Jean Birmingham Council Chambers, City Hall
401 South Alamo
Marshall, TX 75670
903-935-4421

Members
Amy Ware, District 4 - Mayor
Risa Jordan-Anderson, District 1
Leo Morris, District 2
Dathaniel Campbell, District 3
Reba Godfrey, District 5
Amanda Abraham, District 6
Micah Fenton, District 7

MINUTES
PLEASE SILENCE ALL DEVICES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 14, 2024
6:00 PM

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Amy Ware called the Regular meeting to order in the Council Chambers, City Hall at 06:01 PM.

PRESENT:

Mayor and Council Members:
Mayor Amy Ware
Councilmember Leo Morris
Councilmember Reba Godfrey
Councilmember Amanda Abraham
Councilmember Micah Fenton
Councilmember Dathaniel Campbell
Councilmember Risa Jordan-Anderson

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:
Melissa Vossmer, Interim City Manager
Scott Rectenwald, City Attorney
David Rainwater, Fire Chief
Cliff Carruth, Police Chief
Eric Powell, Public Works Director
Christol Hall, HR/Civil Service Director
Randy Pritchard, Support Services Director
Nikki Smith, City Secretary/Payroll Accountant
Reggie Cooper, Planning & Development Director
Marina Garcia-Heredia, Parks & Recreation Director
Anna Lane, Community & Neighborhood Services Director
Alex Agnor, Economic Development & Strategic Initiatives Director

2. Invocation and Pledges

Mayor Ware

3. Presentations & Proclamations

A. Presentation of the Employee of the Month - November (Employee Engagement Committee)

David Rainwater, Fire Chief, stated the Employee of the Month for November, sponsored by Butler Construction, is Scott Barmore, Fire Department.

4. Citizen Comments

Texas Government Code, Sec. 551.007 requires that a governmental body must allow each member of the public who desires to address the body regarding an item on the agenda the opportunity to do so before or during the body's consideration of the item. The “Citizens Comments” portion of the meeting meets the requirements of this law and is the public’s opportunity to speak on any item on the agenda. Those who wish to speak are requested to fill out a public comment form and will have three (3) minutes to speak unless additional time has been requested.

There were no citizen comments.

5. Items to be Withdrawn From Consent Agenda

Item 6C was withdrawn.

6. Consent Agenda

The items on the Consent Agenda require little or no deliberation by the Council. Approval of the Consent Agenda authorizes the City Manager or his designee to proceed with conclusion of each in accordance with staff recommendations, a copy of which is filed with the minutes of the meeting. A Councilmember may remove items from the Consent Agenda by making such request prior to a motion and vote on the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Jordan-Anderson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

A. Consider approval of the minutes from the October 24, 2024 Regular Council meeting. (City Secretary)

B. Consider approval of staggering terms and adding term limits to the Parks & Recreation Board by-laws, Section 6b. (Parks & Recreation)

7. Consideration of Items Withdrawn From the Consent Agenda

C. Consider approval of appointments and reappointments to the various City boards, commissions, and committees. (City Secretary)

Councilmember Jordan-Anderson stated her reasons for pulling this item.

Nikki Smith, City Secretary, stated vacancies were advertised in September and October 2024. Twenty-seven (27) applicants submitted applications, which were given to the staff liaisons for the various boards. The boards met, and the recommendations have been provided for Council approval.

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to approve appointments and reappointments to the various City boards, commissions, and committees. Councilmember Abraham seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

8. Action Items for City Council Consideration

A. Consider approval of the purchase of a compact trackloader (skid steer) from Romco Equipment at a cost of $126,452. (Public Works)
This item was withdrawn.

9. Discussion and Reports for City Council Consideration and Direction

A. Discussion Regarding One-Time Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Using Additional Revenue. (Finance)
Kristina Hamilton, Assistant Finance Director, provided various scenarios for implementing an additional one-time COLA based on guidance from City Council members. Kristina Hamilton asked that if Council approves a scenario, staff will notify employees regarding the one-time adjustment, with payment scheduled for December 6th.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Councilmember Fenton made a motion to approve scenario D Regarding One-Time Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Using Additional Revenue. Councilmember Godfrey seconded the motion, which by the following vote:

Aye: 6, Mayor Ware, Councilmembers Abraham, Morris, Campbell, Godfrey, and Fenton
Nays: Councilmember Jordan-Anderson

B. Presentation, Discussion and Direction Finalizing the City Manager Recruitment Schedule. (Administration)
Melissa Vossmer, Interim City Manager, stated the Council hired Strategic Government Resources (SGR) to assist with the recruitment of the new City Manager for Marshall. Melissa Vossmer stated SGR has provided a suggested timeline for the remainder of the process, culminating in interviews proposed for the end of January 2025.

Councilmembers engaged in discussion regarding this item.

The council gave directions to move the timeline back 45 days, and include a 10-day timeframe to review candidate packets.

C. Discussion and Direction Concerning the Scheduling of a City Council Governance Work Session. (Administration)
Melissa Vossmer stated she spoke with the Mayor and there is some interest in scheduling a Work Session with the City Council to focus on governance issues and a separate session for infrastructure. Melissa Vossmer asked Council to provide some dates / times in order to work to find one that best works for the City Council and begin to plan the supporting logistics.

Council asked for the work session to be planned for December 16th from 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM.

D. Report regarding an update on the radio system. (Support Services)
Randy Pritchard, Support Services Director, provided a history of the radio system, an update on the funding and the status of the project. Randy Pritchard showed examples of the radios that will be available to the various departments.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

E. Discussion regarding the Street Drainage Project. (Council)

Melissa Vossmer provided information as to why this item is on the agenda. Councilmember Morris explained his reason for asking for this item. Councilmember Morris stated various areas in his district have drainage issues that have not been addressed over the past years and would like to have them reviewed and determine how to resolve them.

Eric Powell, Public Works Director, provided information regarding the Drainage Improvement Program and what is being done to balance the workload between the size and location of drainage issues within the City.

F. Discussion regarding the Street Improvement Project. (Council)

Councilmembers Morris and Godfrey stated their reasons for requesting this item and asked striping and maintenance to be reviewed for various streets within the City.

Councilmembers engaged in discussion with City Staff regarding street improvements needed within the City.

10. Adjournment

Councilmember Godfrey made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Campbell seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 7:0.

APPROVED:

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Mayor of the City Council
of the City of Marshall, Texas

ATTEST:

____
City Secretary