

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

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
JULY 11, 2023
5:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Livingston, Texas convened in regular session in Council Chambers at City Hall at 5:00 P.M., July 11, 2023, with the following members present:

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

and the following others present:

Christopher Scott)	Central Baptist Church of Livingston
Ben Ogletree, III)	
Sonny Hathaway)	
Bob Burkhalter)	Self
Emily Wooten)	Polk County Enterprise

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.

It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Luna that the minutes of the regular meeting of June 13, 2023 be approved. All present voted aye.

Christopher Scott filed a Public Meeting Appearance Form with the City Secretary prior to the meeting being called to order. Mr. Scott requested to address Council regarding Agenda Item No. II. A. Proposed Ordinance Conditionally Vacating, Abandoning and Closing a Portion of N. East Avenue Adjacent to Blocks 41 and 42 of the Original City Townsite From E. Polk Street Northward to E. Milam Street.

Mayor Cochran recognized Christopher Scott who advised Council that, speaking on behalf of Central Baptist Church of Livingston, the church would like to withdraw the petition for abandonment and closure of N. East Avenue and request additional traffic control measures be installed in the area.

The City Manager presented an engagement letter from Harper and Pearson Company to perform the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023. The City Manager informed Council that Stephen Palmerton has announced that he will be retiring and this will be the final audit he will perform should Council approve the engagement letter as presented. It was moved by Alderman Davis and seconded by Alderman Cook that Mayor Cochran be authorized to execute the engagement letter with Harper and Pearson Company for the audit for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023 for an expected total fee of between \$35,000 and \$38,000. All present voted aye.

The City Manager advised Council that Dr. Elias Kanaan has served as the City's Health Authority since 2005 and is willing to serve an additional 2-year term should the Council appoint him. Upon the recommendation of the City Manager, it was moved by Alderman Luna and seconded by Alderman Jackson that Dr. Elias Kanaan be reappointed as the City of Livingston Local Health Authority for the term July 1, 2023 through July 1, 2025. All present voted aye.

The City Manager presented a proposed resolution setting a Public Hearing for September 12, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. to consider the determination of an unsafe and/or dilapidated building located at 1008 Dunbar Avenue and owned by Dunbar Livingston 1008 LLC. 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. 612

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS SETTING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 1008 DUNBAR AVE. IN THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON AS A DILAPIDATED AND UNSAFE BUILDING AND AS A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO PUBLISH NOTICE OF SUCH HEARING."

Mayor Cochran set a Public Hearing for September 12, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. regarding the determination of an unsafe and/or dilapidated building located at 1008 Dunbar Avenue and owned by Dunbar Livingston 1008 LLC.

The City Manager presented a proposed resolution setting a Public Hearing for September 12, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. to consider the determination of an unsafe and/or dilapidated manufactured home located at 1931 S. Washington Ave. #51 and owned by Jeff McCullar, Amy McCullar, and Carlos Barron. It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Davis that the resolution, as introduced, be approved and adopted. All present voted aye. The resolution, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"RESOLUTION NO. 613

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS SETTING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE 12 FT. X 53 FT. REDMAN SHERATON MANUFACTURED HOME, SERIAL NO. 7685, LABEL/SEAL NO. TXS0598031, LOCATED AT 1931 S. WASHINGTON AVE. #51 IN THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON AS A DILAPIDATED AND UNSAFE BUILDING AND AS A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO PUBLISH NOTICE OF SUCH HEARING."

Mayor Cochran set a Public Hearing for September 12, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. regarding the determination of an unsafe and/or dilapidated manufactured home located at 1931 S. Washington Ave. #51 and owned by Jeff McCullar, Amy McCullar, and Carlos Barron.

The City Manager presented the Accounts Over \$500 for approval. It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Davis that the accounts over \$500.00, as submitted, be approved for payment. All present voted aye.

The City Manager reported on the following items:

- A) Sales Tax - The July sales tax report from the State Comptroller for the month May will be available Friday, July 14, 2023.
- B) Update of Projects and Development - The City Manager provided an update of current projects and development.
- C) Change in Sanitation Service Provider - Piney Woods Sanitation will begin providing garbage service in Livingston on August 1st and a route map will be available July 17th showing the route for pickup one (1) time per week for residential customers.
- D) Texas Municipal League Annual Conference - Registration has opened for the annual TML Conference to be held October 4-6 in Dallas.
- E) 4th Annual Smoke in the Pines State Championship BBQ Cookoff - The Chamber provided a letter detailing the growth and success of the event held at Pedigo Park.
- F) Livingston Pioneer Crossing Apartment Ribbon Cutting - A ribbon cutting and grand opening will be held Thursday, July 13th at 1:30 P.M. Council members are invited to attend the event.
- G) July Council Member Birthdays Recognized - The City Manager recognized upcoming birthdays of Alderman Cook and Alderman Luna.
- H) Livingston Youth Baseball Association State Champions - The City Manager reported that three Livingston teams won state championships this year including 9U, 11U and 12U teams. The 9U and 11U will play in an invitational world series to be held in Center, Texas. The 12U won their fifth consecutive state championship and will advance to the Dixie League World Series to be held August 4-8 in Ruston, Louisiana.
- I) August City Council Meeting Date - At the request of the City Manager, it was approved by a consensus of councilmembers present that the regular meeting of City Council for August be reschedule to Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.

Discussion ensued relative to the status of the Baskin development on Pan American Drive, the plan review for Denny's restaurant, and the grant related to paving of N. Willis Avenue.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Davis that the meeting be adjourned at 5:27 P.M. All present voted aye.

SIGNED:


Judy B. Cochran, Mayor

ATTEST:


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

