

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LUFKIN, TEXAS, HELD ON THE 6TH DAY OF AUGUST 2024.**

On the 6th day of August 2024, the City Council of the City of Lufkin, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall with the following members, thereof to wit:

Mark Hicks	Mayor
Robert Shankle	Mayor Pro Tem
Guessippina Bonner	Councilmember, Ward No. 1
Brent Watkins	Councilmember, Ward No. 3
Kim Ogden	Councilmember, Ward No. 4
Jimmy Ford	Councilmember, Ward No. 5
Adam Lowther	Councilmember, Ward No. 6
Kevin Gee	City Manager
Kristi Skillern	City Attorney
Brian W. Bray	Assistant City Manager
Kara Andrepont	City Secretary
Adriana Thomasee	Human Resources
Buddy Cross	Assistant Police Chief
Jesse Moody	Fire Chief
Jessica Pebsworth	Communications Director
Belinda Melancon	Finance Director
Christopher Key	Engineering Services Director
Scott Rayburn	City Planner
Buddy Timme	Parks and Recreation Director
Tara Hendrix	Tourism & Marketing Director
Albert Duffield	Utilities Director
Morgan Williams	Animal Services Manager

being present when the following business was transacted.

INVOCATION – The meeting was opened with prayer by Mr. Steve Hicks.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mayor Mark Hicks opened the meeting for public comment on any posted agenda item at 5:03 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the public comment period.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 26TH, 2024, AND THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 2ND, 2024 - APPROVED.**
- 2. SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2023-2024 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 20) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING FROM THE CENTERPOINT ENERGY COMMUNITY SAFETY GRANT FOR THE LUFKIN POLICE DEPARTMENT - APPROVED.**
- 3. SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING SPEED LIMITS ON FARM TO MARKET ROAD (FM) 1336 (GOBBLERS KNOB ROAD) – APPROVED.**
- 4. SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LUFKIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CLASSIFICATION PLAN – APPROVED.**
- 5. GRANT FUNDING FOR THE LUFKIN FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM THE TSAH REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL AND APPROVAL ON FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2023-2024 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 22) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING – APPROVED.**
- 6. GRANT FUNDING FOR THE ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FROM THE BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SOCIETY AND APPROVAL ON FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2023-2024 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 23) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING – APPROVED.**

7. RESOLUTION CANCELING THE SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2024, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING – APPROVED.
8. RESOLUTION AMENDING THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE CITY OF LUFKIN REGARDING THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT POOL (TEXPOOL) – APPROVED.
9. RESOLUTION AMENDING THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE CITY OF LUFKIN REGARDING THE TEXAS SHORT TERM ASSET RESERVE FUND (TEXSTAR) – APPROVED.

Councilmember Robert Shankle moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilmember Jimmy Ford seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

BUSINESS AGENDA

10. ESTABLISH AUGUST 20TH AND SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2024 AS CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES TO CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS, ESTABLISH A TAX RATE AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF LUFKIN – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated per State law, the City Council must establish dates for the publication and conducting of public hearings and Council meetings for the purpose of establishing a tax rate and consideration and adoption of the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget for the City of Lufkin. City Manager Gee furthered after reviewing with Staff the timeline for publications and items that needed to be completed prior to adoption and publication Staff had requested the dates be changed. City Manager Gee stated Staff had requested a Special Called Meeting on September 10th for the first meeting and the second meeting to be held as scheduled on September 17th.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council establish September 10th and September 17th, 2024, as City Council Meeting dates for the purpose of holding public hearings, tax rate considerations and adoption of the 2024-2025 City of Lufkin Annual Budget.

Councilmember Guessippina Bonner moved to approve the amended dates as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

11. PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS CHANGING THE ZONING TO “RESIDENTIAL LARGE” ON A PORTION OF PROPERTY ADDRESSED AS 300 LESLIE LANE; CHANGING THE ZONING TO “COMMERCIAL” AND THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP DESIGNATION TO “CORRIDOR COMMERCIAL” ON PROPERTY ADDRESSED AS 2407 AND 2411 EAST DENMAN AVENUE AND A PORTION OF 404 LESLIE LANE – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated Robert Slack requested a zone change for properties situated between Denman Avenue and Leslie Lane. City Manager Gee highlighted the location of the property and surrounding uses. City Manager Gee furthered the request included a zone change from “Commercial” to “Residential Large” for a 0.339 acre portion of 300 Leslie Lane and from “Residential Large” to “Commercial” for a 3.012 acre portion of property including part of 2407 and 2411 East Denman Avenue and the rear of 404 Leslie Lane. City Manager Gee stated 2407 and 2411 East Denman were currently zoned “Commercial” on the front 3.857 acres with the rear of the property being “Residential Large”. City Manager Gee furthered the purpose of the zone change was to allow for future commercial development. City Manager Gee stated the request was unanimously recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

City Manager Gee stated due to signed opposition of more than twenty percent (20%) of the area of required notification, a “super majority” vote of at least three-fourths (3/4), or six (6) out of seven (7) City Council members was required per Chapter 211.006 of the Local Government Code. City Manager Gee noted there were two (2) requests for approval and two (2) requests for denial that were submitted along with a signed petition from residents of Normandy Estates requesting denial of the zone change. City Manager Gee furthered the item was postponed during the City Council meeting of April 16th, 2024, to allow the applicant and adjoining property owners to resolve the conflicting issues. City Manager Gee stated the item was postponed again during the June 18th, 2024, City

Council meeting due to all City Councilmembers not being present. City Manager Gee noted the request being presented was the same as before with no changes or additions.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council conduct a Public Hearing and consider approval on First Reading of an Ordinance changing the zoning to “Residential Large” on a portion of 300 Leslie Lane as well as a zone change to “Commercial” and a Future Land Use designation of “Corridor Commercial” on 2407 and 2411 East Denman and the rear portion of 404 Leslie Lane.

Mayor Hicks opened the Public Hearing at 5:09 p.m. Speaking in opposition to the proposed Ordinance were Kathy Ramsey, James Slack and Janie Slack. Speaking on behalf of the applicant and in favor of the Ordinance was Michael Parker. Councilmember Kim Odgen asked for clarification regarding how many homes backed up to the property that would be zoned Commercial. Councilmember Brent Watkins asked how the zone change would affect through traffic in the residential area. Councilmember Jimmy Ford asked for clarification regarding which pieces were zoned residential or commercial. Councilmember Adam Lowther asked about requirements for a fence if the property was developed. City Planner Scott Rayburn spoke and discussion ensued.

Councilmember Adam Lowther moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Councilmember Jimmy Ford seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a six (6) – one (1) vote; Councilmember Kim Odgen opposed the approval.

12. APPROVAL THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2023-2024 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 21) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated Staff was pleased to present the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) for City Council consideration. City Manager Gee furthered detailed information regarding the projects and estimated expenditures had been included in the City Council packet and gave information regarding proposed projects.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council consider approval of the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Projects and the First Reading of an Ordinance authorizing Budget Amendment No. 21 appropriating the funding for the same.

Councilmember Brent Watkins moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Projects and Ordinance as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

13. RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE DOWNTOWN ADVISORY BOARD – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated during the Annual Council Budget Retreat, the Downtown Advisory Board was recommended for dissolution due to it no longer providing a needed service to the City. City Manager Gee gave background information regarding the Board. City Manager Gee stated the Board was created by Resolution and must be dissolved by the same.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council consider approval of a Resolution providing for the dissolution of the Downtown Advisory Board.

Councilmember Brent Watkins moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

14. RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE DISSOLUTION OF THE LUFKIN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU BOARD – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated the Board was established as the Lufkin Convention and Tourism Board in 2009 by Resolution No. 4129 and amended by Resolution No. 4145 to alter the name to the Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau (LCVB). City Manager Gee furthered the LCVB was originally a component unit of the City and a 501C non-profit organization. City Manager Gee stated in 2020 it was determined that the LCVB functioned better as a City Department and the 501C was relinquished, the fund closed and the LCVB was made a Department of the City. City Manager Gee furthered the need for the Board was negated due to Administration providing oversight of the

Department, it's programs and budget. City Manager Gee stated the Board was created by Resolution and must dissolved by the same.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council consider approval of a Resolution providing for the dissolution of the Lufkin Convention & Visitors Bureau Board.

Councilmember Robert Shankle moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Adam Lowther seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

15. APPOINTMENTS TO THE CITY OF LUFKIN BOARDS AND COMMITTEES – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated due to the election of new council members there were vacancies on some City of Lufkin Boards and Committees.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council consider appointments to City of Lufkin Boards and Committees as included in the City Council packet.

Councilmember Robert Shankle moved to approve Councilmember Kim Odgen's appointment to the DETCOG Board and Councilmember Jimmy Ford to the Finance Committee. Councilmember Brent Watkins seconded the motion. Councilmember Guessippina Bonner moved to approve the appointment of Councilmember Adam Lowther to the Recognition and Honorarium Committee. Councilmember Kim Odgen seconded the motion. A unanimous vote to approve all appointments was recorded.

Mayor Hicks praised all the first responders for their magnanimous response to the situation at CHI St. Luke's on July 24th,

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Mark Hicks recessed the Regular Session at 5:43 p.m.

Mayor Mark Hicks reconvened the Regular Session at 6:16 p.m.

There being no further business, Mayor Mark Hicks adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m.




Mark Hicks, Mayor


Kara Andrepoint, City Secretary