

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS HELD ON THE 7TH DAY OF JULY, 2020

On the 7th day of July, 2020 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:

Bob F. Brown	Mayor
Mark Hicks	Mayor Pro Tem
Guessippina Bonner	Councilmember, Ward No. 1
Robert Shankle	Councilmember, Ward No. 2
Lynn Torres	Councilmember, Ward No. 3
Rocky Thigpen	Councilmember, Ward No. 5
Sarah Murray	Councilmember, Ward No. 6
Bruce Green	Interim City Manager
Jason Arnold	Assistant City Manager
Kara Andrepont	City Secretary
Rodney Ivy	Human Resource Director
Gerald Williamson	Public Safety Director
David Thomas	Police Chief
Jesse Moody	Fire Chief
Ryan Watson	Asst. Fire Chief
Kevin Gee	Engineering Services Director
Scott Rayburn	Planning Director
Michael Flinn	Parks and Recreation Director
Albert Duffield	Water & Sewer Director
Sid Munlin	IT Director
Kent Havard	Solid Waste Director

being present when the following business was transacted.

INVOCATION - The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Rick Williams, Faith Family Church.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mayor Brown opened the meeting for Public Comment on any posted agenda item at 5:03 p.m. Ms. Deanna Branson and Ms. Martha Maldonado each came forward to speak on Item No. 5 regarding the Small Business Grant Program. Both thanked the City for the opportunity to receive grant funding and expressed their desire that the funds from the grant be distributed equally and fairly among all the qualified applicants. There being no one else who wished to speak, Mayor Brown closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

1. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD JUNE 16, 2020 AND THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF JUNE 23, 2020 – APPROVED.

Councilmember Lynn Torres moved to approve the minutes of the meetings as presented. Councilmember Sarah Murray seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

2. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS AMENDING ARTICLE XXI “SUPPLEMENTAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS” BY ADDING PROVISIONS CONCERNING SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL HOUSING BUILT WITHIN NON-RESIDENTIALLY ZONED PROPERTY – APPROVED.

Interim City Manager Bruce Green explained the City of Lufkin Zoning Ordinance currently allowed single-family site-built homes to be constructed within commercial non-residential zoning classifications such as “Neighborhood Retail”, “Local Business”, “Central Business”, “Commercial” and “Light Manufacturing”. Interim City Manager Green stated that a 650 (six-hundred and fifty) square foot home was the minimum dwelling size and after research, Staff had determined that the allowance could adversely affect neighboring properties leading to possible depreciation in home values. Interim City Manager Green furthered in order to add stability, Staff proposed all single-family residential housing built within non-residentially zoned property, (excluding Planned Unit Development), should conform to the building requirements of the

adjacent most restrictive single-family zoning district as it related to yard requirements and minimum required living area. Interim City Manager Green stated that the request had been unanimously approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission during the meeting of June 8, 2020.

Interim City Manager Green concluded Staff recommended City Council conduct a Public Hearing and approve on Second Reading an Ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Lufkin, Texas amending Article XXI “Supplemental Development Regulations” by adding provisions concerning single family residential housing built within non-residentially zoned property.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing at 5:09 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak, Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing and requested comments from the Council. There were none.

Councilmember Guessippina Bonner moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Councilmember Lynn Torres seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

3. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS BY CHANGING THE ZONING TO “MANUFACTURED DWELLING” ON PROPERTY ADDRESSED AS 108 FORD STREET– APPROVED.

Interim City Manager Green stated the applicant, Laronda Botley had requested a zone change from “Residential Small” to “Manufactured Dwelling” for 108 Ford Street for the purpose of placing a manufactured home on the property. Interim City Manager Green highlighted the location of the property on corresponding maps as well as the zoning designation for neighboring properties. Interim City Manager Green furthered the proposed zone change was consistent with the current area zoning as well as the “Low Density Residential” future land use classification. Interim City Manager Green stated the Planning and Zoning Commission had unanimously approved the request during the June 8, 2020 meeting.

Interim City Manager Green concluded Staff recommended City Council conduct a Public Hearing and approve on Second Reading an Ordinance changing the zoning to “Manufactured Dwelling” on property addressed as 108 Ford Street.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing at 5:11 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak, Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing and requested comments from City Council. There were none.

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

4. SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2019-2020 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 18) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING OF A FISCAL YEAR 2020 CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,758 – APPROVED

Interim City Manager Green stated on May 19th, City Council approved a Resolution authorizing the Lufkin Police Department to apply for a Fiscal Year 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Grant in the amount of \$32,758. Interim City Manager Green furthered the Ordinance authorized Budget Amendment No. 18 appropriating the funding.

Interim City Manager Green concluded Staff recommended City Council approve the Second Reading of an Ordinance authorizing Budget Amendment No. 18 appropriating the funding.

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

5. RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS, INITIATING THE “WE LOVE LUFKIN” SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM, AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FO CARES ACT FUNDING AND APPROVE THE REIMBURSEMENT OF GRANTS FROM CARES ACT FUNDS – APPROVED.

Interim City Manager Green stated this item was something the City Council had long awaited to try and help the small businesses in the City of Lufkin. Interim City Manager Green explained the CARES Act had established the \$150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund and the U.S. Treasury Department was making payments from the Fund to states and eligible units of local government. Interim City Manager Green stated the funds would provide a possible source of reimbursement for some of the extensive expenses the City had incurred in responding to COVID-19, especially costs associated with personal protection equipment and overtime for the Fire Department and the Police Department. Interim City Manager Green furthered the City of Lufkin qualified for approximately \$500,000 from the CARES Act that could be used to reimburse the costs of business interruption due to COVID-19, as a result of required closures, voluntary closures to promote social distancing, or decreased customer demand. Interim City Manager Green stated for some time the Mayor and members of the City Council had been concerned for local businesses as a result of the virus and had been interested in the City doing what it could to help with the recovery. Interim City Manager Green furthered Staff proposed the City use CARES Act funds to establish the “We Love Lufkin” Small Business Grant Program. Interim City Manager Green stated Staff proposed that seventy-five percent (75%) go towards supporting any small business across the City of Lufkin and the remaining twenty-five percent (25%) would be specifically dedicated to supporting minority-owned businesses and businesses located in low to moderate-income communities. Interim City Manager Green furthered if Council adopted the program, grant applications would be submitted online, reviewed and processed with the help of members of Lufkin Police Department Clergy and Police Alliance program (CAPA) and the Lufkin Convention and Visitors Bureau (LCVB). Interim City Manager Green explained the online applications would be accepted at www.cityoflufkin.com from July 10th through 5:00 p.m. on July 20th. Interim City Manager Green stated completed applications would be reviewed as soon as they were received, as long as funds were available. Interim City Manager Green furthered the grant funds would be open to businesses that met the established criteria and businesses who received grant funding would be required to document how the funds were used. Interim City Manager Green stated detailed information regarding the criteria and required documentation had been included in the City Council packet for review and if approved would go onto the City website.

Interim City Manager Green concluded Staff recommended City Council approve the Resolution initiating the “We Love Lufkin” Small Business Grant program, authorizing the Interim City Manager to apply for CARES Act Funding and approve the reimbursement of grants from CARES Act funds.

Councilmember Guessippina Bonner asked if the review council was part of the motion or if it could be substituted. Interim City Manager Green stated the review council was not an essential part of the Resolution and Council could substitute if they wished. Interim City Manager Green clarified the review council’s responsibility was one of reviewing rather than decision making. Councilmember Guessippina Bonner made the motion to delete the Lufkin Police Department Clergy and Police Alliance program (CAPA) and the Lufkin Convention and Visitors Bureau (LCVB) and replace with the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Board. Discussion ensued among Councilmembers regarding the Small Business Grant Program parameters.

Councilmember Guessippina Bonner moved to approve the Resolution with the motion to delete the Lufkin Police Department Clergy and Police Alliance program (CAPA) and the Lufkin Convention and Visitors Bureau (LCVB) and replace with the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund Board. Councilmember Mark Hicks seconded the motion and unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

6. RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY PARA MEDICINE PROGRAM IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 – APPROVED.

Interim City Manager Green stated in recent weeks our community had experienced serious growth of Covid-19 cases in Lufkin and Angelina County. Interim City Manager Green furthered

in an attempt to counter the growth and get the cases on a downward trend, Staff proposed the City begin a community para-medicine program in the City and County. Interim City Manager Green stated the focus of the program would be in educating the positive patients on how to avoid spreading the illness. Interim City Manager Green explained this would be accomplished by establishing a temporary relationship with the patient and encouraging them to stay home. Interim City Manager Green stated Staff would make it easier for them to stay home by doing everyday chores for them that would cause the public to be exposed if they were performed when the patient was infectious. Interim City Manager Green furthered Staff would have the ability to conduct telemedicine calls between the patient and the hospital of their choosing possibly eliminating possible emergency department waiting room exposures and the services would be accessed through a phone number provided in the educational packet. Interim City Manager Green stated the service would be discontinued for a patient when they no longer met the CDC criteria of being infectious. Interim City Manager Green furthered the program would be paid for in its entirety by funds received from the Federal CARES Act Grant.

Interim City Manager Green concluded Staff recommended City Council approve the Resolution establishing a community para medicine program in response to COVID-19.

Councilmember Lynn Torres moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Councilmember Guessippina Bonner seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Bob Brown recessed the Regular Session at 5:43 p.m.

Mayor Bob Brown reconvened the Regular Session at 6:13 p.m.

8. RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LUFKIN, TEXAS APPOINTING AN ACTING CITY ATTORNEY – APPROVED.


Interim City Manager Green stated Staff recommended the appointment of Attorney Erika Neill as acting City Attorney for the City of Lufkin.

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

There being no further business, Mayor Bob Brown adjourned the meeting at 5:52 p.m.



ATTEST:



Bob F. Brown, Mayor



Kara Andrepont, City Secretary