affect commercial businesses that would need to change vendors. City Attorney Joe Gorfida responded that the City's Home Rule Charter gives the City the authority to mandate a solid waste user for businesses within Sachse. Under the new terms, the old provider would no longer have the authority to implement that contract and it would become void. Ms. Rose added that of the comparison cities, Garland is the only other city that did not have a commercial franchise and CWD costs are within the midpoint of the remaining comparator cities. Later, Councilmember Prestenberg expressed preference for the 10-cubic yard per month pick up.

Mayor Pro Tem Brett Franks expressed his concern that neither of the two new options fix the City's problem with bulk sitting out on curbs too long. He would like to see a new approach to education and enforcement. He later clarified that he preferred no change to the bulk pick up. He also expressed some concern over the calendar being confusing. Jason Roemer, CWD Vice President, noted that the company is working on an app that would provide reminder notifications to residents to help cut down on confusion. It is still in the development phase.

Councilmember Buhler wanted to make sure that businesses would not be not penalized. Ms. Rose noted that businesses would benefit from an assured rate rather than comparing the open market. Councilmember Buhler preferred the twice a month, 6-cubic yard pick up as it would remove the violating placements more often. This option would also still be a beneficial savings for residents.

Councilmember Howarth stated that she would prefer to keep the bulk pick up as it is currently and just incorporate the rate deduction for the commercial franchise. She would like to see more enforcement and education for residents. Later, she also asked about large businesses that are currently serviced much too early and disturbing residents. Mr. Roemer commented that they could work with businesses to stop that with a commercial franchise.

Councilmember Lindsey initially preferred the twice a month pick up thinking that the problem would go away faster by picking bulk up more often. He is not convinced that a larger size allowance would make a big difference since the violators tend to have far too much bulk at once. Neighborhood Services Manager Ray Mendez responded that he did not think the size increase would not make as much of a difference. He noted that sizing issues have gotten better and timing is the bigger issue. Councilmember Lindsey registered his opinion to go with the commercial franchise and keep the pick up as it is, since it will help businesses and residents.

Councilmember Millsap was in favor of the 10-cubic yard pick up once a month because the cost/benefit of the increased size and commercial discount was a good deal. He noted that more attention may be needed for older neighborhoods with older trees that produce more brush.

Councilmember Buhler asked if there was a plan to help educate the public more effectively. She asked about signs in neighborhoods to help raise awareness of proper placement timing. Ms. Rose recalled a successful campaign in a neighborhood that helped change the schedule. She felt a similar approach in other neighborhoods would be very beneficial. It was also noted that the school districts have a different arrangement and may not fall under the commercial franchise.

Matthew Holboke, Sachse resident, asked about CWD's share of the market; vendors for large businesses; consultation with the Chamber of Commerce or Economic Development Corporation (EDC); and how much of a benefit is CWD getting from the arrangement.

Ms. Rose clarified that CWD currently has 50 percent of the share of the market. This is not based on dollar amount since the City could not quantify other commercial contracts. The City does not have the information on what vendors other businesses use, but residents could obtain that information from the source. The matter at hand is a contractual relationship between CWD and the City, so the Chamber is not an involved party.

Mayor Bickerstaff explained that he liked the commercial franchise deduction for residents more than the increased size and would prefer to keep pick up as it is. He also noted that he liked staff's plan to address education to reduce confusion.

Councilmember Howarth added that the EDC is not involved in negotiations between the City and vendors. However, with the possibility of a commercial franchise, incentive contracts have been including a clause with CWD as the exclusive solid waste provider.

Ms. Rose summarized that these changes will bring a great benefit to Sachse residents and businesses. Staff will incorporate the direction provided and come back with an amended contract on March 18 that will go into effect on April 1. It will include a six month notice period for businesses, and CWD will become the commercial provider for Sachse on October 1, 2024.

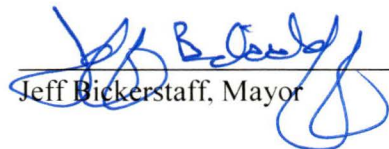
2. Receive the Sachse Police Department's 2023 year-end review presentation.

Police Chief Bryan Sylvester provided a comprehensive overview of the activities of the Police Department in 2023 and crime statistics. Notably, 94.8 percent of the vehicle burglaries and theft were perpetrated on unlocked cars. He encouraged the public to always secure vehicles and do not leave anything of value. Shoplifting is up and higher awareness at stores may be helping apprehend these violators. Building burglaries are primarily at construction sites. Traffic stops have increased by two percent over the last year and increased by 21 percent over the last two years, though enforcement has not been aggressive. Chief Sylvester noted that it is good for officers to be visible to residents and visitors to help people feel secure and to change undesirable behavior. He explained that with the increased development and number of residents, calls for service increased 21 percent in 2023. However, since Council had the foresight to increase the number of officers in the last budget cycle, the department has been able to maintain good response times. The Chief also touched on the level of training for staff and community outreach. Finally, he was pleased to announce that the Animal Shelter construction project is currently on time and on budget.

After some questions, Council expressed appreciation for the service the department provides the city.

3. Adjournment.

Mayor Bickerstaff adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.



Jeff Bickerstaff, Mayor

ATTEST:



Leah K Granger, City Secretary

