

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
RIVER OAKS CITY COUNCIL  
AUGUST 11, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

MAYOR HERMAN EARWOOD  
MAYOR PRO TEM JOE ASHTON  
COUNCIL MEMBER DAN CHISHOLM  
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHN CLARIDGE  
COUNCIL MEMBER DARREN HOUK  
COUNCIL MEMBER STEVE HOLLAND

**STAFF PRESENT:**

CITY MANAGER MARVIN GREGORY  
CITY SECRETARY PAULA LUCK  
POLICE CHIEF CHRIS SPIELDENNER  
EMERGENCY MGT JAMES MYRICK  
BUILDING INSPECTOR STEVE SANDERS  
CITY ATTORNEY BETSY ELAM  
FIRE CHIEF RUSSELL SHELLEY  
EVENT CENTER DIRECTOR SHIRLEY WHEAT  
EVENT CENTER DIRECTOR SHIRLEY BLOOMFIELD  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR GORDON SMITH

**ABSENT:**

NONE

1. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Earwood called the Regular Meeting of the River Oaks City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at the River Oaks City Hall, 4900 River Oaks Blvd., River Oaks, Texas 76114.

2. INVOCATION

Member Claridge delivered the Invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE TEXAS FLAG

Member Claridge led the Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and the Texas Flags.

4. READING OF PROCLAMATION(S) AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS BY MAYOR.

**NONE**

5. PUBLIC TESTIMONY: CITIZENS TO SPEAK ON ANY TOPIC OR ANY AGENDA ITEM BEFORE AN DURING THE MEETING BY RAISING YOUR HAND TO BE RECOGNIZED; HOWEVER, UNLESS THE ITEM IS SPECIFICALLY NOTED ON THIS AGENDA, THE CITY COUNCIL IS REQUIRED UNDER THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT TO LIMIT ITS RESPONSE WITH A STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC FACTUAL INFORMATION, RECITING THE CITY'S EXISTING POLICY ON THAT ISSUE, OR DIRECTING THE PERSON MAKING THE INQUIRY TO VISIT WITH CITY STAFF ABOUT THAT ISSUE, AND NO COUNCIL DELIBERATION IS PERMITTED FOR TOPICS NOT SPECIFICALLY LISTED ON THIS AGENDA.

**NONE**

6. **CONSENT AGENDA** ALL ITEMS UNDER THIS SECTION ARE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL FOR THE "CONSENT AGENDA". THESE ITEMS ARE OF A ROUTINE NATURE AND REQUIRE ONLY BRIEF DELIBERATION BY COUNCIL. **COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REMOVE ANY ITEM ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR FURTHER DELIBERATION**

- A. APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 28, 2020 REGULAR CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
- B. APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2020 SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING
- C. APPROVE BILLS PAYABLE FOR THE PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 11, 2020 (FY 2020)

**CM Holland moved, seconded by CM Chisholm to approve the Consent Agenda Items #A-C. All voted "Aye".**

7. DISCUSSION OR ACTION TAKEN ON ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE DELIBERATION.

**NONE**

**PERSONAL APPEARANCES AND ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL/ACTION:**

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE #1289-2020 APPROVING REINVESTMENT ZONE NO. 1, CITY OF RIVER OAKS, FINAL PROJECT AND FINANCE PLAN.

Trent Petty & Kirk McDaniel with Petty and Associates were present.

Met with the board earlier and they approved the bylaws and recommended to the City Council Zone #1, the final project and the finance plan. Also presented was the map that squares the zone off.

**CM Chisholm moved, seconded by CM Holland to approve Ordinance #1289-2020. All voted "Aye".**

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #1024-2020 AMENDING RESOLUTION #1021-2020 AS ADOPTED ON JULY 14, 2020 BY CONTINUING THE DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER.

A declaration was signed to close the Event Center and to continue the closure of the Library. This declaration expires August 14, 2020. This new order will remain in effect until it is rescinded. We are still in considerable danger and at the Event Center, it is hard to enforce the masks and people do not wear them properly and the cleaning is an issue. The elderly are the ones passing away from the virus or by complications from the virus. And the elderly are the ones that are the most at the center. Event Center Director Wheat felt it is no one's business on how she keeps herself safe. There are different rules at different places. People are coming to the food bank not to get food, but to talk to someone. Since the closure, repairs are being done at the center that could not be done when the center is open.

**CM Chisholm moved, seconded by CM Holland to approve Resolution #1024-2020. All voted "Aye".**

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL TERMINAL/NON-TERMINAL AGENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN CASTLEBERRY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT AND RIVER OAKS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

This was discussed about a year ago and we are to receive \$25,000 annually. All attorneys are fine with the plan. PC Spieldenner would like the removal of Article 4 which states River Oaks would provide them space for evidence.

**CM Holland moved, seconded by CM Houk to approve the Interlocal Agreement with CISD Police Department with the removal of Article 4. All voted "Aye".**

11. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FROM METROPOLITAN EMS AUTHORITY (MAEMSA) FOR THE CITY TO PAY MAEMSA FROM CARES ACT FUNDING RECEIVED FROM TARRANT COUNTY IN ORDER TO OFFSET UNBUDGETED PANDEMIC-RELATED COSTS INCURRED BY MAEMSA.

Medstar group reached out to the member cities and asked for an even portion from each city. The request is for \$2,354.19. Medstar experienced a reduction in ambulance service because of the COVID-19 and are preparing thru their fee schedule in their budget for the upcoming years. Right now, River Oaks has a very small reserve remaining in the Cares Act.

**Mayor Pro Tem Ashton moved, seconded by CM Houk to deny the request from MAEMSA. All voted "Aye".**

12. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH TARRANT COUNTY FIRE ALARM CENTER FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT DISPATCH SERVICES IN FY 2021.

The cost is a 3% increase which is \$32,604 for the annual renewal. Saginaw and Lake Worth have switched to Fort Worth Fire Dispatch. We are exploring switching over to Fort Worth which would increase efficiency. We have been in contact with the Fort Worth Fire Chief.

**CM Chisholm moved, seconded by CM Claridge to approve the contract with Tarrant County Fire Alarm. All voted "Aye".**

13. SUBMISSION OF THE CITY'S GENERAL AND WATER FUND OPERATION BUDGET FY 2021 AS PRESENTED BY THE CITY MANAGER AND CALLING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADOPTING THE FY 2021 CITY OPERATIONAL BUDGET.

We are planning on the Public Hearing for all budgets on August 25, 2020 along with the Property Tax Public Hearing. This budget includes a part time Emergency Management Coordinator, increase in the Fire Department staff to a 4-man shift, reduction in bulk pick up for landfill and labor costs and some employee raises. This does not include a 2% increase for the employees. The Fire Department part-time employees are not working out. We have employees that want to take time off and therefore, the overtime increases for someone to cover that shift. We are proposing of having Steve Sanders work 24 hours a week as the Building Inspector and the rest as a Fireman. Therefore, that would only leave us at hiring two new firemen. The part-time employees will go away. The Fire Department pay scale plan is comparable to the Police Department plan and includes all ranks.

**CM Claridge moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ashton to call a Public Hearing for August 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. All voted "Aye".**

**OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

**14. UPDATE FROM EMC MYRICK ON WEST NILE VIRUS AND MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE.**

60% of mosquitos are testing positive in NE Tarrant County. Literature is being passed out to everyone who is in line at the food bank. There have been three positives that were in three different traps in River Oaks. No nests were found in the first positive. We are being notified at about 4 p.m. on a Friday of the positives which leaves us little time to schedule spraying. Signs are posted in the areas of the positive announcing the spraying.

Dickies Arena in Fort Worth and a place in Arlington are doing the saliva COVID-19 testing which is the most accurate test. An appointment is required, and test results are fast. Testing locations for the standard testing are moving around.

**15. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON UPDATES FROM THE CITY MANAGER ADVISING THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL ON PERSONNEL, CITY'S FISCAL CONDITION, FUTURE NEEDS OF THE CITY, SCHEDULING OF COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS AND OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS.**

The Census is down 6% than in 2010.

One water administration employee has been hired.

PWD Smith has four vacated positions. Two of them were vacated this week due to a violation of the personnel policy.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**16. COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

CM Holland-thanked the firemen in attendance for wiping down the podium after everyone talked. The sound quality has improved.

CM Houk-thanked James Myrick for all his hard work.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**17. CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE: THE COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION(S) FROM TIME TO TIME ON ANY POSTED AGENDA ITEM TO RECEIVE ADVICE FROM ITS ATTORNEY AS PERMITTED BY LAW DURING THIS MEETING. THE COUNCIL MAY CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:**

- a. Section 551.071 Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek advice from attorney.
- b. Section 551.072 Discussion regarding possible sale, lease or acquisition of real estate.
- c. Section 551.074 Personnel matters – To deliberate the appointment, employment,

- evaluation, reassignment of duties, discipline or dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee or to hear a complaint or charge against an Officer or Employee.
- d. Section 551.076 Deliberation regarding security devices.

**NONE**

**RECONVENE:**

18. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ANY ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

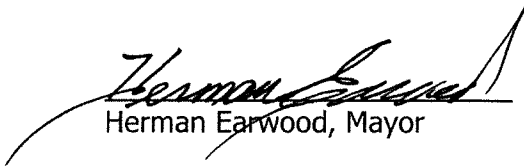
**NONE**

**ADJOURN:**


19. ADJOURN

**At 8:35 p.m., Mayor Earwood adjourned the meeting. All voted "Aye".**

**APPROVED:**

  
Herman Earwood, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Paula Luck, City Secretary