

## MINUTES

**State of Texas** §  
**County of Runnels** §  
**City of Ballinger** §

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022, 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 and staff present:

Mayor Dawni Seymore	Ryan Lange, Place 3
Ken Manley, Place 1	Steven Gray Jr., Place 4
Rick Morrish, Place 2	

**Staff Present:**

City Manager, Brian Frieda	Assistant City Manager, John Pierik III
City Attorney, Sharon Hicks	Chief Cornutt
Cord Bowman Code Enforcement	

1. **Call meeting to order.** Mayor Seymore called meeting to order at 5:32
2. **Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance and pledge to Texas Flag.** Councilmember Rick Morrish led the prayer and pledges.
3. **CITIZEN COMMENT:** None
4. **REGULAR AGENDA.**
  - a. **Ordinance adopting TML Health Insurance modification:** finalize the insurance benefits to retirees both pre-and post-65 as defined by council.

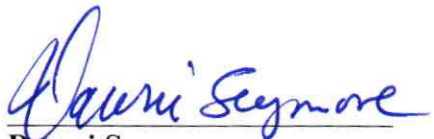
Discussion included longevity and employee retention and criteria for pre-65 retirees. Motion by Councilmember Manley to approve the Ordinance with the pre-65 retiree definition to include at least age 50, vested and eligible for retirement pursuant to TML standards. Councilmember Gray, seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
  - b. **Ordinance adopting TMRS Buyback:** Periodically the city has renewed its retirement buyback ordinance through TMRS which allows employees as of the date of approval of the ordinance to buy back credits previously cashed out. There is no cost to the city unless an employee chooses to buy back their credits.

Discussion included that this allows employees who have needed to previously cash out benefits for allowed reasons to buy back their credits. There is no cost to the city unless and until an employee buys back credits. Councilmember Lange moved to approve, and Councilmember Manley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.


- c. **Leasing of Police Department units:** Discuss and act upon leasing options for patrol units.

City Manager Frieda and Assistant City Manager Pierik discussed that the city is looking to replace older vehicles with a buy-board lease purchase. These vehicles payments would begin in 2023. Councilmember Gray moved to approve the lease/purchase for the vehicles and Councilmember Morrish seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **City Manager's reports.** The city manager reported on the following, no action taken.
- a. Police Department Monthly Report: Chief Cornutt to present report for the month of February 2022.
  - b. Park Board Easter Egg hunt April 9<sup>th</sup> to be held at city park starts at 10 A.M.
  - c. Street crew has been progressing with the repairs on 13<sup>th</sup> Street to Strong, and Strong Street back towards South 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - d. The City of Ballinger will be hosting SkyWarn training on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 P.M. As of this time the training will be for first responders only due to current restrictions placed on the weather service, however, there is a slight possibility of having the training made open to the public.
6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Council convened into executive session at 6:10 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 Consultation with City Attorney and reconvened into open session at 6:24 p.m. Mayor stated that no votes or action was taken in executive session.
7. **Reconvene and take action if needed executive session.**  
None
8. **Adjourn.**  
Councilmember Manley moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 p.m. Second by Councilmember Morrish. Unanimously approved.

  
**Dawni Seymore**  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
ASSISTANT **Dawni Foss**  
City Secretary