

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2024
9:00 A.M.**

The City Council of the City of Sweetwater, Texas, met in regular session on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 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
JOHN MCPHERSON, Mayor Pro Tem
RICKY CASTRO, Councilman
JEROD PEEK, Councilman
KERRY BAKER, Councilman

DAVID A. VELA, City Manager
JEFF ALLEN, City Attorney
BECKY JIMENEZ, City Secretary

Staff Members Present: Lisa Adames Assistant City Manager for Administration, Kirsta Koennecke Finance Director, Lynn Barrett Director of Planning and Operations, Bryan Sheridan Police Chief, Justin Clowers Utilities Director, Dewey Coy Fire Chief, and Zach Adames IT Director.

1. Mayor McKenzie called the meeting to order.
2. Gil Cherry gave the invocation.
3. Councilman Castro led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and the Texas Flags.
4. Motion was made by Councilman Castro, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem McPherson to approve the minutes for the meeting held on January 9, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Public Input: Mr. Ivan Via with Abilene RC Society requested that the City host an Annual Regional Event for an RC Jet Aircraft Air Show at Avenger Field. Mr. Via presented opportunities that the event would bring to the City and proposed mid-July or mid-October for the event.
6. Presentation was presented to City Council and Planning and Zoning Commission by Mr. Brian Mabry and Ms. Ashley Woolsey with Kendig Keast Collaborative regarding the Zoning Code Diagnostic Report and project update on the Zoning and Land Use Ordinance.
7. Police Chief Bryan Sheridan presented the Sweetwater Police Department Racial Profile Annual Report.
8. Regular Agenda Items

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- A. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem McPherson, seconded by Councilman Castro to ratify City Manager's appointment of Mr. Richard Ferguson to the Civil Service Commission with term ending January, 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

9. City Manager's Report

- A. SNAP Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance – February 14th
- B. Citywide Junk Haul-Off – February 17th
- C. Buzzi-Unicem Donation to Fire Department
- D. Police Department Confiscation of Money and Narcotics
- E. Code Enforcement Update

10. Motion was made by Councilman Peek, seconded by Councilman Castro to enter into closed session at 9:54 a.m. in accordance with Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code, DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC NEGOTIATIONS; CLOSED MEETING. The City Council will meet in closed session to discuss commercial information that the governmental body has received from a prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations.

- Discussion of cooperation agreement possibilities regarding the Sweetwater Station project.

The motion carried unanimously.

11. Motion was made by Councilman Peek, seconded by Councilman Castro to reconvene into regular session at 10:17 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.
12. Motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Castro, seconded by Councilman Peek. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Jim McKenzie, Mayor

Becky Jimenez, City Secretary

Persons signing register: Ivan Via, Tad Baird, Gil Cherry, Larry Ludlum, Ollie Wilburn, Patrick Fahy, Stacey Boil, Jeff Stein, Brian Mabry and Ashely Woolsey