

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LUFKIN, TEXAS, HELD ON THE 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2024.**

On the 19th day of November 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
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
Scott Cameron	Street Department Superintendent
Buddy Timme	Parks and Recreation Director
Albert Duffield	Utilities Director
John Smith	Fleet Services Manager
Julie Massey	Library Manager
Bob Samford	Economic Development Director

being present when the following business was transacted.

INVOCATION – The meeting was opened with prayer by Mr. Mike Parker.

Mayor Hicks asked for prayers for the family of Keith Green who had passed away and recognized those in attendance with Leadership Lufkin.

PUBLIC COMMENT - Mayor Mark Hicks opened the public comment period at 5:03 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the Public Hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 5TH, 2024 - APPROVED.**
2. **SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2024-2025 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 1) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING FROM DONATIONS FOR THE TEEN COURT PROGRAM – APPROVED.**
3. **SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2024-2025 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 2) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BULLETPROOF VEST PROGRAM GRANT THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE – APPROVED.**
4. **SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2024-2025 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 3) APPROPRIATING FUNDING IN THE SPECIAL RECREATION FUND, ELLEN TROUT ZOO BUILDING FUND, ANIMAL SERVICES – ANIMAL ATTIC FUND, TOURISM & MARKETING FUND, WATER & WASTEWATER FUND, EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION & REPLACEMENT FUND AND THE TECHNOLOGY AMORTIZATION FUND (ROLLOVER BUDGET AMENDMENT) – APPROVED.**

5. SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2024-2025 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 4) APPROPRIATING THE FUNDING FROM THE LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN PROGRAM GRANT – APPROVED.

6. SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2024-2025 OPERATING BUDGET (BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 5) APPROPRIATING THE GRANT FUNDING FROM THE T.L.L. TEMPLE FOUNDATION – APPROVED.

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

BUSINESS AGENDA

7. PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LUFKIN, TEXAS BY CHANGING THE ZONING FROM “RESIDENTIAL LARGE” TO “RESIDENTIAL SMALL” ON PROPERTY ADDRESSED AS 2107 AND 2109 HOWARD AVENUE – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated BFK Ventures, LLC, had requested a zone change from “Residential Large” to “Residential Small” for 2107 and 2109 Howard Avenue. City Manager Gee furthered the subject properties were 1.175 acres and currently non-developed, and the intent of the applicant was to build residential homes with approximately one thousand (1,000) square feet of living area. City Manager Gee highlighted the location of the property and surrounding uses. City Manager Gee stated 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 Second Reading of an Ordinance changing the zoning from "Residential Large" to "Residential Small" on property addressed as 2107 and 2109 Howard Avenue.

Mayor Hicks opened the Public Hearing at 5:05 p.m. There being no one who wished to speak; Mayor Hicks closed the Public Hearing and requested comments from the City Council.

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

8. SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ABANDONMENT, VACATION, CLOSURE AND SALE OF KIMMEY STREET AND ASSOCIATED RIGHT-OF-WAY – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated the Engineering Services Department had received a request from Brannon Ferrara to purchase the 0.102-acre right-of-way that included Kimmey Street. City Manager Gee furthered the intent of the applicant was to combine the right-of-way with the properties on both sides of Kimmey Street, which were both owned by the applicant, to allow for future commercial development. City Manager Gee stated there were existing City and private utilities within the section of right-of-way; however, the existing City water and sewer utilities did not serve any connections and would be abandoned. City Manager Gee furthered a replat would be required with an easement to accommodate existing private utilities. City Manager Gee stated the right-of-way in question had been determined appropriate for sale. City Manager Gee explained since the applicant owned the property on both sides of Kimmey Street, no notifications or additional requirements were necessary in accordance with Chapter 272.001 (b and c) of the Local Government Code. City Manager Gee stated the total cost to the applicant would be \$11,650 which included an \$11,000 appraised value of the right-of-way, as determined by William J. Lyon & Associates, Inc., an appraisal cost of \$600, and a filing fee of \$50.00. City Manager Gee furthered upon approval and completion of the transaction; the City would issue a deed without warranty to the applicant.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council consider approval on Second Reading of an Ordinance providing for the abandonment, vacation, closure and sale of Kimmey Street and associated right-of-way within the Kimmey addition.

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

9. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CONCESSION/RESTROOM FACILITY AT MORRIS FRANK PARK – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated this item was part of the ongoing work being done at Morris Frank Park. City Manager Gee furthered on November 7th City Staff had received sealed bids for the construction of a concession and restroom building which included sidewalks, some drainage work and temporary pavement for construction. City Manager Gee stated the low bidder for the project was Construction Managers of Southeast Texas with a total bid of \$1,970,000. City Manager Gee furthered the bid included alternate bids for the storm drain system at the parking lot, renovation of the existing pavilion and temporary concrete during construction for access. City Manager Gee stated a bid tabulation of all bids had been provided in Council’s packets for review.

City Manager Gee concluded Staff recommended City Council award a contract to the low bidder, Construction Managers of Southeast Texas in the amount of \$1,970,000 for the Morris Frank Park New Concession and Restroom Project.

Councilmember Robert Shankle moved to approve the award of contract as presented. Councilmember Kim Ogden seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

10. RESOLUTION SELECTING A NOMINEE AS THE CITY OF LUFKIN CANDIDATE FOR THE ANGELINA COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CASTING OF VOTES FOR THE SAME – APPROVED.

City Manager Kevin Gee stated there were five (5) vacant positions on the Board of Directors and per statute those five (5) members could be appointed by participating taxing units. City Manager Gee explained the new modification to the Texas Tax code specified that each taxing unit may submit one nominee for each of the five (5) board positions. City Manager Gee recommended Council select a nominee and approve casting the votes for that nominee. City Manager Gee stated the goal was to have the positions for the board filled by the end of the year. City Manager Gee furthered Staff was asking for City Council to consider who they would like to nominate to fill the positions.

Councilmember Robert Shankle asked for clarification as to role and responsibilities of the board. Councilmember Guessippina Bonner stated her concerns regarding the lack of minority representation on the board. Councilmember Guessippina Bonner moved to nominate Mr. Roy Reyes as a candidate for the Angelina County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Councilmember Robert Shankle moved to nominate Councilmember Jimmy Ford as a candidate for the Angelina County Appraisal District. Nominations for candidates was then closed. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Guessippina Bonner’s motion to nominate Mr. Roy Reyes failed with one (1) affirmative vote and five (5) votes against as follows:

Councilmember Guessippina Bonner	Aye
Councilmember Robert Shankle	No
Councilmember Brent Watkins	No
Councilmember Kim Ogden	No
Councilmember Jimmy Ford	No
Councilmember Adam Lowther	No
Mayor Mark Hicks	No

Councilmember Robert Shankle’s motion to nominate Councilmember Jimmy Ford passed with five (5) affirmative votes and one (1) vote against as follows:

Councilmember Guessippina Bonner	No
Councilmember Robert Shankle	Aye
Councilmember Brent Watkins	Aye
Councilmember Kim Ogden	Aye
Councilmember Jimmy Ford	Aye
Councilmember Adam Lowther	Aye
Mayor Mark Hicks	Aye

Councilmember Kim Ogden moved to approve the Resolution selecting Councilmember Jimmy Ford as the City of Lufkin candidate for the Angelina County Appraisal District Board of Directors. Councilmember Robert Shankle seconded the motion and a unanimous vote to approve was recorded.

11. FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

City Manager Kevin Gee updated City Council on the financial status of the City. City Manager Gee offered to answer any questions. There were none.

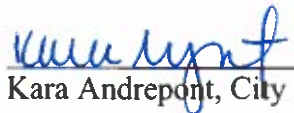
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Mark Hicks recessed the Regular Session at 5:28 p.m.

Mayor Mark Hicks reconvened the Regular Session at 5:58 p.m.

There being no further business, Mayor Mark Hicks adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.



Mark Hicks, Mayor

Kara Andrepont, City Secretary