

**MINUTES  
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021  
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7105 WHITLEY ROAD  
6:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 6:51 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas convened with the following members present:

Mayor, Arthur Miner  
Mayor Pro Tem/Place 2, Tom Snyder  
Council Place 1, Patrick Shelbourne (Seated after Oath of Office taken during presentations)  
Council Place 3, Lovie Downey  
Council Place 4, Andrew Neal  
Council Place 5, Juanita King (Absent with Notice)  
Council Place 6, Mark Taylor  
Council Place 7, Jan Hill

and

Andrea Gardner, City Manager/City Secretary  
Raquel Guajardo, Deputy City Secretary  
Samantha Ortega, Records Clerk  
Sandra Gibson, Finance Director  
Deby Woodard, Assistant Finance Director  
Brad Fraley, Chief Information Officer  
George Hyde, City Attorney

Council Member Taylor inquired if the absence of Council Member King, Place 5, meets one of the criteria set within the charter. Mayor Miner responded that the absence conforms to current criteria.

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Nichols, Northside Church of the Nazarene, provided the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Miner led the pledge to the flags.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Council Member Taylor announced the Splash Pad will open May 29, 2021.

Council Member Neal announced the library summer reading series begins June 1, 2021.

Mayor Miner stated that the Splash Pad Ribbon Cutting held May 22, 2021, was well attended. He also thanked recreation staff for providing refreshments for attendees.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Presentation by McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen, P.C. regarding Delinquent Collection Services**

Ms. Gibson introduced Mr. Steve Whigham, MVBA Director of Operations, to provide the presentation to Council which included an overview of delinquent account collection services to the City on unpaid fines, utility accounts, and ambulance accounts.

Council inquired regarding credit ratings, cash collections, regional averages and deposit reimbursements in which Mr. Whigham addressed.

### **2. Oath of Office administered to the newly elected Mayor and Council Members for Places 1, 3, 4, and 5 and presentation of Election Certificates**

Judge Bass administered the Oath of Office to the following:

- Arthur L. Miner – Mayor
- Pat Shelbourne – Council Member Place 1
- Lovie Downey – Council Member Place 3
- Andrew Neal – Council Member Place 4

### **3. Oath of Office administered to members of the Crime Control & Prevention District Board**

Judge Bass administered the Oath of Office to the following:

- Tom Snyder – CCPD Director Place 2

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Request for public comment were not received.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS**

Requests for public testimony were not received.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Miner read the following consent agenda items:

- 1. Consider action to approve an ordinance to provide relief for commercial properties of Watauga due to higher water consumption related to the winter storm of 2021**



2. **Consider action to approve the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2021**
3. **Consider action to approve the Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending March 31, 2021**
4. **Consider action to approve Bank Depository Services RFA # 19-005 for the first extension one-year period through August 31, 2022 with Southside Bank**
5. **Consider action to approve an Interlocal Agreement between Tarrant County and the City of Watauga regarding the use City personnel in the administration of the COVID-19 vaccination**
6. **Consider action to approve the meeting minutes of the April 8, 2021 NE Chamber of Commerce 63rd Annual Awards Banquet ; April 24, 2021 Joint WEDC & Special City Council Meeting; April 25, 2021 Special City Council Meeting; April 26, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting and May 12, 2021 Special City Council Meeting**
7. **Consider action to approve an Ordinance by the City Council of the City of Watauga, Texas amending chapter 2, article iii “boards and commissions” of the code of ordinances of the City of Watauga, Texas; adopting a new division 8, sections 2-131 through 2-140, creating the parks advisory board; establishing powers and duties; providing for its composition; appointment and removal of members; providing for new members; providing for conflicts of interest; providing for liaisons; providing for officers; providing for compensation of its members, fundraising activities and expenditures; providing for meetings; providing for assistance by staff; providing for severability; and providing an effective date.**
8. **Consider action to repeal Article III, Secs 101-50 through 101-56, Capital Improvements Advisory Committee, of the Code of Ordinances**

Council Member Neal made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Snyder. As there was no discussion, Mayor Miner called for the Council to vote. Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes: Shelbourne, Snyder, Downey, Neal, Taylor, Hill  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: King

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. **Discuss and consider action to rescind the Disaster Declaration dated March 17, 2020**

Council Member Taylor presented the item requesting removal of the declaration dated March 17, 2020, and to rely on future declarations from Tarrant County.

Council Member Taylor made a motion to rescind the Disaster Declaration dated March 17, 2020. Motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Snyder.

Mayor Miner called for discussion. Council Member Neal inquired if there was a financial implication if the declaration is canceled. Ms. Gardner responded that there are no financial implications.

As there was no further discussion, Mayor Miner called for the Council to vote. Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes: Shelbourne, Snyder, Downey, Neal, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: King

**2. Discuss and provide direction on establishing a policy for accepting award or recognition nominations**

Mayor Miner presented the item to Council requesting direction to establish a policy to accept awards or recognition nominations.

Council Member Taylor requested the process be made public to all citizens throughout the year to recognize those that go above and beyond. He also stated that, if necessary, the mayor can appoint an ad-hoc committee of 2-3 council members to review the items for Council to vote upon at the appropriate time.

Council Member Miner asked Council if they are open to accept the nomination of someone outside of Watauga to be addressed in the policy. Council Member Taylor responded that the process should allow for the public to nominate someone who goes above and beyond the call of duty for the City of Watauga.

Council Member Neal stated that he does not believe the input should be limited and asked if a citizen or organization would be allowed to present nominations in person during a council meeting. Mayor Miner responded that he encourages citizen participation to come forward with other types of citizenship awards.

Council Member Downey suggested the Public Information Officer share the information throughout the year and agrees with Council Member Taylor's suggestion to create subcommittees and to create a timeline for Hometown Hero nominations to avoid rushing through the process.

Mayor Miner stated that Hometown Hero's deadline for nominations is in February each year.



Council Member Taylor commented that he would like the opportunity for citizens to come throughout the year to present recommendations to Council to recognize during a council meeting. Citizen submission would be reviewed by the ad-hoc committee to decide to place on an agenda for recognition during a regular council meeting and not just for Hometown Hero.

Council Member Neal stated that this could lead to an outpour of positive news and would be great to encourage citizens and organizations to come forward with recommendations.

Mayor Miner commented that Council can make recommendations at any time and clarified that council cannot nominate themselves.

**3. Discuss and consider action to consider appointments to the Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Council Member Neal made a motion to accept the item as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Shelbourne. Mayor Miner called for discussion.

Council Member Taylor stated that he would like to see a proposed boards and commissions procedures established to determine if presented appointments meet set parameters. Mayor Miner stated that moving forward, it will be taken into consideration. However, those currently sitting in alternate positions should be moved up to primary positions.

As there was no further discussion, Mayor Miner called for the Council to vote. Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes: Shelbourne, Snyder, Downey, Neal, Taylor, Hill  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: King

**4. Discuss and consider action to consider appointments to the Planning & Zoning Commission to fill the unexpired terms in Places 2 & 4**

Council Member Downey made a motion to appoint Quincy Adams and Laura Nedderman to the Planning & Zoning Commission for the unexpired terms Places 2 & 4. Motion seconded by Council Member Hill. Mayor Miner called for discussion and hearing none, called for the Council to vote. Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes: Shelbourne, Snyder, Downey, Neal, Taylor, Hill  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: King

**5. Discuss and consider action to appoint an applicant to Place 2 on the Library Advisory Board**

Council Member Hill made a motion to accept the recommendation. Motion seconded by Council Member Neal. Mayor Miner called for discussion and hearing none, called for the Council to vote. Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes: Shelbourne, Snyder, Downey, Neal, Taylor, Hill  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: King

### **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

Mayor Miner requested Parks Advisory Board recommendations be added to a future agenda. Ms. Gardner responded that the item was on an upcoming meeting agenda.

No other items were presented by Council.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Miner recessed the regular meeting to convene in executive session at 7:56 p.m., to discuss the following items:

1. **Pursuant to 551.071, to deliberate and seek legal advice regarding anticipated litigation regarding claims the city may assert pursuant to Chapter 85 of the Texas Civil Practices Code**
2. **Pursuant to 551.074 to deliberate upon the duties of the City Attorney and amending certain terms within the legal services agreement with the City Attorney's law firm**

### **RECONVENE**

Mayor Miner reconvened the regular council meeting in open session at 10:07 p.m.

### **ITEMS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION DELIBERATION**

1. **Discuss and consider action on anticipated litigation regarding claims the city may assert pursuant to Chapter 85 of the Texas Civil Practices Code**

Mayor Miner stated that no action was taken.

2. **Discuss and consider amending certain terms within the legal services agreement between the City of Watauga and Russell Rodriguez Hyde Bullock, LLP.**

Mayor Miner stated that no action was taken.

### ADJOURNMENT

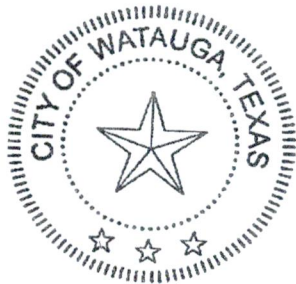
Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 10:08 p.m.

APPROVED:

this 14<sup>TH</sup> day of JUNE, 2021

SIGNED:

this 17<sup>TH</sup> day of JUNE, 2021



APPROVED:

Arthur L. Miner /s/

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST:

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