MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021
6:00 PM

Mayor Amy Ware called the Regular meeting to order in the Council Chambers, City Hall at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

MAYOR: Amy Ware, District 4

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Marvin Bonner, District 1
Leo Morris, District 2
Jennifer Truelove, District 3
Vernia Calhoun, District 5
Amanda Abraham, District 6
Micah Fenton, District 7

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT:
Mark Rohr, City Manager
Cliff Carruth, Police Chief
Christol Hall, HR Manager
Reggie Cooper, Fire Chief
Eric Powell, Public Works Director
Dawn Jones, Finance Director
Scott Rectenwald, Acting City Attorney
Jasmine Rios, Communications Coordinator
Daniel Duke, Tourism & Cultural Arts Director
Nikki Smith, City Secretary/Payroll Accountant
Randy Pritchard, Support Services Superintendent
Fabio Angell, Community & Economic Development Director

INVOCATION & PLEDGE: Mayor Ware

293. **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Jeanette Krohn, 7209 FM 1997 N, spoke in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Thomasina Carlisle, 1007 Fry Street, spoke in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Luther Davis, 109 Acorn Drive, Grand Way Church of Christ, asked for on updated regarding adequate parking at the church and striping on the street.

Miles Krohn, 7209 FM 1997 N, read a letter on behalf of Justin Kock who wrote in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Zelina Wright, 105 N College, read a letter on behalf of Orlando Valle who wrote in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Edward Allen, 2901 Holland, spoke in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager. Edward Allen also read a letter on behalf of Kim Hoops who wrote in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Amanda Abraham, 600 Bergstrom Pl, spoke in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Jonathan McCarty, 505 Fleetwood, read a letter on behalf of Thomas Spear who wrote in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Steve McFarland, 1 Wingwood Terrace, read a letter on behalf of Francis Smith, 2701 Waubun, who wrote in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager. Steve McFarland also spoke in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Jay Carriker, 1307 George Gregg St, spoke in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

Melanie Valdez, 12404 US Hwy 59 S, spoke in support of Veronique Ramirez being reinstated to the position of Main Street Manager.

294. **ITEMS TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

Items B and D were withdrawn from the Consent Agenda.

295. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Truelove made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Fenton seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

A. Consider approval of the minutes from the November 10, 2021 Special-Called meeting and the November 18, 2021 Special-Called meeting.

C. Street Sweeping Activity Report.

E. Consider approval of a resolution designating an official newspaper for the City of Marshall for fiscal year 2022.

F. Consider approval of an Interlocal Agreement with Harrison County for Animal Shelter Services.

G. Consider approval of Small Business Grant Fund Applications.

H. Consider approval of the annual Interlocal Agreement with the Marshall-Harrison County Health District.

I. Consider amendments to the Investment Policy and approval of a resolution adopting the City of Marshall Investment Policy.

J. Consider approval of the City of Marshall's depository bank contract for a five-year period beginning January 1, 2022.

ORDINANCE

296. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION ORDINANCE.

Fabio Angell, Community & Economic Development Director, highlighted changes to the Vacant Property Registration Ordinance.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Councilmember Calhoun made a motion to approve the Vacant Property Registration Ordinance. Councilmember Abraham seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

297. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MODIFICATIONS TO THE ALARM PERMIT ORDINANCE.

This item was withdrawn.

298. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE GOVERNING WRECKER SERVICES THAT PERFORM POLICE-AUTHORIZED TOWS OR NON-CONSENSUAL TOWS, TOWING ACTIVITIES AT POLICE SCENES, AND STORAGE FACILITIES TO WHICH VEHICLES TOWED AS POLICE-AUTHORIZED OR NON-CONSENSUAL TOWS ARE TAKEN.

This item was withdrawn.

299. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR YEAR-END ADJUSTMENTS IN SELECTED DEPARTMENTS.

Dawn Jones, Finance Director, asked for approval of an ordinance amending the 2021 annual budget to provide for year-end adjustments in selected departments. Dawn Jones stated this ordinance allocates funds from Salary & Wages to M&O to cover negative balances in M&O for the Fire Department.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve an ordinance amending the 2021 annual budget to provide for year-end adjustments in selected departments. Councilmember Truelove seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS AND REQUESTS FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

300. PRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF MARSHALL AUDIT REPORT FOR THE 2020 FISCAL YEAR.

Mike Hallum, CPA with Knuckols, Duvall, Hallum, & Co., presented the audit report for the 2020 fiscal year and highlighted significant information.

301. CONSIDER APPROVAL BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF MARSHALL, TEXAS FOR THE ACTING MAYOR TO SIGN A LETTER DESIGNATING AN EB-5 TARGETED EMPLOYMENT AREA.

Rush Harris, Executive Director MEDCO, stated Impact DataSource asked for assistance in establishing a Targeted Employment Area for purposes of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services EB-5 program. Rush Harris stated this is not a City or MEDCO project.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Mayor Ware stated she would sign the letter designating an EB-5 Targeted Employment Area with Council approval. Council approved this item with a vote of 7:0.

302. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF A MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) REGULATING AND ALLOWING TO OPERATE A SCOOTERS PROGRAM IN DOWNTOWN.

Fabio Angell provided Memo of Understanding, which would allow and regulate a scooter program in the downtown area at no cost to the City.

Mike Butler, Bird Ride Inc., gave a presentation of the scooter program stating it would be a pilot program with approximately 50-100 scooters and could begin around January or February of 2022.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Councilmember Morris made a motion to approve a Memo of Understanding (MOU) regulating and allowing to operate a scooters program in downtown. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

303. DISCUSS SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY TRACT #1.

Mark Rohr, City Manager, stated 20 acres of property located on Hwy 59 North was advertised for sale for $60,000. A bid was received for $54,000.

Councilmember Truelove made a motion to approve the sale of Tract #1. Councilmember Calhoun seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

304. DISCUSS SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY TRACT #2.

Mark Rohr stated .306 acre of property located on Hwy 59 was advertised for sale for $31,000. Two bids were received, one for $16,276 and the other for $31,531 from Ernest Crookshank.

Councilmember Truelove made a motion to approve the cash sale of Tract #2 to Mr. Ernest Crookshank for $31,531. Councilmember Calhoun seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

305. DISCUSS SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY TRACT #3.

Mark Rohr stated .478 acres of property located on Key Street has a value of $3,950 according to the appraisal district tax valuations. A bid was received for $5,000. The City will retain ownership of the area where the existing warning system siren is located.

Councilmember Bonner made a motion to approve the sale of Tract #3. Councilmember Calhoun seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

306. **CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

B. Public Works Activity Report.

Councilmember Abraham stated her reasons for pulling this item.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Councilmember Abraham made a motion to approve Item B from the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Morris seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

D. Municipal Court Activity Report.

Councilmember Bonner stated his reasons for pulling this item.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

Councilmember Morris made a motion to approve Item D from the Consent Agenda. Councilmember Truelove seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

307. AN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE UNDER SECTION 551.074 PERSONNEL MATTERS: INTERVIEW WITH INTERIM CITY MANAGER CANDIDATE.

Councilmember Abraham made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Councilmember Truelove seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0. The time was 7:53 p.m.

The Council reconvened from Executive Session, the time was 9:08 p.m.

ACTION ITEM FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

308. ACTION TO MAKE PERSONNEL CHANGES BASED ON EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Councilmember Truelove made a motion to table this item. Councilmember Calhoun seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

309. **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Calhoun made a motion for adjournment. Councilmember Abraham seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 7:0.

APPROVED:

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

ATTEST:

City Secretary

Ordinances: O-21-25
O-21-26