City of Wallis

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

This is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting for the City of Wallis, Texas held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 7:00pm.

1. Call to Order – Mayor Diggs called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Councilmember Bernadette Parr
3. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum – A quorum was present. Present, Councilmember James King, Councilmember Felix Galvan Jr., Councilmember Bernadette Parr, Councilmember Belinda Halfin and Mayor Diggs. Absent was Councilmember Clark Main Jr.
4. Communication from the public – Melissa McFarland signed up to speak. Ms. McFarland

expressed her concerns about the political signs that are posted on Commerce Street, she asks that they be moved back off the road, so that they do not block the view of traffic. Ms. McFarland also spoke to council about wanting there to be a property tax exemption for citizens over the age of 65.

1. Consent Agenda – Motion made by Councilmember James King, second by Councilmember Belinda Halfin to approve the minutes from January 15, 2020 meeting. Motion passed with four yes votes.
2. Department Reports-
3. Public Works – Augie Sommers stated that the grant water line project is close to completion, Supak Construction will be starting on the replacement of culvert on Thursday, 2-20. Augie also talked about the need to do repairs to Harry and Marek Streets. Councilmember James King suggested recycled asphalt to be put down. Mr. King ask that the city get price quotes for the recycled asphalt and he will sell it to the city at 20% less that the lowest quote. Motion was made by Councilmember Belinda Halfin, second by Councilmember Felix Galvan Jr. to proceed with getting quotes and the purchase from Mr. King for the price of 20% less than lowest quote. Motion passed with 3 yes votes. Councilmember abstained from the vote due to conflict of interest.
4. Police Department Reports- Chief Moseley reported that Code Red is up and running, this is an emergency notification system for citizens. There is a link on the city website to sign up. No action
5. Municipal Court – No action
6. Financial Review – Motion made by Councilmember James King, second by Councilmember Belinda Halfin to approve financial reports and payment of bills. Motion passed with 4 yes votes.
7. New Business
8. Quiet Zone, Presentation by Dave Johnson on Quiet Zones for train horns in the city. No action.
9. Placement of Stop Signs- Motion made by Councilmember Belinda Halfin, second by Councilmember Felix Galvan Jr. to place a Two-Way stop at Ash Street and Guyler Street and a Four-way stop at South 9th and Demel. Motion passed with 4 yes votes.
10. Resolutions – Motion made by Councilmember James King, second by Bernadette Parr to approve Resolution No. 2020-49 for Victims Service Advocate Grant and Resolution No. 2020-50 for Justice Assistance Grant Program – Investigator. Motion passed with 4 yes votes.
11. Storage Containers – Code Enforcement/Inspector talked to Council about what would need to be done if plans were approved to place storage containers on property and turn them into commercial food establishments. Motion made by Councilmember Belinda Halfin, second by Bernadette Parr to deny the placement of storage containers on property and use for commercial use. Motion passed with 4 yes votes.
12. Roof Replacement – Marti Frost stated that she would talk to EDC Board and see if they could do anything to help with the cost of replacement of the Roof on Building C at City Hall. Tabled until next meeting.
13. Park and School Annexation- Tabled until next meeting
14. Employee Handbook – Motion made by Councilmember Belinda Halfin, second by Councilmember Felix Galvan Jr. to set the date of Wednesday, March 4, 2020 for a workshop to discuss the Employee Handbook. Motion passed with 4 yes votes.
15. Streets and Drainage Updates – No action
16. EDC Updates- 1. Resolution for Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Ordinance for Home Program. Motion made by Councilmember Belinda Halfin, second by Councilmember Bernadette Parr to approve Resolution No. 2020-51, which EDC will be responsible for $40,000 as cash reserve to use during the agreement term for eligible program costs before reimbursements are received from the State of Texas Home Program. Motion passed with 4 yes votes

2. HGTV Home Town Makeover entry with short video- Marti showed short video to council that was sent into HGTV.

3.TAMI city Planning Program update-Texas A & M will be in town on March 20th.

4.International EDC update- EDC is working on confirming dates.

5. Wallis EDC Officer Changes – Cecilia Allice-President, Mallori Ramey-Vice President, Rich Briennman- Treasurer, Tom Turner-Secretary, James King-Board member.

6. Flood issues – EDC still working on this issue

7. Status of Demolition/Beautification Program-Moving forward with getting quotes

8. Proposal for Food Truck Court – Motion made by Councilmember Belinda, second by Felix Galvan Jr. to approve the EDC to continue pursuing the idea of using the Nature Park as a food truck court.

j. Closed Executive Session- Council went into Closed Executive Session at 9:11pm.

K. Reconvene from Closed Executive Session- Council reconvened into Regular Session at

10:05pm. Motion made by Councilmember James King, second by Councilmember Felix

Galvan Jr. to re-advertise for a full-time public works position. Motion passed with 4 yes

Votes.

L. Future Agenda Items

Budget Amendments

Annexation, Park & School

Roof Replacement

ETJ

1. Adjourn Meeting – Meeting was adjourned at 10:10pm.

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Dennis L. Diggs, Mayor Sheila Moseley, City Secretary