

**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2019
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7105 WHITLEY ROAD
6:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas convened at 6:30 p.m., for the purpose of conducting a special meeting with the following members present:

Mayor Arthur L. Miner
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member, Place 6 Mark Taylor
Council Member, Place 1 Scott Prescher
Council Member, Place 2 Tom Snyder (absent with notice)
Council Member, Place 3 Lovie Downey
Council Member, Place 4 Andrew Neal
Council Member, Place 5 Juanita King
Council Member, Place 7 Kim Irving (absent with notice)

and

Andrea Gardner, City Manager
Tara Rogers, Deputy City Secretary
Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance
Deby Woodard, Assistant Finance Director
Raquel Guajardo, Assistant to the City Secretary
Trang Nguyen, Systems Administrator

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Watauga Citizen, Debra Adams.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge to the American Flag and Texas Flag was lead by Mayor Miner.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Conduct a Public Hearing for the Proposed FY2019-2020 Economic Development Budget

Director of Finance, Sandra Gibson, gave a brief summary of the budget.

Public hearing opened by Mayor Miner at 6:35 P.M.

Paul Hopkins, 7509 Meadow Brook Drive, asked questions regarding Capp Smith Park amenities and data base software. City Manager, Andrea Gardner,

responded to the concerns, explaining the database uses and what exactly the needs are for the database software. The response to the Capp Smith Park concerns was the EDC is involved in two major projects for the parks that is allowed under the law. The City has other funds that are designated for the other needs regarding parks. Economic Development funds must be utilized in accordance with Chapter 500 of the Texas Local government code.

The Mayor closed Public Hearing at 6:44 P.M.

2. Conduct a Public Hearing on a proposed tax rate of \$0.58050 per \$100 valuation for the FY 2019-2020 Fiscal Year

City Manager, Andrea Gardner, stated this is the second public hearing on the tax rate, which is to be voted on September, 9, 2019.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 P.M.

Paul Hopkins, 7509 Meadow Brook Drive, thanked the City for the lower tax rate.

Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:48 P.M.

3. Conduct a Public Hearing on the changes to various User Fees

Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:48 P.M.

Director of Finance, Sandra Gibson, gave an overview of the changes to user fees, referencing the Council Workshop help on the topic on August 12, 2019.

Paul Hopkins, 7509 Meadow Brook Drive, asked questions and made comments regarding the increases in some of the fees.

Neal Cooper, 6921 Cheatham, commented on the block parties and the user fees associated with the block party applications and barricade deliveries.

Council Member Prescher asked who delivers the barricades on the weekend. He asked if we can mandate Friday deliveries only for weekend block parties. Questions regarding the process of the water department procedures prior to disconnecting a service were also asked and explained. Sandra Gibson commented these fees have not been adjusted since 2001.

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor asked for clarification of the water cut off fees, library fees, and the block party fees.

Staff addressed all concerns and questions presented by council and the public.

Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:08 P.M.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Consider and action on approving ordinance amending Chapter 12 Fee Schedule, Code of Ordinances

CITY OF WATAUGA, TEXAS ORDINANCE NO. 2019-009

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WATAUGA, TEXAS
AMENDING CHAPTER 12 OF THE CITY OF WATAUGA
CODE OF ORDINANCES; AMENDING THE FEE
SCHEDULE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING
FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
DATE.**

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor made a motion to approve the item as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Downey.

Council Member Prescher questioned the clarity of certain sections of the ordinance, stating the wording needs clarification for understanding.

Council Member Prescher made a motion to amend the above motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor to approve the item with a second review from the City Attorney and to lower the fee for block party barricade rental from \$75.00 to \$25.00 for weekend use. The motion was seconded by Council Member Neal. The vote failed as follows: 1-4-2-0

AYES: Prescher
NAYS: Downey, Neal, King, Taylor
ABSENT: Snyder, Irving
ABSTAIN: None

Council Member Neal asked a question regarding building fees and noted they mirror North Richland Hills.

Council Member Prescher attempted to make a motion to amend the motion once again asking that the wording on the ordinance be changed regarding delivery of barricades after a second legal review and to lower the fee for the block party barricade rental from \$75.00 to \$50.00 for weekend use.

Mayor Miner questioned the validity of Council Member Prescher's ability to continue making amendments to the original motion. Mayor Miner obtained Council consensus to recess the meeting and contact the City Attorney for legal guidance.

Mayor called for recess at 7:32 P.M.

Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:36 P.M. and yielded the floor to the City Manager, Andrea Gardner.

Ms. Gardner relayed the legal advice received from the City Attorney, which was the original motion was required to be acted upon and only a friendly amendment could be permitted with the consensus of the original motion maker.

Mayor Pro Tem Taylor declined to allow a friendly amendment, thus a vote was taken on the original motion.

The vote on the original motion passed as follows: 4-1-2-0

AYES: Taylor, King, Neal, Downey
NAYS: Prescher
ABSENT: Snyder, Irving
ABSTAIN: None

FUTRUE AGENDA ITEMS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the Special Meeting at 7 :41 P.M.

APPROVED:

this 9th day of Sept, 2019

SIGNED:

this the 9th day of Sept, 2019

APPROVED:

/s/ Arthur L. Miner
Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Andrea Gardner
Andrea Gardner, City Secretary