

**MINUTES
CITY OF AMES
304 MARTIN DR. – AMES, TEXAS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 14, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

The City Council for the City of Ames, Texas held a meeting at the Ames City Hall at 6:04 p.m. Mayor Barbara Domain called the meeting to order at that time. Councilman Eddie White led the prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Domain conducted the roll call, at this time the members of the City Council who were present were: Mayor Barbara Domain, Michael Trahan II, Elizabeth (Liz) Hardy, Eddie White, Alfred Freeman Jr., and Audrey Harrison.

CITIZEN APPEARANCE

Mayor Domain asked if there were any citizens present who would like to speak to the council.

- Charlie Brown was present. He had questions about the drainage of the storm water and the mosquitos. Mayor Domain explained that the maintenance department as well as the county has both sprayed for the mosquitos in the city. She also stated that she has assigned tasks to the employees which consist of keeping the culvert clear of debris to assist with the water drainage and make sure culverts are clean.
- Darrel Berotte was present. He provided information about a piece of equipment, specifically a tractor, that would be beneficial for the city. He provided a packet detailing the equipment and its multiple uses. He left his contact information if the council had any more questions or concerns.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 08, 2024, REGULAR MEETING.

The council took a few minutes to look over the minutes. There was no discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

1. CANVASS ELECTION RESULTS FOR MAY 4, 2024, AND SWEAR IN ELECTED CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR POSITION 1, POSITION 2, AND POSITION 4.

Mayor Domain read off the official election results. A motion was made to accept the election results.

Motion to made by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 2 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

At this time Marivious Allen conducted the swearing in process for Position 1 (Michael J. Trahan II), Position 2 (Elizabeth “Liz” Hardy), and Position 4 (Alfred Freeman Jr.).

2. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 270 A RESOLUTION OF THE LIBERTY COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT, APPROVING THE REMODLING OF THE PROPERTY SITUATED AT 303 FANNIN STREET, LIBERTY, LIBERTY COUNTY, TEXAS 77575.

Jason Strickland from the Liberty County Central Appraisal District was present to address any questions regarding the resolution. He explained that we are not asking for any money, just need City Council's permission to purchase the old Cowboy Cleaners building located behind the current CAD office because the tax code requirement that LCAD get all the taxing entities permission to purchase the property with Council approval. Mayor Domain asked for a motion to approve Resolution #270. There was no further discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Liz Hardy

Seconded by: Councilman Eddie White

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

3. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2024-001 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF AMES, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE CREATION OF THE AMES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF AMES, TEXAS, AND OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Mayor Domain asked if there were any discussions. There was no discussion at which time she then asked for a motion. There was no discussion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White

Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

4. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2024-002 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF AMES, TEXAS, APPOINTING DIRECTORS, AND OFFICERS, TO THE AMES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Mayor Domain asked if there were any discussions. There was no discussion at which time Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Eddie White

Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

5. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO 2024-008, AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS FOR THE CITY OF AMES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE CITY OF AMES, TEXAS.

Mayor Domain asked if there were discussions. She then explained that this is for the bylaws and rules for the Economic Development Corporation and do not have any direct effect on us as Council. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Alfred Freeman
Seconded by: Councilwoman Audrey Harrison
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

6. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE, TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF \$600.00 TO APPLY FOR THE 501.C3 AND \$25.00 STATE FILING FEE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

Mayor Domain asked if there were any discussions. Councilman Trahan asked which form were to be filled out, the EZ or 1023? At that time, Judge Albro stated that it should be the 1023 and explained the difference between the forms. Councilman Trahan wanted to know how long this process takes. Judge Albro said we have completed the supporting documents and just need to go online to the I.R.S. and this could take two to three months or more, depending on their case load. Mayor Domain asked for a motion. A motion was made. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Alfred Freeman
Seconded by: Councilman Michael Trahan
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Councilman Trahan wanted to know about the updated agenda, at which time Mayor Domain stated that it was date change and was properly posted on the window before the end of the day.

7. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE ERWIN SEMIEN TO BECOME A SALARY EMPLOYEE OR CONTRACT LABORER INSTEAD OF AN HOURLY EMPLOYEE.

Mayor Domain asked to move this item to the end so that the Council go into a closed session for discussion and proceeded to Item 8.

8. CONSIDER AND IF APPROPRIATE APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A 2011 FORD F250 SUPER DUTY SUPERCAB UTILITY BED PICKUP TRUCK FOR \$11,000.

Mayor Domain stated that she found pictures of the truck and that she and Erwin looked at it and stated that it was budgeted for a new truck but thought that this truck would be sufficient for what the City would use it for, especially to be able to haul the excavator on the trailer. At this time, she asked if there were any discussions. There was no discussion. Mayor Domain then asked for a motion. Councilwoman Hardy asked if this item could be tabled until Council is able to look at first quarter finances. Mayor Domain explained that she only had a day or two to be able to purchase this vehicle. Councilman Trahan made a motion to table this item. All in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael J. Trahan
Seconded by: Councilwoman Elizabeth Hardy
All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

At this time Mayor Domain asked to go back to Item No. 7, to exercise the right under Title 5, Sec. 551 to discuss Item No. 7 to approve Erwin Semien salary employee for contractor labor instead of salaried employee.

Marivious stated that we are now moving into closed session.

Mayor Domain stated that we are going into closed session at 6:41 p.m.

Mayor Domain made a motion to return from closed sessions at 7:14 p.m.

Motion made by: Councilwoman Liz Hardy

Seconded by: Councilman Michael Trahan

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

Mayor Domain made a motion to table Item No. 7. A motion was made to table item #7. All were in favor. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael Trahan

Seconded by: Councilman Alfred Freeman

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

Reported on Donatto Street what actions would be redone. Dumpsters will be coming again on May 23, for any disposal you may have. Councilman Trahan asked for a sign to be put out that says no tires. Councilwoman Harrison asked about the speed bumps.

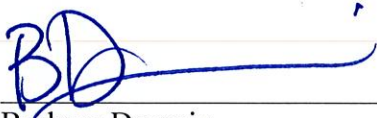
10. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Domain asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 PM.

Motion made by: Councilman Michael J. Trahan

Seconded by: Councilwoman Elizabeth Hardy

All in favor: 5 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0



Barbara Domain
Mayor



Wellona Godfrey
City Secretary