

MINUTES
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
ELGIN PUBLIC LIBRARY ANNEX CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
404 NORTH MAIN STREET
July 11, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McShan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:

Theresa McShan, Mayor
Sue Brashar, Mayor Pro Tem
Arthur Gibson III, Council Member
Joy Casnovsky, Council Member
Chuck Swain, Council Member
YaLecia Love, Council Member
Al Rodriguez, Council Member
Matthew Callahan, Council Member
Forest Dennis, Council Member

Absent:

Al Rodriguez, Council Member

Mayor Pro Tem Brashar made a motion to approve the absences of Mr. Rodriguez and Mr. Dennis. Ms. Casnovsky seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

Staff:

Thomas L. Mattis, City Manager
Jennifer Stubbs, City Secretary
Amy Miller, Community Services Director
Belen Pena, Finance Director
Chris Noble, Chief of Police
Pam Sanders, Human Resources Director
Michael Gonzalez, Public Works Director
Sonia Browder, Media Specialist

INVOCATION

Mayor McShan provided the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor McShan led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR EXPANSION OF A DAY CARE CENTER ON A NEIGHBORING LOT & MODIFICATION OF AN EXISTING SPECIFIC USE FOR A DAY CARE CENTER (ORDINANCE 2019-04-02-07) REGARDING THE PARKING LOT LAYOUT ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 700 BULL RUN (SOPKO & KEELING SUBDIVISION, LOT 1, ACRES 0.8230 & LOT 2, ACRES 0.5510), CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, BASTROP COUNTY, TEXAS, AND PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Mattis provided comments and mentioned the Public Hearing was for action later in the meeting. There were no public hearing comments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Judy Sears, 244 Pleasant Grove Road, stated that she enjoyed the Recreation Center and the Public Library activities. She stated that her crochet group had recently discussed bollard covers at the park. She asked staff about tree wraps and was told she could only wrap trees once all bollards were covered, and this would cause harm to the trees. She stated that these yard designs were simple to make and would not stay up 24.7. She would like this to be taken under reconsideration. She stated that she was concerned about losing space to have those activities in the community room.

Mark Flannigan, 153 County Road 491, stated that he regularly plays pickleball at the Rec Center. Mr. Flannigan and his pickleball community would like the city council to make funds available to the rec center to refinish the gym floor. The pickleball group would pay to stripe three pickleball courts indoors at the rec center. He stated that this would allow us to play safer and enable growth in the pickleball community.

Elizabeth Vance, 644 Monkey Road, stated she was here to reinforce Mark's words. She has had so much fun playing pickleball and has met many people in Elgin. Ms. Vance stated that the court was scheduled to be repainted in 3-5 years. She asked for this request to be placed in the budget.

Mr. Mattis stated that a pickleball court project was on the 5YR CIP list and would be voted on later by the City Council.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Consideration Of Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation Regarding Thomas Park Phase 1 Improvements Project And Direction To Staff Regarding Same

Mr. Mattis provided information. He stated that the Mayor appointed a committee of Ward Council Members and Thomas Park representatives. The committee unanimously approved utilizing the first round of funding for the basketball court and a playground with a shaded structure. Mr. Mattis stated that there would be less time to solicit public input and the anticipated time to bring a contract to the City Council would be in September.

Mayor Pro Tem Brashar made a motion to move ahead with the presentation as provided by Mattis. Mr. Gibson seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

2. Presentation And Review Of Staff Recommendation For The Annual Street Improvements Program

Mr. Mattis provided information. He stated the city had been able to increase investment in replacing and resurfacing streets in the original part of town. The recommendation by the City Engineer was to repave roads in the Fall due to pricing. Mr. Mattis stated this list was being brought forth before the Council to show prioritization and that he wanted to be on the same page as the City Council. He stated that this list should be finalized by the next City Council meeting. Mr. Mattis and Mr. Perry answered questions of the Council. Mr. Dennis arrived at 6:56 p.m.

3. Consideration Of A Request To Waive Noise Ordinance Limitations For The Month Of August In Support Of The Elgin Police Department Station Project

During the meeting, Mr. Mattis provided information. He stated that this item followed the city's code and allowed for concrete pouring after hours. Ms. Love made a motion to approve the request. Ms. Casnovsky seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

4. Review And Discussion Of Upcoming City Council Meeting Schedule

Mr. Mattis stated there was an extensive council meeting schedule in the next couple of weeks and provided information. He stated that he discussed the meeting schedule with the Mayor and wanted to inform the Council that the next meeting would be on August 1st. The budget presentation and Veteran's Park were planned for the next meeting.

5. FY 22-23 3RD QUARTER INVESTMENT REPORT

Mr. Mattis stated this item was a routine report, and Ms. Pena was here tonight to answer questions. There were no questions from the City Council.

6. Library Advisory Board Quarterly Report

Mr. Mattis mentioned that the two reports were included in the packet as part of the new ordinance adopted last year. Ms. Casnovsky inquired about the hiring status of the new librarian. Mr. Mattis responded that the city was still hiring and there was no set timeline.

7. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Quarterly Report

Mr. Mattis mentioned that the two reports were included in the packet as part of the new ordinance adopted last year.

8. General Activity Report and/or Project Update

There were no questions or comments from the City Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - June 20, 2023
The minutes passed on the consent agenda.

The minutes were approved on the consent agenda.

2. City Council Worksession Meeting Minutes - June 20, 2023

The minutes were approved on the consent agenda.

3. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FEES WITH FGM ARCHITECTS INC. RELATED TO THE ELGIN POLICE DEPARTMENT STATION PROJECT; AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO.

The resolution passed on the consent agenda.

Mr. Swain made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE 2023 FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN, A REPORT ON ANTICIPATED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES AND PROJECTS FOR ALL MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS

Mr. Mattis discussed the city's annual plan for capital improvements. This plan, updated each year, focuses on improving capital projects and operations in the city. He noted that the proposed plan was available for review at city hall, the library, and online. Over the past few years, the city has invested \$76.5 million in its infrastructure, with \$36 million being funded through grants or external sources. Mr. Mattis stated that the Council participated in a survey to identify their priorities for the upcoming year. The top three projects from the general fund survey were Veteran's Park Expansion Phase 2, Preserve Historic City Hall, and Shenandoah Park Walking Path. Mr. Mattis emphasized that the plan serves as a guide for the city's priorities and was meant to demonstrate to the public what those priorities were. Discussion followed. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Love seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

2. AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR EXPANSION OF A DAY CARE CENTER ON A NEIGHBORING LOT & MODIFICATION OF AN EXISTING SPECIFIC USE FOR A DAY CARE CENTER (ORDINANCE 2019-04-02-07) REGARDING THE PARKING LOT LAYOUT ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 700 BULL RUN (SOPKO & KEELING SUBDIVISION, LOT 1, ACRES 0.8230 & LOT 2, ACRES 0.5510), CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, BASTROP COUNTY, TEXAS, AND PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE AND REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Mattis provided information and stated that this was for an expanding daycare center. The applicant submitted a Specific Use Permit Application, which staff supports, to accommodate the growth of the New Beginnings Child Development Center. He clarified that the Specific Use Permit would be valid for five years. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar inquired whether the ordinance should mention the five-year duration, and Mr. Mattis confirmed it should. He answered questions of the Council. Mr. Dennis made a motion to approve the ordinance with a 5-year review stipulation. Ms. Love seconded the motion. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

3. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS TO APPROVE A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH BASTROP COUNTY TO PROVIDE DISPATCHING SERVICES TO THE ELGIN POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT.

Mr. Mattis provided comments and stated this was a routine renewal of a contract with Bastrop County for dispatching services for two years rather than one year. He stated that the goal was internal dispatching services, but the city needed more time to prepare for the expense. He answered questions of the Council. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar commented that every second counts and that she understood the city's situation. She asked the city to remedy the situation and research further grant opportunities. Mr. Dennis commented that he heard from citizens that a dispatcher did not know they were within the city limits, and there was a communication challenge. Discussion followed. Mayor Pro Tem Brashar encouraged those in attendance to state that they reside in Elgin, Texas, when dialing 9-1-1. Mr. Swain made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Casnovsky seconded the motion. Discussion followed. All voted in favor. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council may announce that it will adjourn the public meeting at any time during the meeting and convene in Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to discuss any matter as specifically listed on the agenda and/or as permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code


The City Council did not retire into Executive Session.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Miller stated that it was Parks & Recreation Month. Every Friday night, there would be a free, special program. She provided handouts and event information. Ms. Miller encouraged those in attendance to attend Sip, Shop, and Stroll and to apply for the City's Boards and Commissions. Ms. Casnovsky inquired about the closed playground structure at Morris Memorial Park. Ms. Miller explained that the closure was due to safety concerns, and it would remain closed until the construction of a new playground was completed in the future. Mr. Mattis commented that Mac & Cheese Day was on July 14th. Ms. Miller mentioned that many businesses were celebrating. The City Council wished Mayor Pro Tem Brashar a Happy Birthday.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McShan adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.


Theresa Y. McShan, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jennifer Stubbs, City Secretary