



**AGENDA
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2022
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Miner called the meeting to order at

ROLL CALL

Arthur L. Miner
Lovie Downey
Pat Shelbourne
Tom Snyder
Andrew Neal
Malissa Minucci
Mark Taylor
Jan Hill

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 1 (Absent with Notice/Excused)
Council Member Place 2
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 5
Council Member Place 6
Council Member Place 7

and

Joshua Jones
Linda Proskey
David Berman
Sandra Gibson
Paul Hackleman
Randy Richards

City Manager
City Secretary
City Attorney
Finance Director
Director of Public Works
Assistant Director of Public Works

INVOCATION

Police Chaplin Paster, Dennis Serratt, provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Miner led the pledge to the flags.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Miner reminded board members to complete their cyber security training.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Capital Outlay Plan FY2023-2027

Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance, presented the item. This is the 4th year the capital outlay plan has been in the budget, and it has helped with budgeting. Focus is on 22-23 budget but will also look at the 2024 year. For the five years it is just under 8 million. The largest change is that the Police and Fire radio system was moved up from 2024-2025 to the budget year 2022-2023 due to maintenance issues with the current system.

Councilmember Taylor questioned the costs on the trucks, HVAC systems, mower, and furniture and wanted to know if the prices reflect the cost increases that we are currently seeing.

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, addressed his questions. Reason for the different pricing on the trucks is because they are different, Ford 150 regular and crew cabs, Ford 350, and hybrid trucks. It depends on the needs and what departments the trucks are going to. If we went with electric trucks, they are currently backlogged until 2024-2025. They will continue to look at the electric options. The HVAC system at the animal shelter is different than the other building's systems. The HVAC system is more than just replacing the system. It pulls in the fresh air and reduces the smells making it more comfortable for the animals. He explained that the mower is a channel mower.

Lana Ewell, Director of Library Services, addressed the furniture for the library. She said this is for different areas within the library to replace the worn furniture from the 90s.

Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance, they have taken in consideration the price increases due to the recession.

Councilmember Neal asked whether the debt issuance is a fixed or floating number.

Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance, said it was fixed.

Mayor Miner asked about the electric vehicle getting ahead and getting them.

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works they are still looking into it and watching the grants.

2. Capital Improvement Plan FY2023-2027

Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance, presented the item. The plan is a long-range plan developed by a committee, and is for public works projects with large community impact like, streets, storm drain sewage, water, and park projects. A 5-year plan, and costs are updated each year.

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, went through the individual project.

Pole Barn – Parks Facility; Trail System Whites Branch Creek Trail; Park Vista Park (currently not named) on Yampa Trail at Bison Trail, Phase 1; Whitley Road 4 (Concord to Oakhill Road); Whitley Road 5 (Starnes to N, Tarrant Parkway) bike lanes will be included; Drainage Master Plan; Street Maintenance Projects; CDBG Emerson water main project; Water and Wastewater Group 1-4 sanitary manhole rehabilitation; Lead water service line identification; Green Ribbon project; Hightower Drive 1 from 377 to Rufe Snow Drive.

Billy Wendland, Civil Engineer with Burgess and Niple, did a presentation on Hightower Road.

Councilmember Taylor liked the presentation but is concerned about taking out the speed break at Brookdale. Asked if the numbers given have been adjusted for the increased cost.

Sandra Gibson said that the numbers have been adjusted.

Councilmember Neal wanted to know how many more years we have left on Hightower and Watauga Road. He would like to see sidewalks on both sides for trails. Thinks that we may want to consider lane less count and more green space for bikes. He wanted to know if there was a time limit on the lead testing. He also asked about maintenance on Lalagrey Road.

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, said Hightower and Watauga roads are ready to be repaired. He stated there is a time limit on the lead testing. He will be looking into a safe walk to school grant to fund the sidewalk. He is not sure where Lalagrey ranks but knows it is on the list of needing to be done.

Councilmember Minucci asked about the seal coat being applied to the roads, how long of a life span, and is there a warranty on the application.

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, if it peels off, they will come out and repair it. It does help add years to the life of the paving, but it would have to be done after so many years.

Mayor Pro Tem Downey wants to know the thought process for the dedicated turn lane at Denton highway because we have had it before. Believes that it will be congested and was there any traffic study done. She wanted to know if the Hightower project is in one phase or multiple phases. Pointed out from Whitley to Chapman needs to be addressed. She asked about Chapman road's sidewalks.

Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, said the thought process was when the train comes, the traffic will still flow freely. No traffic study has been done on the intersection. The completion of Hightower Road could in one phase but depends on funding. The utility companies will have to be notified, and it could be a couple of years for them to move their lines. He said that the Whitley to Chapman section would be addressed.

3. Proposed debt issuance to fund the 2022-2023 Capital Outlay Plan and Capital Improvement Projects

Sandra Gibson, Director of Finance, presented the item on the debt issuance plan. They look at a five-year plan and affordability on what we can afford. Next year we are looking at just under 5 million. She introduced Andrew Freeman from Samco to talk about debt issuance.

Andrew Freeman with Samco spoke about debt issuance, the timeline, and where the city stands on funding the CIP projects.

RECESSED

Mayor Miner recessed the meeting at 7:44 pm for six minutes.

RECONVENED

Mayor Miner reconvened the meeting at 7:50 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Hillary Ward, 12 Country Court, Pantego, TX, spoke against the Stedfast Church.

Kit Rickard, 620 Spring Garden Drive, Bedford, TX, spoke against the Stedfast Church.

Kelly White, 6648 Starnes Road, Watauga, TX, spoke against the Stedfast Church.

Lynette Sharp, 6545 Highlawn Terrace, Watauga, TX, spoke against the Stedfast Church.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS

No request to speak for public testimony

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider action to authorize the expenditure for Animal Control HVAC replacement by Enviromatic Services available through cooperative purchasing.

Councilmember Taylor had item removed to consent.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Consider action to authorize the expenditure for Animal Control HVAC replacement by Enviromatic Services available through cooperative purchasing.
(was consent item #1)

Councilmember Taylor asked if the HVAC system could wait since there is talk about the future of animal control.

Councilmember Hill asked will there be something for the animals during that time.

Clint Harmon, Fleet and Faculty Supervisor, said the current system would not hold up in the summer with 100-degree weather and needs to be replaced. There will be temporary A/C for the animals while they install the system.

Councilmember Downey said that she thinks putting the system in and then tasking the City Manager would look at the future of the Animal Shelter.

Councilmember Neal commented that he worked with these systems and the lead times were 35 months, so if they have the unit in stock, we need to move on it.

Mayor Miner called for a Motion. Councilmember Neal made a motion to accept the item as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Downey seconded the motion. Mayor Miner called for a vote.

Motion carried 6-0-0-1.

Ayes, Downey, Snyder, Neal, Minucci, Taylor, Hill

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Shelbourne

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. The City Council will convene in executive session pursuant to section 551.071, Texas Government Code (Legal Consultation), to consult with and receive legal advice from the City Attorney on matters pertaining to the Stedfast Baptist Church and constitutional issues.**

Mayor Miner recessed the meeting at 8:13 pm for council to go into executive session.

RECONVENE

Mayor Reconvened the meeting at 9:02 pm

ITEMS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION DELIBERATION

Mayor Miner said that they have spoken extensively with the City Attorney who has spoken with other attorney throughout the state. The establishment clause of first amendment to the United States Constitution prohibits units of the government from interfering with religion and with the exercise of religious and nonreligious beliefs. The City of Watauga as a unit of government is obligated to comply with and shall respect the provisions of the first amendment including freedoms of speech, expressions, and religion the city is bound to respect the exercise of constitutional rights and can not participate in the debate involving the Stedfast Baptist Church. The City acknowledges the issues surrounding the Church's move to the city are highly controversial, but the city takes no position in this debate. This is not and should not be a political issue. The city will

however provide appropriate first responder services to all persons within the city and will provide municipal services to all qualified persons.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting 9:04 pm

APPROVED: this 22nd day of August, 2022.

SIGNED: this 22nd day of August, 2022.

APPROVED:

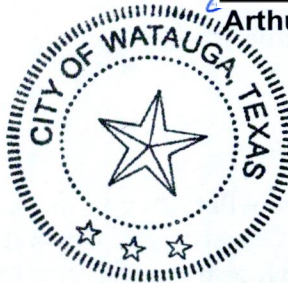
Arthur L. Miner /s/

Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Linda Proskey /s/

Linda Proskey, City Secretary



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