

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF POLK §
CITY OF LIVINGSTON §

MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
MAY 16, 2023
5:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Livingston, Texas convened in special session in Council Chambers at City Hall at 5:00 P.M., May 16, 2023, with the following members present:

Judy B. Cochran	)	Mayor
Alan Cook	)	Councilmembers
Raymond Luna)	
Elgin Davis)	
Billy S. Wiggins	)	City Manager
Ellie Monteaux	)	City Secretary/Assistant City Manager
James Wright	)	City Attorney

and the following others present:

Bobby C. Jackson, Sr.	)	Councilmember-Elect
Pamela Jackson	)	Family of Councilmember-Elect Jackson
Brittany Jackson)	
Corky Cochran)	Livingston VFD Fire Chief
Chief Matt Parrish)	Livingston Police Department
Lt. Marty Drake)	

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Julie Miller)	Utility Billing Supervisor
Josh Mohler)	Fire Marshal/Code Enforcement Officer
Sarah Milner	)	Deputy Court Clerk - Municipal Court
Sonny Hubbard	)	Piney Woods Sanitation
Joseph Walker	)	Pro Star Waste/Waste Connections
Steve Berry)	
Casey Valderez)	
Alex Griffin	)	Republic Services
Carl Feren	)	Self

Mayor Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. and called on Alderman Davis to open the meeting with prayer and the pledges.

Mayor Cochran recognized Corky Cochran, Fire Chief of Livingston Volunteer Fire Department. Members of the Council have received their annual payment for meeting attendance and have chosen to contribute these payments to the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Cochran accepted the contributions on behalf of the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department, thanked the City Council for their service to the City of Livingston, and welcomed Councilmember-Elect Jackson to the City Council.

(Corky Cochran retired from the meeting.)

Results of the General Election held May 6, 2023 were considered and a canvass of the election was conducted. It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Davis that the election returns of the May 6, 2023 City of Livingston General Election be approved. All present voted aye.

The City Manager presented a proposed resolution declaring the results of the General Election held May 6, 2023. It was moved by Alderman Davis and seconded by Alderman Luna that the resolution, as introduced, be approved and adopted. All present voted aye. The resolution, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"RESOLUTION NO. 607

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, CANVASSING THE RETURNS OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, GENERAL ELECTION HELD MAY 6, 2023."

The City Secretary administered the Oath of Office to Alderman Raymond Luna, Alderman Elgin Davis and Alderman Bobby Jackson Sr.

Mayor Cochran presented Certificates of Election to Alderman Raymond Luna, Alderman Elgin Davis and Alderman Bobby Jackson Sr.

Mayor Cochran advised Council that at the first meeting of the Council following the General Election each year, the Council elects a Mayor Pro-tem to serve for a one-year term of office. It was moved by Alderman Luna and seconded by Alderman Davis that Alderman Alan Cook be nominated to serve as Mayor Pro-tem for the 2023-2024 term. All present voted aye.

The City Manager thanked the representatives from Piney Woods Sanitation, Pro Star Waste/Waste Connections and Republic Services for the proposals they submitted to provide waste collection and sanitation services to the City of Livingston and for their cooperation during the RFP process. The City Manager provided a copy of the score sheets completed independently by Utility Billing Supervisory Julie Miller, City Secretary/Assistant City Manager Ellie Monteaux and himself. A pricing comparison spreadsheet was also provided to Council showing the pricing received from each proposal as well as the City's current rates and number of customers in each classification. Discussion ensued relative to the proposals received, the operation of Republic Services in the Houston area and the exclusive use of carts for residential collection by Republic thus eliminating the residential hand pick up currently in place.

Alderman Davis and Alderman Luna inquired as to the availability of carts for recycling items to be picked up and recycling services to be provided. The City Manager advised that recycling services were not included in the request for proposals for waste collection and sanitation services currently before the Council for discussion. Discussion continued regarding recycling services in the local area. Mayor Cochran advised that recycling service were not included in the current request for proposals. Discussion continued regarding recycling services in the local area.

It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Davis that the contract for waste collection and disposal services be awarded to Piney Woods Sanitation with contract negotiations to begin May 17, 2023 and be completed by May 31, 2023, with the effective date of the contract beginning August 1, 2023. All present voted aye.

(Sonny Hubbard, Joseph Walker, Steve Berry, Casey Valderez, and Alex Griffin retired from the meeting.)

The City Manager presented a proposed resolution approving the submission of a grant application for the Rifle-Resistant Body Armor Grant to the Office of the Governor (Grant No. 4841301). Lt. Drake advised Council that the grant in the amount of \$25,300.16 would allow for the replacement of 25 rifle-resistant body armor vests and that there is no matching of funds required under this program. Discussion ensued relative to the weight and fit of the rifle-resistant body armor, the training requirements for officers in active shooter situations, and the cooperative training of local school districts and local law enforcement. It was moved by Alderman Davis and seconded by Alderman Cook that the resolution, as introduced, be approved and adopted. All present voted aye. The resolution, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"RESOLUTION NO. 608

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE RIFLE-RESISTANT BODY ARMOR GRANT TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR."

The City Manager presented a proposed resolution approving the submission of a grant application for the DJ-Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant to the Office of the Governor (Grant No. 4855901). Lt. Drake advised Council that the grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 would allow for the purchase of six 12" tablets to be placed in patrol cars and that there is no match requirement under this program. Discussion ensued relative to the use of the tablets to monitor the location of the officers, to receive alerts from the Flock camera system, to allow for mental health warrant interviews to take place in the field and other possible uses of the equipment. Upon the recommendation of the City Manager, it was moved by Alderman Luna and seconded by Alderman Jackson that the resolution, as introduced, be approved and adopted. All present voted aye. The resolution, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"RESOLUTION NO. 609

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE DJ-EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR."

(Julie Miller, Sarah Milner, Matt Parrish and Marty Drake retired from the meeting.)

Prior to beginning the presentation of Agenda Item III. D. Proposed Resolution Setting Public Hearing to Receive Public Comments on Petition to Vacate, Abandon and Close a Portion of N. East Avenue, City Attorney Jim Wright disclosed to City Council that he has served as Trustee for Central Baptist Church since February, 2023. Mr. Wright furthered advised that when the topic of street closure was mentioned, he recused himself from any discussion and communication regarding the topic in his role as Trustee.

The City Manager presented petition from Central Baptist Church of Livingston to vacate, abandon and close a portion of N. East Avenue and a proposed resolution setting a Public Hearing for June 13, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. to receive public comments on the petition. It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Davis that the resolution, as introduced, be approved and adopted. Discussion ensued relative to utilities located within the area designated in the petition. All present voted aye. The resolution, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"RESOLUTION NO. 610

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, SETTING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED CLOSURE, VACATION AND ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF N. EAST AVE. AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO PUBLISH NOTICE OF SUCH HEARING."

Mayor Cochran set a Public Hearing for June 13, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. regarding the proposed closure, vacation and abandonment of a portion of N. East Avenue.

The City Manager presented petition requesting annexation of a 34.04 acre tract of land owned by Eternal Holdings, LLC situated in the M.L. Choate Survey, A-15 and Bridger Hobbs Survey, A-327, at 617 FM 350 South and a proposed resolution setting a Public Hearing for June 13, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. to receive public comments on the petition for annexation. It was moved by Alderman Jackson and seconded by Alderman Cook that the resolution, as introduced, be approved and adopted. All present voted aye. The resolution, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"RESOLUTION NO. 611

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, SETTING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF A 34.04 ACRE TRACT OF LAND ON THE M.L. CHOATE SURVEY, A-15 AND THE BRIDGER HOBBS SURVEY, A-327 BY THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO PUBLISH NOTICE OF SUCH HEARING."

Mayor Cochran set a Public Hearing for June 13, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. regarding the petition for annexation of a 34.04 acre tract of land owned by Eternal Holdings, LLC.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Jackson that the meeting be adjourned at 5:41 P.M. All present voted aye.

SIGNED:



Judy B. Cochran, Mayor

ATTEST:



Ellie Monteaux, TRMC, MMC, CPM
City Secretary/Assistant City Manager

