

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 12, 2021

9:00 A.M.

The City Council of the City of Sweetwater, Texas, met in regular session on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. via GoToMeeting videoconferencing in Sweetwater, TX and had the following members present:

JIM MCKENZIE, Mayor
JEROD PEEK, Mayor Pro Tem
KERRY BAKER, Councilman

RICKY CASTRO, Councilman
DAVID A. VELA, City Manager
PATTY TORRES, City Secretary

MEMBER ON VIDEO CONFERENCE: Larry May, Councilman

ABSENT: **PETE SHERIDAN**, City Attorney

Staff Members present: Public Works Director Russell Jones, Interim Chief of Police Matt Counts, Fire Chief Grant Madden, Utilities Director Eddy Campbell, Director of Administrative Services Lisa Adames, Director of Planning & Development Services, Dana Schoening, and IT Director Zach Adames.

1. Mayor McKenzie called the meeting to order.
2. Fire Chief Grant Madden gave the invocation.
3. Councilman Castro led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and the Texas Flags.
4. Motion was made by Councilman May, seconded by Councilman Baker to approve the minutes for meetings held on December 8, 2020 and December 22, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Public Input: None

This meeting was closed to in person attendance by the public. A temporary suspension of certain provisions of the Open Meetings Act to allow telephone or videoconference public meetings was granted by Governor Greg Abbott. These actions were taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring people into a group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code.

Presentation: Patty Torres, City Secretary swore in new Police Chief, Bryan Sheridan.

6. Regular Agenda Items

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- A. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman May to approve the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ended December 31, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

COPY OF REPORT IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XV PAGES 2270.

- B. Motion was made by Councilman Castro, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Peek to approve Resolution designating the Sweetwater Reporter as the official City newspaper for publications required by State law or the City Charter. The motion carried unanimously.

COPY OF RESOLUTION IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XV PAGES 2271.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, NOLAN COUNTY, TEXAS, DESIGNATING THE SWEETWATER REPORTER AS OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE CITY OF SWEETWATER FOR A ONE YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2021.

- C. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Baker to approve an Ordinance ordering an election of the qualified voters of the City of Sweetwater to be held on May 1, 2021, for the purpose of electing a Mayor at large and two City Councilmembers (Precincts 1 and 3) of said City. The motion carried unanimously.

COPY OF ORDINANCE IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XV PAGES 2272-2276.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, TEXAS ORDERING A MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 1, 2021, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A MAYOR AND TWO (2) CITY COUNCILMEMBERS OF SAID CITY; AND PROVIDING DETAILS RELATING TO THE HOLDING OF SUCH ELECTION.

- D. Motion was made by Councilman May, seconded by Councilman Castro to approve reappointments of Mr. Matt Counts, Mrs. Jacque McCoy, Mrs. Stacy Boil and Mr. Jeff Allen, whose two-year terms will expire December 1, 2022, to the Pioneer City-County Museum Board of Directors. The motion carried unanimously.

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- E. Motion was made by Councilman Castro, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Peek to approve reappointments of Mr. Robert Pieper and Mr. Jackie Trent and appointment of Ms. Wendy Riley to the Sweetwater Cemetery Board, with terms expiring January 31, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- F. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Baker to approve reappointment of Mr. Larry Ludlum, whose term will expire February 2023, to the Sweetwater – Nolan County Municipal Auditorium Board. The motion carried unanimously.
- G. Motion was made by Councilman May, seconded by Councilman Baker to approve Interlocal Agreement between the City of Sweetwater and Nolan County Hospital District to allow for the Hospital District to locate a fence structure and in-ground pole concrete supports in city street right-of-way to accommodate an outdoor recreation area for public benefit. The motion carried unanimously.

COPY OF AGREEMENT IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XV PAGES 2277-2278.

- H. Mr. Ryan Garcia with JES Holdings, LLC made presentation explaining the affordable seniors rental housing development project.

Councilman May was opposed to the Resolution of Support. He felt that the City Council should not support any particular industry.

Mr. Ryan Garcia explained that without the Resolution of Support the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) would not accept their application.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Castro to approve a Resolution of Support for an affordable seniors rental housing development project at 1105 E. Broadway Street named Sweetwater Station in the City of Sweetwater, Texas. Mayor McKenzie, Mayor Pro Tem Peek, Councilman Castro and Councilman Baker were For and Councilman May was Against. Motion carried 4 Aye and 1 Nay.

COPY OF RESOLUTION IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XV PAGES 2279.

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A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SWEETWATER, TEXAS FOR RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR AN AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING LOCATED AT 1105 E. BROADWAY STREET NAMED SWEETWATER STATION.

7. Streets Project Workshop: Sage Diller with Eht spoke in regard to engineering and Andrew Friedman with Samco spoke in regard to funding.
8. Councilman Castro made a motion, seconded by Councilman Baker to adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Jim McKenzie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patty Torres, City Secretary

Persons signing register: Ryan Garcia, Kyle Simpson, Frank Casares, Kelly Sheridan, Sage Diller, Andrew Friedman and Patrick Sheridan