



The City of West University Place

A Neighborhood City

CITY COUNCIL

Bob Higley, Mayor
Kevin Trautner, Mayor Pro Tem
John P. Barnes, Councilmember
Lauri Lankford, Councilmember
Ed Sobash, Councilmember

STAFF

David J. Beach, City Manager
Alan Petrov, City Attorney
Thelma Gilliam, City Secretary

CITY COUNCIL ACTION MINUTES

The City Council of the City of West University Place, Texas, met in a workshop and regular session on **Monday, July 22, 2019**, in the Municipal Building, 3800 University, West University Place.

WORKSHOP

Call to Order. Mayor Higley called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building Bill Watson Conference Room. Council and Staff in attendance were: Councilmembers Barnes, and Sobash, City Manager Beach, City Secretary Gilliam (arrived at 5:31 p.m.), City Attorney Petrov, and Interim Public Works Director Barrera. Mayor Pro Tem Trautner and Councilmember Lankford were absent. *Note: Though not able to participate, Councilmember Lankford listened in via telephone.*

1. Community Improvement Program

Matters related to an update on the Community Improvement Program. *Recommended Action: Hear update and take any desired action. Mr. Dave Beach, City Manager*

City Manager Beach gave an update on the City's Community Improvement Program. No action taken.

2. Adjourn Workshop

Councilmember Sobash moved to adjourn the workshop. Mayor Higley seconded the motion and adjourned at approximately 6:25 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING (6:30 PM in the Council Chambers)

Call to Order. Mayor Higley called the meeting to order at approximately 6:32 p.m. in the Municipal Building Council Chambers. Council and Staff in attendance were: Councilmembers Barnes, and Sobash, City Manager Beach, City Secretary Gilliam, City Attorney Petrov, Interim Public Works Director Barrera, and Police Chief Walker. Mayor Pro Tem Trautner and Councilmember Lankford were absent.

City Secretary Gilliam confirmed that the Notice of the meeting was posted as required by law.

Boy and Girl Scouts with Troop 55 and Troop 1314, respectively, led the Pledge.

3. Public Comments

This is an opportunity for citizens to speak to Council relating to agenda and non-agenda items.

Public comments were as follows:

- Wayne Beckermann, on behalf of Jim Cooper who represents Ms. Terry Bowman, spoke regarding bees and said he thinks the situation has been lost in the conversation about the benefits of bees. He said the bees are still next to Ms. Bowman's home and so he would like Council to think of solutions to solve that particular situation.

- Simon Jones, a resident of Houston who works for Ms. Bowman, said there are hundreds of bees in Ms. Bowman's flowers and so it's a matter of time before someone gets stung.
- Sunny Lyles, 4143 Southwestern, is a friend of Ms. Bowman and said the issue is not about bees or no bees, but rather about a resident, her dog, and her workers who were confronted and stung by bees. He said an ordinance would provide protection for residents, the Council, and the City.

4. Boards and Commissions Updates

Matters related to updates from the Zoning and Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustments, Building and Standards Commission, Parks Board, Recycling and Solid Waste Reduction Board, Friends of West U Parks Fund, and Senior Services Board. *Recommended Action: Hear updates and take any desired action. Chair Peter Billipp (PRB); Chair Selby Clark (SSB); Chair Sami Morrison (FWUPF); Chair Orval Marlow (RSWRB); Chair Richard Wilson (ZPC); Vice-Chair Steven Segal (ZBA); and Vice-Chair Eddie Matthews (BSC)*

The Chair or Vice Chair of each board/commission gave a brief update on recent accomplishments and future goals.

5. Zoning and Planning Commission Report on the Projection of Balconies in the Front Yard Setback and Consideration of an Ordinance by City Council

Matters related to an ordinance amending the Zoning Ordinance and Code of Ordinances of the City of West University Place, Texas, regarding the projection of balconies in the front yard setback and containing findings and other provisions relating to the subject. *Recommended Action: Approve ordinance on the first of two readings. Ms. Debbie Scarcella, City Planner and Mr. Richard Wilson, Chair of the Zoning and Planning Commission*

ZPC Chair Wilson reported on this item, followed by a brief discussion that resulted in Mayor Higley suggesting that Chair Wilson take the ordinance back to the ZPC to wordsmith and bring back before Council at a later date. Chair Wilson agreed and no action was taken.

6. Consent Agenda

All Consent Agenda items listed are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member requests in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

A. City Council Minutes

Approve City Council Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2019.

B. Quarterly Investment Report

Matters related to consideration and acceptance of the City's June 2019 Quarterly Investment Report. *Recommended Action: Consider and accept the City's June 2019 Quarterly Investment Report. Mr. Harrison Nicholson, Treasurer*

C. CenterPoint Energy Houston LLC Electric Rates

Matters related to an ordinance denying rate increase request and revised rate schedules and maintaining current rates in effect. *Recommended Action: Approve ordinance denying the CenterPoint rate increase request and revised rate schedules and maintaining current rates in effect. Mr. Alan Petrov, City Attorney*

D. Budget Amendment Ordinance

Matters related to an ordinance amending the Budget of the City of West University Place, Texas for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019; containing findings and provisions related to the subject; and declaring an emergency. *Recommended Action: Approve ordinance amending the 2019 Budget.* **Marie Kalka, Finance Director**

E. Interlocal Agreement with Harris-Galveston Subsidence District

Matters related to an Interlocal Agreement with Harris-Galveston Subsidence District. *Recommended Action: Approve the Interlocal Agreement with Harris-Galveston Subsidence District and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract.* **Mr. Gerardo Barrera, Interim Public Works Director**

Councilmember Barnes moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilmember Sobash seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Ayes: Higley, Barnes, Sobash
Noes: None
Absent: Lankford, Trautner

7. Executive Session

Notice is hereby given that the City Council will convene into Executive Session in accordance with the following provision of Chapter 551 of the Texas Code: **Section 551.071 (Consultation with outside legal counsel regarding review of zoning and land use process).**

Mayor Higley recessed the regular meeting at 7: 47 p.m. to convene into executive session.

8. Close Executive Session and Reconvene Regular Meeting

Matters related to any action resulting from the Executive Session.

Councilmember Sobash moved to close the executive session and reconvene the regular meeting at 8:15 p.m. Councilmember Barnes seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Ayes: Higley, Barnes, Sobash
Noes: None
Absent: Lankford, Trautner

No action taken.

9. Adjourn Regular Meeting

With no other business before the Council, Councilmember Branes moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m. Councilmember Sobash seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Ayes: Higley, Barnes, Sobash
Noes: None
Absent: Lankford, Trautner

Prepared by: Thelma A. Gilliam, City Secretary
Council Approved: August 12, 2019