

CITY OF WEST LAKE HILLS, TEXAS
MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Mayor Anthony called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Linda Anthony
Mayor Pro Tem Gordon Bowman
James Vaughan
Brian Plunkett
Beth South

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Administrator Trey Fletcher
City Secretary Terry Blanchard
Finance Director Vonda Ragsdale
Director of BDS Jennifer Bills
Chief of Police Scott Gerdes
City Attorney Patty Akers
Court Administrator Robert Martinez

2. Citizen Communications The City Council welcomes public comments at this point on any issue. If the issue is listed on the agenda, the speaker may choose to comment during the Public Comment period or when the specific agenda item is taken up by the Council later in the meeting. The Council cannot respond to or discuss matters not listed on the agenda. The Council may provide factual information, refer the item to a staff member, or request the item be added to a future meeting agenda. Speakers shall limit their comments to five (5) minutes each.

Mayor Anthony opened the meeting for public comments. Will Stotz (102 Yaupon Valley) introduced himself and recognized the Boy Scout Troop that was present to observe the City Council Meeting. Mayor Anthony spoke about wildfire preparedness. She thanked everyone who had taken steps to prepare their property and asked others to come into compliance with the City requirements and safety standards. Hearing no further comments, the public comment section was closed.

3. Consent Agenda All Consent Agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one (1) motion. No separate discussion or action on any of the items is necessary unless requested by a Council Member.

- a. Approval of the July 26, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Plunkett and a second by Councilmember South, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

4. Finance Discuss and consider action on the FY 2023-24 Proposed Budget.

Mayor Anthony gave a brief summary. Grant Stanis (1305 Redbud Trail) expressed his opposition to the proposed tax rate. Proposed salary handouts were distributed to the Council. Finance Director Ragsdale and Police Chief Gerdes presented the following information to the Council for discussion:

- Proposed de Minimus tax rate of 17.86 cents (includes bond service and M&O)
- Reviewed revenues
- Brief summary of acceptable uses for the Tree Fund
- Proposed budget reflects increases to PD budget for fuel, dispatch services, and capital outlay (only one car budgeted for FY 2023-24)
- Discussion about terminated employees and their reasons for leaving employment with the City
- Recent salary surveys show that PD is at least 6% lower than the area average
- Recommendation to increase salary matrix, modify the lateral transfer policy, increase sign-on bonus, offer specialized training pay, and fuel stipend
- Increased training budget for PD
- Council requested staff to report back in six (6) months for further review of the salary matrix
- Mayor requested that the proposed fuel stipend be increased to \$250 per month with select employees that use their personal vehicle for City business have their stipends increased to \$300 per month
- Court Administrator Martinez reported that the fine schedule is being updated and that a new software module for notifications is being considered.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Vaughan and a second by Councilmember Bowman, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to incorporate the recommended matrix increases, stipends, specialized training pay, lateral transfer policy, bonuses, and salary increases for administrative staff as presented/discussed to the proposed FY 2023-24 budget with the changes to the fuel stipend as requested by the Mayor. Motion carried.

5. Finance Discuss and consider action to approve the Certified Appraisal Roll and the proposed Ad Valorem Tax Rate for Maintenance and Operations and for the Debt Service for the Fiscal Year 2023-23 Proposed Budget.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bowman and a second by Councilmember Plunkett, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to accept the Certified Appraisal Roll and set the ceiling for the proposed tax rate as the de Minimus rate of \$0.1786 per \$100 valuation for the proposed FY 2023-24 budget. Motion carried.

6. Executive Session In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq, the City Council will recess in Executive Session (closed meeting) to discuss the following:

- a. Section 551.071 - Consultation with the attorney regarding pending or contemplated

litigation, or settlement offer; or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act, re: City of West Lake Hills v. the following:

1. Jaffe - 1405 Wildcat Hollow;
2. Alvarez - 1505 Wildcat Hollow;
3. Lambert - 1600 Westlake Drive; and
4. 1836 Real Estate, LLC - 707 Butler Cove.

Council convened into Executive Session at 8:56 p.m.

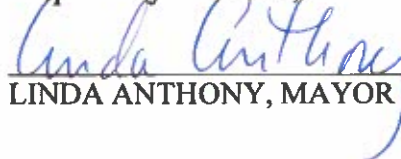
7. Executive Session Reconvene into Open Session and take action if and as deemed appropriate in the City Councils' discretion regarding consultation with attorney.

Council reconvened in Open Session at 9:24 p.m. No action was taken.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Vaughan and a second by Councilmember South, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to adjourn the meeting at 9:24 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


LINDA ANTHONY, MAYOR

ATTEST:


Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary

These minutes were approved on August 23, 2023.

