

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 14, 2023
9:00 A.M.

The City Council of the City of Sweetwater, Texas, met in regular session on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Room at City Hall, 200 E. Fourth Street with the following members present:

JIM MCKENZIE, Mayor
JEROD PEEK, Mayor Pro Tem
JOHN MCPHERSON, Councilman
KERRY BAKER, Councilman
RICKY CASTRO, Councilman

DAVID A. VELA, City Manager
PATTY TORRES, City Secretary
JEFF ALLEN, City Attorney

Staff Members present: Lisa Adames Assistant City Manager for Administration, Bryan Sheridan Police Chief, Eddy Campbell Utilities Director, Dewey Coy Fire Chief, and Zach Adames IT Director and Tonya Challis SNAP Director.

1. Mayor McKenzie called the meeting to order.
2. Bryan Callen with St. Stephens Episcopal Church gave the invocation.
3. Councilman McPherson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and the Texas Flags.
4. Motion was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman McPherson to approve the minutes for the meeting held on February 14, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Public Input: Patsy Boatright spoke in regards to a possible Ordinance restricting Drag Queen shows in the City.
6. Regular Agenda Items
 - A. Motion was made by Councilman Castro, seconded by Councilman McPherson to approve the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (Audit) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.
 - B. Motion was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Castro to approve an Ordinance declaring unopposed candidates and cancelling the May 6, 2023 General Election. The motion carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 14, 2023

A COPY OF ORDINANCE IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XVI PAGES 3038 – 3043.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, TEXAS, DECLARING UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES IN THE MAY 6, 2023 GENERAL ELECTION, ELECTED TO OFFICE; CANCELLING THE ELECTION FOR CONTESTS WITH UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES; MAKING VARIOUS FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

- C. Motion was made by Councilman Castro, seconded by Councilman Baker to approve a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents with the Texas Department of Transportation for the implementation of improvements for Sweetwater Avenger Airport through the Airport Layout Plan with Narrative. The motion carried unanimously.

A COPY OF RESOLUTION IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XVI PAGE 3044.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO SWEETWATER AVENGER AIRPORT KNOWN AS THE AIRPORT LAYOUT PLAN WITH NARRATIVE

- D. Motion was made by Councilman McPherson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Peek to approve an Ordinance amending Article II, Fire Safety, Division 2 -Fire Marshal, Sections 10-33 General Duties to include but is not limited to the role of the Fire Marshal in new development, and Section 10-36 Periodic Inspection of Buildings to include but not limited to an annual inspection of buildings whereby the Fire Marshal shall cause to be inspected regularly all business buildings and public buildings for the purpose of correcting life and fire hazards. The motion carried unanimously.

A COPY OF ORDINANCE IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XVI PAGES 3045 – 3046 .

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE 2 FIRE PREVENTION, DIVISION 2 – FIRE MARSHAL, SECTION 10-33 ADDING TO THE FIRE MARSHAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES THE REVIEW, INSPECTION AND TESTING; AND, SECTION 10-36 EXPANDING THE ROLE OF THE FIRE

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 14, 2023

MARSHAL TO INCLUDE CONDUCTING AN ANNUAL INSPECTION PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF CORRECTING LIFE AND FIRE HAZARDS; PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING PROVISION; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

- E. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman McPherson to approve a Resolution amending, confirming and ratifying the Central Rate Schedule to include a new Section II – Fire Safety Inspections and Tests, effective April 1, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

A COPY OF RESOLUTION IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XVI PAGES 3047 – 3072.

A RESOLUTION AMENDING, CONFIRMING AND RATIFYING THE CENTRAL RATE SCHEDULE FOR THE VARIOUS FEES, LICENSES, PERMITS AND RATES CHARGED BY THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, TEXAS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 AND ADOPTING SUCH CENTRAL RATE SCHEDULE.

- F. Motion was made by Councilman Castro, seconded by Councilman McPherson to approve Resolution authorizing City representatives in matters pertaining to the City's participation in the 2023-2024 Texas Community Development Block Grant program. The motion carried unanimously.

A COPY OF RESOLUTION IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XVI PAGE 3073.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF SWEETWATER, TEXAS AUTHORIZING CITY REPRESENTATIVES IN MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE TEXAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.

- G. Motion was made by Councilman McPherson, seconded by Councilman Castro to approve a Resolution authorizing the submission of a 2023-2024 Texas Community Development Block Grant program application to the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund. The motion carried unanimously.

A COPY OF RESOLUTION IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XVI PAGES 3074 – 3075.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF SWEETWATER, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A 2023-2024 TEXAS

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 14, 2023

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND.

- H. Motion was made by Councilman Castro, seconded by Councilman Baker to approve a Citizen Participation Plan for the City of Sweetwater required for applying for federal funding from the 2023-2024 Texas Community Development Block Grant program through the Texas Department of Agriculture for the Community Development Fund. The motion carried unanimously.
- I. Motion was made by Councilman Castro seconded by Councilman Baker to approve the community-wide housing analysis performed regarding impediments to fair housing for the City of Sweetwater. The motion carried unanimously.
- J. Motion was made by Councilman Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Castro to approve reappointment of Ms. Norma Bonner to the County-City Library Board with terms expiring December 31, 2025. The motion carried unanimously.
- K. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman McPherson to approve Final Acceptance and Release of Retainage Funds for the Georgia-Pacific Water Transmission Main Replacement Project. The motion carried unanimously.
- L. Motion was made by Councilman McPherson, seconded by Councilman Castro to approve Change Order No. 1 for Final Quantity Adjustment for the Utility Relocation Project Located at County Road 142 and Interstate 20 North Frontage Road. The motion carried unanimously.
- M. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Castro to approve Final Acceptance and Release of Retainage Funds for the Utility Relocation Project Located at County Road 142 and Interstate 20 North Frontage Road. The motion carried unanimously.
- N. Motion was made by Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Castro to approve a policy which amends the Personnel Policy Manual regarding the Seat Belt Usage Policy. The motion carried unanimously.
- O. Motion was made by Councilman Castro, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Peek to table the job creation Incentive Agreement to assist EMA Electromechanics with a planned expansion. The motion carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 14, 2023

7. City Manager's Report
 - A. Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting
 - B. Workshop – April 4, 2023
 - C. Creekside Development Update

8. Motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Castro seconded by Councilman McPherson. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:23 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Jim McKenzie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patty Torres, City Secretary

Persons signing register: Ethan Whittenburg, Miesha Adames, Patsy Boatright, Karen Hunt, Jonathan Baum, Gary Smith, Kristy Tyra, Catherine Wilks, Bryan Callen, Dana Stanley and Bryan Buckley