

MINUTES FROM THE HUNTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON THE 16th DAY OF MARCH 2021, IN THE CITY HALL, LOCATED AT 1212 AVENUE M, IN THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, COUNTY OF WALKER, TEXAS, AT 6:00 P.M.

The Council met in a regular session with the following:

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Daiquiri Beebe, Blake Irving, Russell Humphrey, Bert Lyle, Joe P. Rodriguez, Andy Brauninger, Pat Graham, Vicki McKenzie, Dee Howard Mullins

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT:

OFFICERS PRESENT: Aron Kulhavy, City Manager; Leonard Schneider, City Attorney; Terri Johnson, Interim City Secretary

MAIN SESSION [6 P.M.]

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Brauninger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGES

U.S. Flag and Texas Flag: Honor the Texas Flag. I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state, under God, one, and indivisible.

Mayor Brauninger gave the invocation and led the pledges.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

Public Comments will be called for by the presiding officer before action is taken on these items. *(Approval of Consent Agenda authorizes the City Manager to implement each item in accordance with staff recommendations. An item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Statutory Agenda for full discussion by request of a member of Council.)*

- a. Approve the minutes of the City Council meeting held March 2, 2021. [Ashley Newsome, Deputy City Secretary]
- b. Consider adoption of Ordinance 2021-11 to amend the budget for FY 20-21 and/or CIP Project budgets. [Steve Ritter, Finance Director]
- c. Consider authorizing the City Manager to award a purchasing agreement to multiple vendors as based on product price, availability, and reasonable delivery time for tires from Southern Tire Mart and American Tire Distributors, utilizing terms established by the Buy Board Cooperative. [Brent Sherrod, P.E., Director of Public Works]
- d. Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Shaumburg & Polk, Inc. for professional engineering services for FY20-21 Waterline Replacement Projects. [Y.S. "Ram" Ramachandra, City Engineer]
- e. Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Gunda Corporation for professional engineering services for FY20-21 Sanitary sewer line Replacement Projects. [Y.S. "Ram" Ramachandra, City Engineer]

Councilmember Graham made a motion to approve the consent agenda; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Beebe. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

2. STATUTORY AGENDA

- a. Hear presentation and consider approval of the audit for FY 19-20 from Pattillo, Brown, and Hill, LLP, CPAs. [Steve Ritter, Finance Director]

Councilmember Beebe made a motion to accept the FY 19-20 audit from Pattillo, Brown and Hill, LLP, CPAs; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Mckenzie. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

- b. **SECOND READING-** Consider authorizing the City manager to enter into an agreement with Burditt Consultants, LLC for design and construction support services of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center. [Penny Joiner, Parks and Leisure Director]

Councilmember Howard Mullins made a motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement

with Burditt Consultants, LLC for design and construction support services of the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center; the motion was seconded by Councilmember McKenzie. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

- c. **Consider adoption of Ordinance 2021-12 to amend Ordinance 2020-27 to reinstate suspension of Utility Service for non-payment. [Steve Ritter, Finance Director]**
Councilmember Joe Rodriguez made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2012-12 to amend Ordinance 2020-27 to reinstate suspension of Utility Service for non-payment; the motion was seconded by Councilmember McKenzie. The motion was adopted, 9-0.
- d. **FIRST READING- Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter an agreement with Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd, Inc., (eHT) for professional engineering services for AJ-08 & AJ-10 Trunk Sanitary Sewer Main Replacement Design Project Number 21-03-01, First Reading [Y.S. "Ram" Ramachandra, City Engineer]**

First reading. No action necessary.

Councilmember Humphrey made a motion to wave the second reading authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd, Inc., (eHT) for professional engineering services for AJ-08 & AJ-10 Trunk Sanitary Sewer Main Replacement Design Project Number 21-03-01; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Lyle. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

Councilmember McKenzie made a motion to authorize the City Manager to enter an agreement with Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd, Inc., (eHT) for professional engineering services for AJ-08 & AJ-10 Trunk Sanitary Sewer Main Replacement Design Project Number 21-03-01; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Graham. The motion was adopted, 9-0.

3. CITY COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY

- a. **Consider appointment of Councilmembers Bert Lyle, Daiquiri Beebe and Joe Rodriguez to the City Search Ad Hoc Committee. [Andy Brauninger, Mayor]**
Councilmember Rodriguez made a motion to amend the nominations to include Vicki McKenzie an alternate Ad Hoc committee member and approve the Mayor's suggestions for committee members: Bert Lyle, Daiquiri Beebe and Joe Rodriguez; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Humphrey. Councilmembers Irving and Howard Mullins voted against the adoption of the motion; the motion was adopted, 7-2.
- b. **Consider amending FY 2020-2021 budget for the purchase of additional City Clerk software through Civic Plus. [Blake Irving, Councilmember Ward 3]**
Councilmember Irving made a motion to amend the FY20/21 budget for the purchase of additional Civic Clerk software through Civic Plus and making all charter members master users of this additional software; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Howard Mullins.

Councilmember Irving made a motion to pull this agenda item, the amending of the FY20/21 budget and approve the purchase of Civic Clerk software until a discussion between directors, IT and the City Manager can resolve the issues; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Howard Mullins; the motion was adopted, 9-0.

4. REQUESTS FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

An opportunity for citizens to be heard on any topic and for the City Council to participate in the discussion. No action will be taken.

None submitted.

5. MEDIA INQUIRIES RELATED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

None

6. ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

(Hear announcements concerning items of community interest from the Mayor, Councilmembers, and City staff, for which no action will be discussed or taken.)

Mayor Brauninger spoke about Junk-a-palooza, a community-wide garage sale where individuals may purchase a booth space and empty out their storage closets from 7am to 12 pm on April 10 in downtown Huntsville on University Ave. This event is not a vendor or antique show. Retail and craft vendors will not be permitted at this event.

Councilmember Graham spoke about the Wynne Home's Empty Bowl fundraiser. The fundraiser is from 11am to 2 pm on March 30. If you donate to Meals on Wheels, you will receive a handmade bowl to help the fight against hunger.

Councilmember Humphrey announced that the Corporate challenge will begin April 1st. This challenge is a fun new way for local businesses and their employees to stay fit and compete in multiple events. Each business will be competing for the overall championship trophy and bragging rights for a year. For more information, visit the website at <https://www.huntsvilletx.gov/CorporateChallenge>.

Councilmember Irving announced that City of Huntsville and Walker County are hosting a FREE tire recycling event from 7:30 am- 12pm on April 17. There are three locations designated for recycling. 18-wheeler tires and tires with rims will not be accepted. For more information, call 936-294-5712.

Councilmember Beebe announced that there is an upcoming school bond election for two bond propositions that have been placed on the May 1 ballot by the Huntsville Independent School District. Early voting will be April 19th through April 27th at the Walker County Storm Shelter located on 75 north. Proposition A includes renovations to every Huntsville ISD campus including a new cafeteria and 6th grade wing at Mance Park Middle School and a new auditorium, new softball and baseball fields at Huntsville High School. Proposition B includes new tennis courts, two new practice fields for soccer and other activities, additional parking, a new field house and a renovated Football stadium with seating for High School Football games, graduation and other events. Passing the bonds will allow for a new grade alignment so that students will only have to transition to a new school twice. Elementary will cover grades Pre-K through 5, middle school will include grades 6 through 8 and high school will stay at grades 9 through 12. For more information about the bond, go to [Huntsville-ISD.org/2021 Bond](https://Huntsville-ISD.org/2021Bond). Please spread the word about the May 1st special election to people you know.

Councilmember Graham spoke about the Perkins Family and her volunteering to help with food services for a funeral service of a police officer. She publicly thanked all who helped with the service.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. City Council will convene in closed session as authorized by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Section 551.071 – to receive legal advice in regards to pending litigation and/or settlement City of Huntsville v Ocean Link, Inc, et al; Cause 1929476 In the 12th Judicial District, Walker County, Texas.**
- b. City Council will adjourn into executive session under Texas Government Code Section 551.071 to receive legal advice on appeal by Brenda Poe to City Council pursuant to Charter provision 4.11 and legal advice on threatened contemplated litigation by Brenda Poe.**
- c. City Council will meet in Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 – purchase of real property located within the Birdwell W (A-6) Survey by the City of Huntsville.**

The Council convened into Executive Session at 7:38 p.m. and adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

8. RECONVENE

The Council reconvened at 9:27 p.m.


Councilmember Rodriguez made the motion to approve the settlement of the City of Huntsville v. Ocean Link, Inc. et al; Cause 1929476 in the 12th Judicial District, Walker County, Texas. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McKenzie. Councilmember Beebe voted against the motion; the motion was adopted, 8-1.

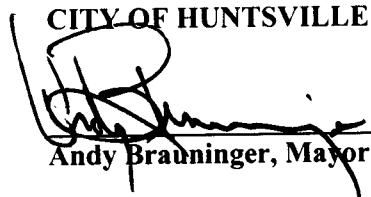
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Brauninger adjourned the meeting without objection at 9:28 p.m.

Ashley Newsome, Deputy City Secretary

ATTEST:


Terri Johnson, Interim City Secretary

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE

Andy Brauninger, Mayor