

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS HELD ON THE 2ND DAY OF APRIL 2024.

On the 2nd day of April, 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
Brent Watkins	Councilmember, Ward No. 3
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
David Thomas	Police Chief
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
John Smith	Fleet Services Manager
Morgan Williams	Animal Services Manager

being present; and

Guessippina Bonner	Councilmember, Ward No. 1
Wes Suiter	Councilmember, Ward No. 4

being absent when the following business was transacted.

INVOCATION – The meeting was opened with prayer by Councilmember Adam Lowther.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mayor Mark Hicks opened the meeting for public comment on any posted agenda item at 5:01 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the public comment period.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 19TH, 2024 - APPROVED.**
2. **SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LUFKIN FIRE DEPARTMENT CLASSIFICATION PLAN – APPROVED.**
3. **SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 12 APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING FOR THE LUFKIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AIRPORT HANGAR PROJECT – APPROVED.**
4. **SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 13 APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING FOR THE EXTENSION OF COMMERCE CENTER DRIVE IN THE LUFKIN BUSINESS PARK – APPROVED.**
5. **DONATION FOR LUFKIN PARKS AND RECREATION AND FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2023 – 2024 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 14) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING - APPROVED.**
6. **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A REQUEST FOR FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE UPGRADE TO US HIGHWAY 59 AS PART OF THE I-69 CORRIDOR PROJECT – APPROVED.**

7. RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES AND ESTABLISHING POLLING PLACES FOR THE CITY OF LUFKIN MAY 4TH, 2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION – 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

8. PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS CHANGING THE ZONING TO “COMMERCIAL” ON PROPERTY ADDRESSED AS 103 AND 107 VAN STREET – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated Roberto Zavala, on behalf of the owners Elizabeth Lee and Carrie Lee, was requesting a zone change from “Duplex” to “Commercial” for 103 and 107 Van Street. City Manager Gee furthered the purpose of the zone change was to allow for future commercial development. City Manager Gee highlighted the location of the property and surrounding uses. City Manager Gee stated Staff found the proposed zone change consistent with the current existing area uses as well as the current “Mixed Use” future land use classification. City Manager Gee furthered the request was unanimously recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council conduct a Public Hearing and consider approval on First Reading of an Ordinance changing the zoning from “Duplex” to “Commercial” for property addressed as 103 and 107 Van Street.

Mayor Hicks opened the Public Hearing at 5:04 p.m. Mr. Eddie Smelley, owner of property located at 109 Van Street, spoke and requested an eight-foot (8’) fence be constructed in order to maintain privacy for the neighboring residential property.

Councilmember Jimmy Ford moved to approve the Ordinance with the requirement of an eight-foot (8’) fence. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

9. PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS CHANGING THE ZONING TO “LIGHT MANUFACTURING” ON PROPERTY ADDRESSED AS 402 AND 404 FM 842 – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated the request was being made on behalf of Oncor Electric Delivery Company for a zone change from “Agricultural” to “Light Manufacturing” for 402 and 404 FM 842. City Manager Gee furthered the purpose of the zone change was to allow for future development of an Oncor electric substation. City Manager Gee highlighted the location of the property and surrounding uses. City Manager Gee stated Staff found the proposed zone change consistent with the current existing area uses as well as the current “Industrial” future land use classification. City Manager Gee furthered the request was unanimously recommended for approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council conduct a Public Hearing and consider approval on First Reading of an Ordinance changing the zoning from “Agricultural” to “Light Manufacturing” on property addressed as 402 and 404 FM 842.

Mayor Hicks opened the Public Hearing at 5:10 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the Public Hearing and requested comments from the City Council.

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

10. 2023 – 2024 STREET OVERLAY PROGRAM – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated Council had received a map and summary table of streets with rankings and costs for the 2023-2024 Street Overlay Program. City Manager Gee furthered Staff had worked with Council to identify the streets needing repair. City Manager Fee stated the budget included \$1.2 million dollars allocated for the Street Overlay Program for Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024.


City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council consider approval of the 2023-2024 Street Overlay Program.

Councilmember Adam Lowther moved to approve the 2023-2024 Street Overlay Program as presented. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

Mayor Hicks wished Councilmember Robert Shankle a happy birthday.

There being no further business, Mayor Mark Hicks adjourned the meeting at 5:12 p.m.




Mark Hicks, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kara Andrepont, City Secretary