

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF ANDERSON §
CITY OF PALESTINE §

The City Council of the City of Palestine, Texas convened in a Regular Meeting on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. for the Work Session in the City Hall Conference Room, and at 5:30 p.m. for the Regular Meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 504 N. Queen Street, Palestine, Texas, with the following people present:

Mayor Therrell Thomas; Mayor Pro Tem Vickey L. Chivers; Councilmembers Adam Harding, Joseph Thompson, Doug Smith, and Steve Presley; City Manager Wendy Ellis, City Secretary Teresa Herrera, and City Attorney Ronald Stutes.

Other staff present: Development Services Director Jeffrey Lyons, Public Works Director Tim Perry, and Water/Wastewater Superintendent Curtis Logan.

Councilmember Harding arrived at 4:40 p.m. Councilmember Denmon was absent for the work session and regular meeting. A quorum of the Council was present.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Thomas called the work session to order at 4:30 p.m.

Discuss budget preparation procedures for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

City Manager Ellis led discussion regarding preparation procedures for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. The budget retreat will be held on June 22 & 23, in the City Council Chambers. She explained that this year every department director is responsible for inputting their budgets requests directly into Incode. Every department will present formal timed presentations and any C.I.P. for the next five years. Director will update Council regarding any project that was not completed during Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Council expressed that during the budget retreat they would like more face time with City employees.

With no other business to come before the Council, the work session was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Thomas called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was given by Councilmember Harding, and was followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS, PUBLIC RECOGNITION, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Corporal Kerr introduced the newest member of the organization, K-9 Blue. Blue came to the department through Universal K-9 in San Antonio. Blue is a 10 month blue heeler. Blue was rescued from a shelter out of Longview. It was an animal cruelty case. She had mange. Blue is certified through the National Narcotic Detector Drug Association to find drugs and she's specially trained to track people. She is not a bite dog.

Mayor Thomas read aloud proclamation for Kids to Parks Day and Peace Officers Memorial Day.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES

No action was taken.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing regarding a request for a Resolution of support of the submission of an application to the Department of Housing and Community Affairs to rehabilitate and preserve the Woodside Village Multifamily Complex located at 2020 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Development Services Director Lyons provided Council with a summary. Dawson Holdings, LLC has submitted an application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHA) seeking housing tax credits to finance the acquisition and rehabilitation of Woodside Village Multifamily complex. A

resolution from Council in support of the project will add "points" to the overall application score when submitted to TDHA for consideration. Mayor Thomas opened the public hearing and asked for anyone speaking for or against the request to do so. Tim Fluetsch spoke in favor of the request. With no other speaker, Mayor Thomas closed the public hearing.

MAYOR'S REPORT

A report was not provided.

ITEMS FROM COUNCIL

Councilmember Presley reported on the following activities at the Texas State Railroad:

- Mother's Day Brunch Train – May 10th
- 17th Annual Memorial Day Salute to the Armed Forces – May 23rd and 24th. Also, it is free to all Veterans
- Wine in the Pines Train – June 5th
- Father's Day BBQ Lunch Train – June 21st

Mayor Pro Tem Chivers reported on the following community events:

- Palestine Area Business Expo, 11:00am-3:00pm, at Palestine Mall on May 14th
- Taste of Palestine, 6:00pm-8:00pm, at Palestine Mall – tickets \$15 advance, \$20 at door on May 14th
- Texas Youth Advocates annual fundraising banquet at Senior Citizen Center on May 23rd
- U.M. Army with be here in June

Councilmember Smith reported on the following activities at the Texas Theatre:

- Actor auditions for Mary Poppins will be held on May 16th
- Dancer auditions for Mary Poppins will be held on May 23rd

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Departmental report for Development Services was provided.

City Manager Ellis provided an update regarding the Community Meeting that was held at the Palestine High School on May 1st and 2nd. City hosted the community meeting there were about 35 people in attendance. Coordinated efforts between the Police, Development Services, and Public Works departments. We are encouraging neighborhood rehabilitation, revitalization, and beatification. Areas that need to be improved were identified. The City is working with owners in that area to take ownership of the community.

This month we kickoff with budget preparations and the Library is getting ready for their summer reading program.

Councilmember Thompson asked the public to report unsafe roads.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Consider appointment of Jordan Byrd to fill unexpired term to place 6 to the Main Street Advisory Board replacing Dan Gleason

Mayor Pro Tem Chivers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Harding, to approve the appointment as presented. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Consider appointment of Robert R. Weilacher to fill unexpired term to place 3 to the Library Board replacing Joseph E. White III

Councilmember Presley made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Chivers, to approve the appointment as presented. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider an Ordinance revising Police Department Composition

2. Consider a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Palestine and Anderson County for secondary dispatch center

Mayor Pro Tem Chivers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Harding, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and adopting **Ordinance No. O-20-15**. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously. Councilmember Presley was not present for vote.

REGULAR AGENDA

Consider a Resolution approving an expenditure to assist Texas Youth Advocates

City Manager Ellis informed Council that a request was received to sponsor a table at the Texas Youth Advocates Annual Fundraising Banquet. The sponsorship includes 8 tickets to attend the event and a recognition plaque. The organization works to positively impact the youth of Palestine and surrounding area. The cost of the sponsorship will be \$250. Councilmember Presley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Thompson, to approve **Resolution No. R-06-15** as presented. Upon vote, motion carried 4-2 with Mayor Thomas and Councilmember Harding voting nay.

Consider an Ordinance approving a Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 for the Police Department

Police Lt. Powell provided information regarding the budget amendment. The reimbursement funds were received in the amount of \$14,900 from ETCOG. The funds were used to replace the voice recorder in dispatch. Councilmember Thompson made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve **Ordinance No. O-21-15** as presented. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Consider an amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Palestine and the Anderson County Humane Society, Inc.

Development Services Director Lyons provided Council with a summary. The Anderson County Humane Society, Inc. has consented to the City's granting of the easement to the University for the construction of new driveway. Councilmember Presley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Thompson, to approve the amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Palestine and the Anderson County Humane Society, Inc. as presented. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Consider approval of a 60-foot wide roadway easement to the Board of Regents of the University of Texas for the purpose of constructing pedestrian and vehicular ingress and egress. The easement is generally located between the terminus of Armory Road and the property currently occupied by the University of Texas at Tyler's Palestine Campus, across City-owned property currently leased to the Anderson County Humane Society

Development Services Director Lyons provided Council with a summary. The University of Texas at Tyler, Palestine Campus is requesting a 60-foot wide roadway easement from the City for the purpose of constructing a new driveway connecting the south campus to the terminus of Armory Road. The University has stated that traffic congestion is problematic as there is no other outlet than Armory Road. Constructing a new driveway will allow parents who are picking up students from the Innovation Academy to exit through the south campus onto N. Loop 256. The new driveway must be constructed a minimum of 24-feet in width and must be constructed of full depth concrete or asphalt and designed by a Professional Engineer. Improvement and maintenance of the easement property will be at the expense of the University. Councilmember Thompson made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Chivers, to approve the 60-foot wide roadway easement as presented. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Consider a Resolution of support of the submission of an application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to rehabilitate and preserve the Woodside Village Multifamily Complex located at 2020 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Development Services Director Lyons provided Council with a summary. Dawson Holdings, LLC has submitted an application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHA) seeking housing tax credits to finance the acquisition and rehabilitation of Woodside Village Multifamily complex. A resolution from Council in support of the project will add "points" to the overall application score when submitted to TDHA for consideration. Staff recommends that Council approve the resolution in support.

Mayor Pro Tem Chivers made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Presley, to approve **Resolution No. R-07-15** as presented. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Consider setting City Council date for the second meeting of the month of May 2015

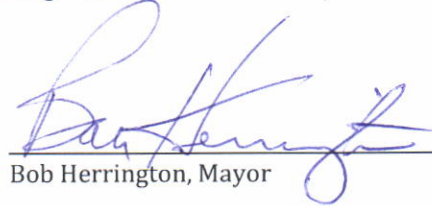
Councilmember Harding made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to set the second meeting of the month of May for May 18, 2015. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Thompson thanked Mayor Thomas for his service on Council.

ADJOURN

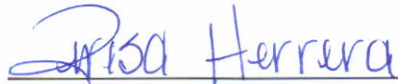
With no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 8TH DAY OF JUNE, 2015.



Bob Herrington, Mayor

ATTEST:



Teresa Herrera, City Secretary

