

CITY OF WEST LAKE HILLS, TEXAS
MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Mayor Vaughan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor James Vaughan
Mayor Pro Tem Gordon Bowman
Dana Harmon
Brian Plunkett
Beth South
Darin Walker **

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

City Administrator Trey Fletcher
City Secretary Terry Blanchard
Director of BDS Jennifer Bills
Building Official Jordan Word
Chief of Police Scott Gerdes
City Attorney Josh Brockman-Weber

The meeting was suspended at 7:03 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

** Councilmember Walker left early at 8:00 p.m.

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 Vaughan opened the meeting for public comments. Hearing none, the public comment section was closed.

3. Administration Discuss and consider approval of the December 11, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember South and a second by Councilmember Harmon, the Council voted three (3) for and none (0) opposed with one (1) abstention to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Bowman abstained. Motion carried.

4. Resolution Discuss and consider action on a resolution authorizing the Westlake Chamber of Commerce to place signs in the public right-of-way for special events.

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

5. Administration Discuss and consider action to authorize the purchase of a police vehicle.

City Administrator Fletcher gave a summary. There was an incident involving a relatively new police vehicle in 2024 and the insurance company totaled the vehicle. This request is for a replacement vehicle with insurance paying a majority of the cost (approximately 95%).

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Harmon and a second by Councilmember South, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to authorize the purchase of a police vehicle. Motion carried.

6. Administration Discussion and update on the Open House at Westlake High School's small auditorium on Thursday, January 9, 2025 from 6-8 PM.

City Administrator Fletcher gave a brief summary. City Council members asked questions about the event. Coordination efforts with TxDOT for the traffic light cycles are ongoing. Once the road is closed in February, TxDOT will reevaluate the timing of the lights after a week to see if adjustments are necessary.

7. Administration Discuss and consider opportunities to pursue in the 2025 Community Forestry Grant Program.

City Administrator Fletcher gave a brief summary. Grant applications are due in mid-February. The City qualifies for five of the six categories, however, only one category application may be submitted. Category 3 - Municipal Forester seems to be the most beneficial for the city. This employee position could be part of the development team as well as the fire mitigation team. If more time is needed to access the best option for the community, it might be best to submit an application in the next annual cycle.

8. Administration Discuss and consider action on sales tax election options.

This item will be moved to Executive Session.

9. Executive Session In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq, the City Council will recess into 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. Jaffe - 1405 Wildcat Hollow; and
- b. Section 551.071 - Consultation with attorney regarding potential settlement agreement relating to alleged code violations at 4301 Bee Cave Road.

Council convened into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m.

10. 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 9:04 p.m.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Plunkett and a second by Councilmember Harmon, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the settlement agreement subject to terms discussed and authorize the City Administrator and the City Attorney to negotiate as necessary. Motion carried.

11. Adjournment

Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



JAMES VAUGHAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary



These minutes were approved on January 22, 2025.