

**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER
7105 WHITLEY ROAD, WATAUGA, TX 76148
MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2021
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The Workshop Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

Council Place 1, Pat Shelbourne – Present
Council Place 2, Tom Snyder – Present
Council Place 3, Lovie Downey – Present
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Place 4 – Andrew Neal – Present
Council Place 5 – Juanita King – Present
Council Place 6 – Mark Taylor – Present
Council Place 7 – Jan Hill - Present

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation, discussion and direction on the City of Watauga Code of Ordinances update to Chapter 2

Ms. Kelley presented the item to Council. She stated the assumption going into the workshop was that Legal was to incorporate into the draft ordinance the language recommended by Legal unless stated otherwise by Council. No comments were made by Council regarding the assumption. She continued by stating that during the Legal and City Manager reviews of the ordinance it was found to be unclear as to what applies to board members. It was further stated that if Council desires to have certain board members comply with the ethics provisions, she recommends not having it apply to the YAC (Youth Advisory Council). Ms. Kelley also stated that the City Manager and Legal agreed that if board members are to comply, the members will need to be fully trained and made aware of the provisions.

Council Member Taylor asked if the documents to be reviewed are those included in

the regular meeting packet. Ms. Kelley confirmed that the documents are in the regular meeting packet.

Ms. Kelley stated that the City Manager's recommendation is to not have Chapter 2 ordinance ethics obligations apply to employees because City personnel policies address that matter and Legal concurs with the City Manager's recommendation.

Council Member Hill agreed to remove City employees from ordinance provisions and have personnel policies address.

Ms. Kelley stated it was her recommendation for the City Council to self-discipline individuals for any violations of the City's ethics ordinance rather than allow the District Attorney to handle.

Mayor Pro Tem Neal requested to repeal ethics provisions and follow State law Chapters 171 and 176. Ms. Kelley stated she thinks that is a great idea but asked if Council wanted to self-govern.

Council Member Downey responded she agreed best to follow State law. The remainder of the Council concurred with following State law.

Council Members Shelbourne, Snyder, Neal, King, Taylor and Mayor Miner agreed self-govern was best.

Ms. Kelley pointed out that the real estate provision found in the City's ethics ordinance isn't addressed by State law. She stated the Council could agree to remove those items from the ordinance that are addressed by 171 and 176 of State law and leave in those that aren't addressed by State law, have the Mayor establish an ad hoc committee to review those items not addressed by State law in the future.

Council Members Downey, Shelbourne, Neal, King, Taylor, Snyder and Hill all agreed to have the Mayor create an ad hoc committee for review of the ethics ordinance language in the future.

Mayor Miner recommended the Council accept the recommended changes from the Financial Section and forward. All appeared to agree as no objection was made.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

APPROVED: this 13th day of September, 2021.

SIGNED: this 14th day of September, 2021.



ATTEST:

/s/ Terri Johnson

Terri Johnson, Interim City Secretary

APPROVED:

Arthur L. Miner /s/

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

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