MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
HECTOR F. GARCIA COMMUNITY CENTER
7901 INDIAN SPRINGS, WATAUGA, TX 76148
SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2021
9:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER

The City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas convened at 9:11 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present:

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, Jan Hill

and

Andrea Gardner, City Manager / City Secretary
George Hyde, City Attorney

and

Ira Nicodemus, Performance Services

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation and discussion by Performed Services on AMI Technology opportunities

Mr. Nicodemus reviewed the presentation with the City Council to include explanation of metering technologies, the financial impact of transitioning to AMI technology and options for implementation.

Mr. Nicodemus and City Council Members engaged in a question-and-answer session.

Mayor Miner recessed the meeting at 10:26 a.m.

Mayor Miner reconvened the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

2. Presentation and update on the City's Ten Year Strategic Plan

Andrea Gardner reviewed the presentation with the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Written testimony was submitted by Andra Dunn and read into the record by Mayor Miner regarding the preference for American Rescue Funds to be used for the purchase of generators.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Discuss and provide direction on the City's Ten Year Strategic Plan to include revisions to the Vision Statement and Goals of the City and creation of a Mission Statement

Ms. Gardner led the discussion with the City Council that resulted in the following direction:

- Amend the City's Vision Statement as "The City of Watauga remains focused on building an inclusive community that delivers an exceptional quality of life with access to amenities and programs through good governance, fiscal responsibility and transparency."
- Add a Mission Statement as "Develop programs to attract and support businesses to our community, provide a safe and secure community for all.

Council Member Hill made a motion to table the goals discussion. Council Member Downey seconded the motion. Motion Carried 6-0-0.

Mayor Miner recessed the meeting at 12:17 p.m.

Mayor Miner reconvened the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

Council Member Hill made a motion to remove the goals discussion from the table. Council Member Downey seconded the motion. Motion Carried 6-0-0.

Staff was directed to make the following amendments to the Strategic Plan:

- Agreed the Planning Issues in the City's Strategic Plan should be the City Goals and the label of Planning Issue should be renamed to Strategic Planning Goal.
- Study and pursue the AMI technology in FY 2022.
- Add the proposed changes included in the presentation provided by staff and make other staff requested amendments included in the presentation.

2. Discuss and provide direction to the City Manager on the upcoming fiscal year 2022 budget

Ms. Gardner led the discussion on the item to include a review of the debt schedule, potential impacts of HB 1869, consideration of a certificates of obligation debt issuance for the Summer 2021, a review of revenues and expenses as projected by Finance for FY 2022 and departmental requests that require prioritization.

Council provided the following direction:

- Proceed with CO Issuance (begin with Notice of Intent in June 2021)
- Directed the budget be prepared at the max allowed Natural Disaster Rate (old Rollback Rate), if Prop B fails and a 5% increase over prior year if Prop B passes
- Create a method for a funding set aside to cover the leave liability
- Change the bereavement leave from 5 days to 3 days
- Proceed with AMI Letter of Intent in 2022
- Include 1% COLA for FY 2022
- Priorities for New Requests included Budget Prep Software, Land Use Training, City Hall Fountain, PD Drones, Park Shades, Penetration Testing for IT.
- Further evaluate options for revising Policy 6.04.
- Requested the breakdown of leave liability by compensatory time, vacation time and sick time.

Council Member King left the meeting at 2:37 p.m.

Mayor Miner meeting recessed at 2:57 p.m.

Mayor Miner reconvened the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Mayor Miner introduced a discussion on legal services as it impacts the budget and requested to discuss options for legal services.

No direction was provided after the discussion.

3. Discuss and provide direction on the priorities for the use of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funds for cities

Ms. Gardner reviewed the priorities included in the agenda memorandum and commented that the citizen request to use the funds to purchase generators was not likely an appropriate use of these funds based on the authorized uses released.

Council consensus was to utilize the priorities recommended in agenda memorandum when preparing the proposed budget for use of the funds.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

APPROVED: this 24TH day of MAY , 2021

SIGNED: this 26TH day of MAY , 2021

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

Andrea Gardner /s/
Andrea Gardner, City Secretary

CITY OF WATAUGA, TEXAS

NOTE: Prepared from notes and partial audio recording due to technical difficulty with the audio equipment. Original Audio Recording of this meeting is preserved and maintained by the City Secretary's Office.