

**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020
VIDEOCONFERENCE
6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Miner called the Special Meeting held via videoconference to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor, Arthur Miner
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member, Place 2, Tom Snyder
Council Member, Place 1, (Vacant)
Council Member, Place 3, Lovie Downey
Council Member, Place 4, Andrew Neal
Council Member, Place 5, Juanita King
Council Member, Place 6, Mark Taylor
Council Member, Place 7, (Vacant)

and

Andrea Gardner, City Manager/City Secretary
Sandra Gibson, Finance Director
Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Miner announced that Monday, September 14, 2020, the regular council meeting will be held in the council chambers.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Mayor Miner called for public testimony.

Ms. Gardner stated that the one (1) Request to Speak form received in the City Secretary's Office was disqualified as it was not properly submitted.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Discuss and consider action to authorize a budget amendment for purposes of appropriating funds for participation in the Tarrant County aerial spraying for mosquitoes to help prevent further spread of the West Nile Virus and authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Tarrant County once approved to legal form by the City Attorney**

Ms. Gardner gave an overview of the item to Council and introduced Mr. Hackleman to provide comments.

Mr. Hackleman informed Council of similar action in August 2016 and pointed out that there is not a guarantee the County will spray but sees the correlation with the situation in 2016.

Council Member Taylor asked what side effects of spraying were so the overall risks are known. He also asked if the lake at Capp Smith Park would also be treated and what the risks to animals in the pasture would be. Council Member Taylor also stated that Watauga should participate in sharing the cost.

Mr. Hackleman responded that the product Dibrom is registered with the EPA and is stated to have limited impact on humans but can impact birds and is known to kill/limit flies. He also stated that the City of Watauga runs a program to maintain a positive result in traps located throughout the City.

Council Member Downey asked that if Watauga participates would the treatment settle on playground equipment and if so, would action be taken to wipe down and sanitize all equipment. She also asked if citizens would receive adequate notice prior to spraying being done. Mr. Hackleman replied that the product dissipates rapidly and there are no plans to wipe down equipment as it only kills mosquitos that are active and in flight.

Council Member Downey stated that she is concerned of the impact on humans and wildlife in the area and inquired if the city's program is working. Mr. Hackleman responded that the City's program does appear to be working and shared that the results of Dibron indicates that it does not cause cancer in animals, but no testing has been done on humans.

Council Member Neal asked if the spraying would help the City's efforts. Mr. Hackleman responded that it would help, and recommended Watauga participate with the County as they believe that an outbreak is likely.

Council Member King expressed approval of the spraying and asked if the cost was within the budget. Ms. Gardner responded that the agenda item is posted as a budget amendment to approve the cost of \$10,000 to participate now and will be in the budget moving forward.

Council Member Taylor asked for confirmation that the County would vote on the program and the City would be provided ample notice. Mr. Hackleman concurred that the County would have to vote, and Watauga would be given ample notice but recommend that the City not back out on the agreement to participate.

Mayor Miner stated that when spraying is done, Watauga is likely to be sprayed whether we participate or not so the City should pay its fair share.

Mayor Miner read the comment submitted by Mr. Chuck Hubbard, 5948 Hillglen Drive, Watauga. *(Submission will be archived with approved minutes.)*

Mayor Miner stated that Mr. Hubbard's inquiries were addressed during the course of the meeting.

Mayor Miner called for Council discussion. Hearing none, the Mayor called for a motion.

Council Member Neal made a motion to approve the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Downey. Mayor Miner called for Council discussion and hearing none, called for the Council to vote. By show of hands, the motion carried 5-0-0.

Ayes: Snyder, Downey, Neal, King, Taylor

Nays: None

Abstain: None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

APPROVED:

this 12TH day of OCTOBER, 2020

SIGNED:

this 13TH day of OCTOBER, 2020

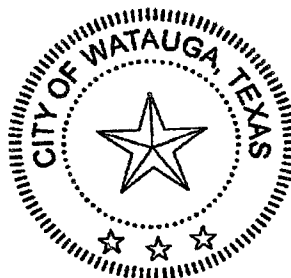
APPROVED:

Arthur L. Miner /s/

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

Andrea Gardner /s/

Andrea Gardner, City Secretary



NOTE: Original Audio and Video Recording of this meeting is preserved and maintained by the City Secretary's Office

Print**Special City Council - Comment Registration - September 8, 2020 - Submission #27439**

Date Submitted: 9/8/2020

This notice is posted pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act. Notice is hereby given that a Special City Council Meeting of the City of Watauga, Texas will be held at which time the following subjects will be discussed and may be acted upon.

Members of the public are invited and encouraged to attend all public meetings that are not closed to the public in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act. Public input is encouraged during Public Testimony, Public Hearings or Action sections of a meeting agenda. As authorized by the Executive Orders issued by the Texas Governor, the City and is making special provisions to allow the public to comment at this meeting. The meeting will be hosted using WEBEX. "Live" participation is limited. A person desiring to comment "live," during the meeting must register in advance using this form. Once registered, citizens will be provided with the meeting link information on a first come, first served basis until all slots have been filled.

Citizens may also provide their comments in writing. ALL COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 1 HOUR PRIOR TO THE MEETING. All written comments must comply with applicable decorum rules for comments made during a public meeting of the City Council to be read into the record. Up to three minutes shall be allotted for each written comment to be read into the record of the meeting. All timely comments will be read into the record of the meeting at the appropriate time during the meeting.

While reasonable efforts will be taken to gather comments received within the hour prior to the meeting or received during the meeting, all such comments are considered untimely and may not be recognized and read during the meeting.

First Name*

Chuck

Last Name*

Hubbard

Address1*

5948 Hillglen Drive

Address2**City***

Watauga

State*

tx

Zip*

76148

Email*

Phone

[REDACTED]

I wish to comment during (check all that apply):*

- ☐ Public Testimony
☒ Action Item 1

Select how you wish to participate:

If you select WEBEX, a meeting invite will be sent to the email address you provide. You will need to have internet, a device that can connect with audio and/or a phone. You will be responsible for connecting to the meeting and being available when the section you are requesting to speak during is current.

Select an option:*

- ☐ Connecting to the meeting using WEBEX
☒ Having my comments read into the record

Comments - Indicate which section of the meeting your comments refer to:

Council, City Manager, Staff, I would just like to ask when we were informed by Tarrant County of this possible escalation from Category 3 to Category 4 on the West Nile Virus status and the possible use of aerial spraying? I would also like to know the timeline provided by Tarrant County to respond if we want to be included in this spraying or opt out, what is the date we would need to provide them an answer by? I would also like to ask for the total number of infected West Nile Virus cases in our city limits and any applicable deaths directly due to WNV. Thank you.