

STATE OF TEXAS)()(
COUNTY OF RUNNELS)()(
CITY OF BALLINGER)()(

On this the 2nd day of August,2021 the Ballinger City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber of City Hall located at 700 Railroad Avenue with the following members present:

Dawni Seymore Mayor
Ken Manley Council Member # 1
Richard "Rick" Morrish Mayor Pro-tem
Absent Council Member #3
Steven Gray, Jr. Council Member # 4

City Staff:

Bonita Shields City Secretary
Brian Frieda City Manager
Sharon Hicks City Attorney
Chad Mercer Code Enforcement
John Pierik III Finance Director
Rebecca Springer Public Works Director

Others present: Rachelle Williams, Chad Hardy-Citizens

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Dawni Seymore called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Dawni Seymore lead the group in a word of prayer and the pledge of allegiance and pledge to the Texas flag.

PUBLIC HEARINGS & PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

City Council may consider approval of the minutes of the meeting.

Council Member Ken Manley made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 19,2021 meeting. Second by Council Member Steven Gray, Jr. and was unanimously approved.

BUSINESS:

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE REQUEST OF THE CITY PARK BOARD TO HAVE THEIR ANNUAL HOTTER THAN HELL BAR-B-QUE COOK-OFF NEXT YEAR ON JUNE 24-25,2022:

Council Member Rick Morrish made the motion to approve the request of the City Park Board to hold their annual Hotter than Hell bar-b-que cook-off in the city park next year on June 24-25, 2022 .Second by Council Member Ken Manley and was unanimously approved.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE DELIVERY OF THE PROPOSED FY 22 BUDGET TO THE CITY SECRETARY. BUDGET WORKSHOP TO BE SCHEDULED:

John Pierik III told the Council that he has the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2022 ready to be presented to the City Secretary. Brian Freida told the Council that they would be given a copy of the budget for their review and a budget workshop will be scheduled. Council Member Rick Morrish made the motion to approve the presentation of the proposed FY 22 budget to the City Secretary. Second by Council Member Steven Gray, Jr. and was unanimously approved.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE DELIVERY OF THE PROPOSED FY 22 TAX RATE TO THE CITY SECRETARY. BUDGET WORKSHOP TO BE SCHEDLUED:

John Pierik III told the Council that the worksheet for the City's proposed FY 22 tax rate is included in the folder presented to the City Secretary. A copy of the worksheet is attached and made a part of the minutes. Mr. Pierik also told the Council that the tax rate would be going down because of the increase in property valuation. After discussion, **Council Member Steve Gray, Jr.** made the motion to accept the proposed rate of \$.532006/100 valuation. **Second by Council Member Ken Manley** and was unanimously approved.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM STATUS AND OPTIONS MOVING FORWARD TO INCLUDE POSSIBLY AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE CONTRIBUTION RATES:

John Pierik III reported to the Council that the staff is looking at possible ways to upgrade the contributions to the TMRS retirement system by employees and city portion. The employees currently contribute 5% of their gross income bi-weekly and the city matches that 2:1. The staff is looking at what the impact would be if the employee's contribution rate was change to 6 or 7% and the city contributed a 2:1 match.

The only adjustment to the retirement program became effective January1,2021 when the Council voted to increase the City's contribution rate 2:1 changing the current contribution rate of 9.64%.

Council Member Steven Gray, Jr. made the motion to table any action on this item for more information. **Second by Council Member Rick Morrish** and was unanimously approved.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

- 2021 annual virtual conference with TMRS
- Virtual certification training for municipal court clerks
- Airport concert announcement for August 7, 2021

Brian informed the Council that there will be a concert held at the airport on August 7,2021. It will be in the grassy area of the airport. The event is sponsored by KRUN and Landy Cason. They have hired a private security company and clean-up crew. A liability insurance policy has been provided and FAA has been informed of the event. The event should not be a problem since no night landing is allowed at the airport at this time because of lighting issues. This should be a great event for Ballinger.

- TMRS benefit education meetings set for August 13, 2021
- System updates on WTP and details of our infrastructure
 - System pressures
 - Chemical type
 - Variations of differing water treatment and distribution systems
- Department head updates

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Steven Gray, Jr. requested to start receiving the monthly police activity reports again.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the meeting to discuss any matters listed as authorized by Texas Government Code.

a. Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney (To seek the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or any matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflict with the Texas Open Meetings Act).

b. Section 551.072 Deliberations about real property (The Council may consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property).

c. Section 551.074 Personnel Matters. The City Council may consider appointment, employment, evaluation, compensation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of public officers or employees and Board and Commission Members.

The Council went into executive session at 6:26 p.m. as authorized by Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney. The executive session was closed at 7:02 p.m.

RECONVENE:

The Council reconvene back into regular session at 7:03 p.m.
No votes or actions from the executive session.

ADJOURN:

Council Member Steven Gray, Jr. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m. **Second by Council Member Ken Manley** and was unanimously approved.

Dawni Seymore
Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonita F. Shields
City Secretary