



**CITY OF HUTTO, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
March 19, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Hutto, Texas was held on March 19, 2020 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 W. Live Oak, Hutto, Texas 78634, for which proper notice was given.

1. CALL SESSION TO ORDER

With a quorum of the members present, Mayor Gaul called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members of the City Council present were Mayor Doug Gaul, Councilmember Scott Rose, Councilmember Mike Snyder, Councilmember Patti Martinez, and Councilmember Peter Gordon. It was noted that Mayor Pro Tem Tom Hines and Councilmember Tanner Rose were not in attendance.

Members of staff that were present were Charles W. Daniels, Interim City Manager; Byron Frankland, Assistant City Manager; Paul Hall, Chief of Police; Ashley Lumpkin, Executive Director Infrastructure & Development Services; Jessica Bullock, Director of Economic Development; Ashby Grundman, Development Services Director; Michel Sorrell, Assistant City Manager and CFO; Allison Hosgood, Executive Director of Organizational Development and Human Resources; Stacy Schmitt, Assistant to the City Manager and Appointed City Secretary; Donna Simmons, Director of Communications; Jennifer Atkinson, Communications Specialist; Tony Host, Executive Director of Community Services; Jeff White, Parks and Recreation Director; and Dorothy Palumbo, City Attorney.

3. INVOCATION. The Invocation was given by Byron Frankland, Assistant City Manager.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Mayor Gaul opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

5. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were no comments given.

6. PROCLAMATIONS

There were none presented.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Due to the COVID-19 emergency, Councilmembers read comments that were received via email from the following:

James Weaver commented on the homestead exemptions for senior's ordinance being considered. Explained that the word "freeze" used in the language should be the proper word "ceiling" and the ordinance should reflect the correct word.

David Waink commented on the homestead exemption for seniors and disabled persons.

There were no comments given.

There were no public hearings held.

10.D. Consideration and possible action on a resolution R-2020-004 approving the proposed Wilco Ranch Phase 1 Final Plat, 15.628 acres, more or less, of land, 80 residential lots, located at Limmer Loop and CR 119. *(Ashley Lumpkin)*

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

10.E. Consideration and approval of the February 6, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting minutes, February 20, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting, and the February 27, 2020 Special Called City Council Meeting Minutes.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Snyder to table item 10.E. to provide clarification of the amended motions on the item under the Parks Fee Schedule on the February 20, 2020 meeting. Councilmember Scott Rose seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose

Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

11. ORDINANCES

- 11.A. Consideration and possible action on the second and final reading of an ordinance (O-2020-001) amending the City of Hutto Code of Ordinances (2014), Chapter 2 Administration and Personnel, Article 2.06 Finances, Appendix A Fee Schedule, A1.000 Development Services, Engineering and Construction, Article A2.000 Public Safety, Article A4.000 Public Facility Rentals, Article A5.000 Utilities, A7.000 Library and A8.000 Miscellaneous Fees. (*Michel Sorrell*)

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Snyder to approve Ordinance No. O-2020-001 as written. Councilmember Martinez seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

- 11.B. Consideration and possible action on the second and final reading of an ordinance (O-2020-002) to provide a residence homestead exemption for persons 65 or older. (*Michel Sorrell*)

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Scott Rose to approve Ordinance No. O-2020-002 as presented. Councilmember Martinez seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

- 11.C. Consideration and possible action on the first reading of an ordinance to provide a residence homestead exemption for disabled persons. (*Michel Sorrell*)

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Martinez to approve the first reading of the ordinance as written. Councilmember Scott Rose seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul

Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

- 11.D. Consideration and possible action on the first reading of an ordinance establishing an ad valorem tax freeze for residential homestead property owners who are 65 or older. (*Michel Sorrell*)

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Scott Rose to approve the first reading of the ordinance as written and to revise the ordinance to replace the word “freeze” with “ceiling”. Mayor Gaul seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

12. **RESOLUTIONS**

- 12.A. Consideration and possible action on a resolution adopting a revised investment policy. (*Michel Sorrell*)

There was discussion on recommendations for revisions.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Scott Rose to table item 12.A, to be brought back to the next available meeting with recommendations discussed. Councilmember Snyder seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

- 12.B. Consideration and possible action on a resolution to accept the 2018-2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports and Audit. (*Michel Sorrell*)

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Gordon to table item 12.B, to bring back to the special called meeting on March 26. Councilmember Scott Rose seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

- 13.A Discuss and consider suspending processing PIA requests for 7 days pursuant to section 552.233(b) of the Texas Government Code and allowing an extension of 7 days if COVID-19 emergency order by Governor or Mayor is in effect.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Scott Rose to approve the suspension of PIA requests for 7 days pursuant to Texas Government Code section 552.233(b) under emergency order by the Governor. Councilmember Martinez seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

Amended Motion: Councilmember Gordon made a motion amending the previous motion to adopt a resolution providing for the suspension of processing PIA requests for 7 days.

Councilmember Martinez seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The amended motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

- 13.B Discussion and possible action regarding suggested statute suspensions in light of COVID-19 Emergency.

Stacy Schmitt advised the City Council of the Texas Government Code statute suspensions in place as it relates to allowing city council and other meetings to be held via telephone or video conference for emergency and routine items. There was discussion with no formal action taken.

- 13.C. Discussion, consideration and possible action of the Mayor's Declaration of Disaster for the City of Hutto.

Motion: Councilmember Gordon made a motion to extend the Declaration of Disaster issued by Mayor Gaul on March 16, 2020 for another 7 days during the COVID-19 Emergency. Councilmember Martinez seconded the motion.

Vote: Ayes Mayor Doug Gaul
Councilmember Scott Rose
Councilmember Mike Snyder
Councilmember Peter Gordon
Councilmember Patti Martinez

Action: The motion carried unanimously by a vote of 5 ayes to 0 nay.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council for the City of Hutto reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above as authorized by the Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 [*Litigation/Consultation with Attorney*], 551.072 [*Deliberations regarding real property*], 551.073 [*Deliberations regarding gifts and donations*], 551.074 [*Deliberations regarding personnel matters*] or 551.076 [*Deliberations regarding deployment/implementation of security personnel or devices*] and 551.087 [*Deliberations regarding Economic Development negotiations*].

- 14.A. Consultation with Legal Counsel pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 to receive legal advice on pending legal requests.

The Open Meeting was recessed at 8:44 p.m. to convene an Executive Session in accordance with the authority granted by the Texas Government Code under section 551.071, Consultation with Attorney. The Executive Session convened at 8:44 p.m. and adjourned at 10:05 p.m. The Open Meeting was reconvened at 10:05 p.m.

15. ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 16. ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business heard, Mayor Gaul adjourned the meeting at 10:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CITY OF HUTTO, TEXAS

/s/

Doug Gaul, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/
Stacy Schmitt, Interim City Secretary

These minutes were approved on _____ May 7, 2020.

