

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACHSE JUNE 17, 2024, MEETING MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Sachse held a regular meeting on Monday, June 17, 2024, at 6:30 PM at Sachse City Hall, 3815-B Sachse Road. Those present were: Councilmember Lindsay Buhler, Councilmember Frank Millsap, Councilmember Chance Lindsey, Mayor Pro Tem Brett Franks, Mayor Jeff Bickerstaff, Councilmember Matt Prestenberg, Councilmember Michelle Howarth.

Those absent were: *Councilmember Michelle Howarth arrived at 6:53 p.m.*

A. Meeting Opening

1. Call to Order: The City Council of the City of Sachse will hold a Regular Meeting on Monday, June 17, 2024, at 6:30 PM to consider the following items of business:

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

2. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem Franks offered the invocation and Councilmember Buhler led the pledges.

B. Recognition

1. Present a proclamation recognizing the month of July 2024 as Parks and Recreation Month in Sachse.

Mayor Bickerstaff presented a proclamation to Jordan Beaulieu, Cynthia Wiseman, Mario Bautista, Mackayla Huffman, and Mark Samano to recognize July 2024 as Parks and Recreation Month in Sachse. He also noted that the annual Red, White, and Blue Blast received the 2024 Reader's Choice Award from the Sachse News. Recreation Manager Cynthia Wiseman also thanked Parks and Recreation staff for all they do to help make City events so enjoyable.

C. Public Comment

1. The public is invited to address Council regarding any topic not already on the regular agenda. Comments regarding the Consent Agenda may be addressed during Public Comment. The time limit is 3 minutes per speaker. A Public Comment Card should be presented to the City Secretary prior to the meeting. According to the Texas Open Meetings Act, Council is prohibited from discussing any item not posted on the agenda but will take comments under advisement.
 - Sachse resident, Matthew Holboke, addressed Council regarding streets, budget, and general communication with residents.
 - Sachse resident, Candice Janise, addressed Council regarding benefits for stay-at-home moms that become disabled and yard assistance.

D. Council/Staff Reports and Updates

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

Mayor Pro Tem Franks announced that summer camps are well underway with more than 160 kids enrolled already. The first teen night was recently hosted with 60 teens in attendance. The third of three summer concerts will be held on August 2 at J.K. Sachse Park featuring Reputation, a Taylor Swift tribute band.

Ms. Nash welcomed Shane Dennis as the newest firefighter recruit. He recently earned his EMT-Paramedic license and will continue to grow his knowledge of the field by attending the fire academy.

Mayor Bickerstaff announced the following:

- Registration for the Police Academy is open.
- City offices will be closed on June 19 in observance of Juneteenth.
- The Red, White, and Blue Blast will be held at Heritage Park on July 3.
- City offices will be closed on July 4 in observance of Independence Day.
- Regular Council and Board/Commission meetings in July are cancelled.
- There will be a special Council meeting on July 29 to discuss the proposed FY 2024-2025 budget.

E. Consent Agenda - All items listed on the consent agenda will be considered by the City Council and will be enacted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember so requests.

1. Approve the June 3, 2024, meeting minutes.
2. Approve a resolution approving the terms and conditions of the Project Specific Agreement regarding striping of Type "B" public roadways made pursuant to the Road and Bridge Master Interlocal Agreement between the City of Sachse and Dallas County, for the purpose of transportation-related maintenance and repairs to be undertaken on "Type B" roadways located within the territorial and jurisdiction limits of the city; and providing for an effective date.
3. Approve a resolution accepting a preliminary 2024 Annual Service Plan Update for Operation and Maintenance for the Sachse Public Improvement District No. 1, including a determination of cost, a service plan, and assessment rolls; directing that the Preliminary 2024 Annual Service Plan Update be made available for public inspection; ordering a public hearing for August 19, 2024, to consider an ordinance levying assessments against that assessed property within the District that is specially benefitted by authorized services being financed; authorizing and directing the publication and mailing of notices for the public hearing; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

Councilmember Buhler made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Prestenberg seconded the motion, and it carried 6 - 0. None voted against.

F. Regular Agenda Items

1. Discuss and consider authorizing the City Manager to spend an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for special debris pickup by Community Waste Disposal (CWD) due to the May 28, 2024, storms.

Ms. Nash provided an overview of the fallout from the storm on May 28. Some neighborhoods were without power for a significant length of time but damage to trees may have been minimal, and other neighborhoods had a significant number of trees lost or damaged. City staff worked with CWD to devise a plan for cleanup that commenced on June 1. They quickly ran into difficulties with the remainder of holiday pickups.

Michelle Howarth arrived at 6:53 p.m.

The regular social media posting schedule was adjusted so cleanup information did not get lost. Initially, it was announced that regular pickup would commence; however, that was changed and residents were asked to hold off with any regular bulk, which is not an emergency, until next month. Understandably, there has been frustration. Ms. Nash accentuated the amount of debris already picked up. To date, twenty percent of the city has been collected, totaling 264 tons. This is quite a lot of material for such a small percentage of the city. At one point, the wait time for trash trucks to get into the landfill took two hours, further extending delays in collections.

Ms. Nash asked the Council for policy direction in order to know how to proceed with the remainder of debris collection in the city. Funding for the cleanup could be covered with the City Manager's contingency fund, and Council approval would be required. Departmental savings could also be utilized. Staff is in constant communication with CWD.

Councilmembers discussed the method, extent, and timing of the cleanup at length. Responding to questions, Ms. Nash noted that it is possible that FEMA may reimburse some of the funds, but there is no guarantee and reimbursement can often take years. The consensus of the Council was that the cleanup should be funded by the City, but there was some difference of opinion as to the method and length of time services should be available. Councilmembers were also concerned about the proposed amount. CWD does think the remainder of the City could be cleaned up within the \$300,000 budget.

- Sachse resident, Matthew Holboke, addressed Council regarding debris, bulk trash, and the responsibility of Council.

After continued discussion, the Mayor summarized the consensus of the Council, noting that the City will continue the cleanup effort going back to harder hit areas after the initial sweep. Ms. Nash added that residents will have access to roll-off dumpsters and staff will continue to communicate with the public through social media and the City website. The Mayor stated that if the Council chooses to approve \$300,000, it provides flexibility for staff to dispatch CWD and make the necessary rounds to help residents. He added that this is the worst storm Sachse has seen in 25+ years, and something like this cannot be planned for. Council can reevaluate as needed at a later Council meeting.

Councilmember Lindsey made a motion to approve the item as presented. Councilmember Prestenberg seconded the motion, and it carried 7 - 0. None voted against.

2. Discuss and consider a resolution adopting the City of Sachse City Council Rules of Order and Procedure, providing a repealing clause, and providing an effective date.

Ms. Granger explained that the 2022 Charter Review Committee recommended removing Robert's Rules of Order from the Charter. This was approved by voters in the November election that year. She looked at best practices related to a rules and procedures document. The proposed document is a combination of the Cities of Allen and Richardson with changes relevant to the City of Sachse. This is an opportunity for the Council to discuss what they like or what they would like to see in a policy for the City. Mayor Bickerstaff noted that he would like to see a codification of what the Council is already doing.

Mayor Pro Tem Franks relayed a concern from a resident related to the public's right to speak. Mr. Gorfida noted that Section 5.1 of the document covers the right to speak and references the related Government Code. This state law is specific to items listed on the agenda for action. The right to speak does not include items on the agenda listed for discussion only. Mayor Bickerstaff added that comments on discussion items are permitted during the public comment section of the agenda. After some discussion, it was recommended to clarify the language on the agenda explaining when the public may speak.

- Sachse resident, Butch Kemper, addressed the Council regarding clearer wording for public input in Section 3.5. Mr. Gorfida clarified that Section 3.5 is specifically for the process of making a motion. Public comment comes before that in the procedure of an item with action. The public's right to speak is addressed in the document under section 5.1. Once a motion is made, no more comments are taken from the public.
- Sachse resident, Matthew Holboke, addressed the Council related to guidelines for responding to public comments. Mr. Gorfida explained that the body may respond with facts only during the public comment section of a meeting. However, response to any comments made by the public is at the discretion of the body. There is no state statute requiring an answer.
- Sachse resident, Ari Yallon, addressed the Council about clapping related to first amendment rights. Mr. Gorfida noted that hand clapping, stomping of feet, whistling, hollering, etc. are not necessarily first amendment rights. The public's right is to address Council and speak. Prohibition of these acts is not currently on the Sachse agenda, but it is the discretion of the body whether to add it or not.
- Sachse resident, Candice Janise, wanted to address Council about FEMA but was not able to since the debris item had passed.

After continued discussion and direction, the requested changes will be incorporated and brought back to Council for discussion and consideration. No action was taken.

3. Discuss and provide direction on adopting a 50/50 Sidewalk Replacement Program.

Director of CIP and Public Works Corey Nesbit presented the current sidewalk policy. He explained the process for how issues are added to the list for review and repair. The annual concrete contract has helped increase the amount of sidewalk repairs that can be completed in a given year. However, the volume of pending work orders far outweighs the time available to make the repairs. This item is an opportunity for the Council to provide direction on a policy moving forward, whether it should remain as it is, move to a shared expense with the property owner, or a combination of the two.

After some questions, Ms. Nash emphasized that this is a policy discussion with no preconceived expectations or staff recommendations. The sidewalks in the city are aging and needing repairs at a rate that the City cannot keep up with. Potentially, this program could provide some relief. Councilmembers discussed different ideas and most wanted to review a hybrid option.

- Sachse resident, Jackie Eichleberger, addressed Council regarding a 50/50 sidewalk match program. She was not in favor of the concept.

In response to consensus and the direction provided, Ms. Nash summarized that a hybrid option will be presented as well as an option showing increased budget for the current process.

4. Receive an update on the CWD Commercial Transition.

Assistant to the City Manager Logan Thatcher reviewed the approval of CWD as the commercial solid waste provider within the city. CWD is communicating with other providers, so no disruption of service is anticipated during the implementation period. Letters have been mailed to commercial customers and site visits begin this week. Commercial accounts will be created starting in mid-July and the transition will be from September 2 - September 27. CWD will take over commercial collections on October 30.

- Sachse resident, Matthew Holboke, addressed the Council about the value of the contract with CWD and input/response from other providers and businesses.

G. Executive Session

1. The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Section §551.074 Personnel Matters, to deliberate the appointment, evaluation, and duties of the City Attorney.
2. The City Council shall convene into Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Section §551.074 Personnel Matters: Regarding the mid-year review of the City Secretary.

Mayor Bickerstaff adjourned the Council to Executive Session at 9:28 p.m.

The Council returned to Regular Session at 10:06 p.m.

H. Regular Agenda Items / Meeting Closing

1. Take any action as a result of Executive Session regarding personnel matters related to the City Attorney.

Councilmember Howarth made a motion to appoint the City Attorney to act in the capacity as the Prosecuting Attorney for the municipal court beginning August 1, 2024. Councilmember Prestenberg seconded the motion, and it carried 6 - 1. Councilmember Millsap voted against.

2. Take any action as a result of Executive Session regarding the mid-year review of the City Secretary.

No action was taken.

3. Adjournment.

Mayor Bickerstaff adjourned the meeting at 10:07 p.m.


Jeff Bickerstaff, Mayor

ATTEST:


Leah K Granger, City Secretary

