

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, July 24, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 504 N. Queen Street, Palestine, Texas, with the following people present:

Steve Presley, Mayor  
Doug Smith, Mayor Pro Tem  
Will Brule, Councilmember  
Mitchell Jordan; Councilmember  
Joe Baxter, Councilmember  
Ann Conner, Councilmember

Tim Perry; Public Works Director  
Ami Ashworth; Deputy City Secretary  
Ronald D. Stutes; City Attorney

Others Present: Development Services Director Jeffrey Lyons, Finance Director Steve Groom, Communications Officer Nate Smith, PEDC Asst. Director Greg Laudadio, and other interested citizens.

**CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING**

With a quorum present, Mayor Presley called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The invocation was given by Brandon Greene, followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

**PROPOSED CHANGES OF AGENDA ITEMS**

No action was taken.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS, PUBLIC RECOGNITION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A.D. Ethridge addressed Council regarding City Ordinances (lack of enforcement). Trash is on his street, lots are grown up, Old City Cemetery is awful. Citations have been issued but no warrants or fines are being enforced.

Jack Coleman addressed Council regarding Old Memorial Hospital; due process rights for the owner of the property.

Brandon Greene addressed Council regarding transitional housing; highlighting churches in the area, wanted to let council know that Hope Station Transitional Housing is a ministry, not a half-way-house.

James Smith addressed Council regarding city government relating to Parks, Signs, and June tenth celebration.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES**

No action was taken.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Presley reported on how great it is that more and more citizens are getting involved. Citizen input helps City Staff be aware of issues in the community.

Mayor Presley reported that progress on the Old Memorial Hospital is moving so quickly due to city staff and PEDC's diligence to resolve the issue.

Mayor Presley reported that PISD is interested in expanding vocational classes. Would like to encourage more citizen participation.

Mayor Presley thanked all the attendees that attended the zoning workshop at Westwood High School and the downtown area.

Mayor Presley reported that UT Health Center out of Tyler held a meeting on July 17th to discuss local health issues for possible grant opportunities.

Mayor Presley reported July 25 Chamber of commerce luncheon TSRR putting on a presentation from the new operator.

Mayor Presley informed that he is pleased and proud that city staff is working really hard to get things done and it is being noticed by the citizens.

### **ITEMS FROM COUNCIL**

Councilmember Conner recognized downtown business owner John Swab; L & L Shoes.

Councilmember Jordan recognized the PISD boys and girls basketball teams.

Councilmember Smith provided ticket information for the Palestine Community Theater's summer production "James and the Giant Peach."

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Public Works Director Tim Perry gave an update on the quiet zone.

Departmental reports for Library, Finance, Public Works, Tourism, Police Patrol, Web Report were provided.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1) Consider approval of minutes of the Work Session of July 7, 2017.
- 2) Consider approval of invoices over \$25,000. Finance Director Steve Groom
- 3) ~~Consider authorizing Trinity Valley Community College to occupy an existing pylon sign at the Palestine Mall. Development Services Director Jeffrey Lyons.~~

Item 3 was pulled from consent agenda to regular agenda. Councilmember Smith made motion, seconded by councilmember Brule, to approve Consent Items 1 and 2 as presented. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously 7-0.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

Consider authorizing Trinity Valley Community College to occupy an existing pylon sign at the Palestine Mall. Development Services Director Jeffrey Lyons.

Councilmember Brule made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, to approve Trinity Valley Community College to occupy an existing pylon sign at the Palestine Mall. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously 7-0.

Consider approval of Hotel Occupancy Tax Funding Application for Texas State Railroad Authority in the amount of \$7,500.

Marketing Manager Mary Raum provided a summary. This is the first time Texas State Railroad Authority has requested funds from the city. Councilmember Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Jordan, to approve Hotel Occupancy Tax Funding Application for Texas State Railroad Authority in the amount of \$7,500. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously 7-0.

First Reading of a resolution regarding Palestine Economic Development Corporation and City of Palestine notice of intention to grant \$5,695 to Jerry Hatton for 2017 Facade Improvement Program for building located at 217 W. Oak Street

Mayor Presley read aloud the first reading of a Resolution regarding Palestine Economic Development Corporation and City of Palestine notice of intention to grant \$5,695 to Jerry Hatton for 2017 Facade Improvement Program for building located at 217 W. Oak Street. Councilmember Baxter made a motion to table item until a work session can be held regarding procedures. Motion fails, no second to motion.

Consider an ordinance adopting amendments to Appendix A, Zoning, Section 3.3 Uses Definitions, Section 4.6 Zoning Use Graph and Section 15 Special Provisions by adding a definition, special provisions and designating zoning districts for transitional housing

Councilmember Brule made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Smith, to approve **Ordinance No. O-25-17** adopting amendments to Appendix A, Zoning, Section 3.3 Uses Definitions, Section 4.6 Zoning Use Graph and Section 15 Special Provisions by adding a definition, special provisions and designating zoning districts for transitional housing. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously 7-0.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Presley announced that Council would go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 551.087 Deliberations regarding economic development. The time was 6:30 p.m.

- 1) Discuss "Project North Star".

**RECONVENE IN REGULAR SESSION**

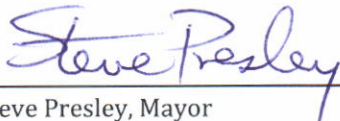
Mayor Presley reconvened Council into open session at 6:52 p.m.

No action was taken.

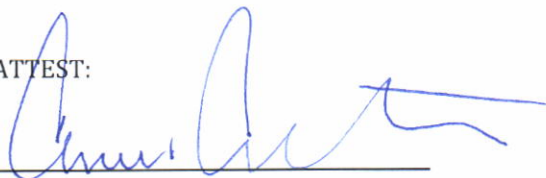
**ADJOURN**

With no other business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 14TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2017

  
Steve Presley, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Ami Ashworth, Deputy City Secretary

