



CITY OF ARCOLA

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MINUTES

Arcola City Hall, Room 124
13222 Highway 6
Arcola, Texas 77583

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fred A. Burton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

Council Member Greg Abarr gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

Council Member Rosemary Bigby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Fred A. Burton and Council Members Evelyn Jones, Greg Abarr, Mayor Pro-Tem Florence Jackson, Ebony Sanco and Rosemary Bigby were present. Also present were City Attorney Debra Mergel, City Secretary Sally Cantu, City Attorney Grady Randle, and City Administrator Dr. Annette Guajardo Goldberg

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

GENERAL AUDIENCE. Citizens who desire to address the City Council with comments of a general nature will be received at this time. The total amount of time that a member of the public may address the City Council is limited to three (3) minutes, provided that any member of the public who addresses the City Council through a translator is limited to six (6) minutes. In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the City Council is restricted from discussing or taking any action on items not listed on the agenda. It is our policy to have all speakers identify themselves by providing their name and residential address when making comments. No public comments.

II. CONSENT AGENDA: NONE

III. PUBLIC HEARING: NONE

IV. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the update of the month of December 2023 Fire Marshal Report, updated fees, and other related matters. *Fire Marshall Efreem Burns***

Fire Marshal Efreem Burns presented and reviewed the Fire Marshal Report for the month of December 2023.

Chief A. Carr-Bryant reviewed an updated fee schedule.

After discussion, **Mayor Pro-Tem Florence Jackson moved** to approve the updated fee schedule as presented by Chief A. Carr-Bryant; **seconded by Council Member Greg Abarr**. All were in favor.

Aye: Mayor Pro-Tem Florence Jackson and Council Members Evelyn Jones, Greg Abarr, Ebony Sanco and Rosemary Bigby
Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

B. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the City Hall Parking Lot Pavement project and other related matters. *Mayor Fred A. Burton*

Mayor Fred A. Burton noted that they have been looking at the amount of money budgeted for the proposed parking lot. He also noted the cost of material and concrete is steadily rising. The budget for the proposed parking lot is \$250,000.00 and he does not think it can be done with this amount. Council Member Greg Abarr noted that \$250,000.00 is not even close. He suggested considering using asphalt instead of concrete for the proposed parking lot. Mayor Burton suggested constructing the parking lot in phases. He just wanted to put the council on notice that there is not enough money in the budget for the parking lot and will have to relook at the budget.

City Council adjourned to Closed Executive Session on January 30, 2024 at 6:28 p.m.

V. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A.** The City Council will hold a Closed Executive Session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as authorized by Texas Government Code, as authorized by Texas Government Code Section 551.071—Consultation with Attorney, to seek advice regarding:

Pending Litigation:

- a) Fort Bend County and Arcola Municipal Management District No 1 vs. City of Arcola Texas; Cause No. 01.-23-00823 in the First Court of Appeals, Houston, Texas
- b) In re Fort Bend County, Texas, and Arcola Municipal Management District No.1; Cause No. 23-0936 in the Supreme Court of Texas.

City Council reconvened into Open Session on January 30, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

- B. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION: The City Council will adjourn the Closed Executive Session, reconvene into Open Session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code and take action, if any, on item(s) discussed during the Closed Executive Session:**

- a) Discussion, consideration of and possible action resulting from Closed Executive Session.**

Council Member Ebony Sanco moved to authorize the City Attorney to work with the MMD and resolve the issue with the lawsuit; seconded by Council Member Evelyn Jones.

The City Attorney responded that the lawyers are always talking. He recommended going back into executive session for advice.

The City Council adjourned to Closed Executive on January 30, 2024 at 7:33 p.m.

The City Council reconvened to Open Session on January 30, 2024 at 8:01 p.m.

- VI. ADJOURNMENT.** Mayor Pro-Tem Florence Jackson moved to adjourn at 8:01 p.m.; seconded by Council Member Greg Abarr. All were in favor.
Aye: Mayor Pro-Tem Florence Jackson and Council Members Evelyn Jones, Greg Abarr, Ebony Sanco and Rosemary Bigby
Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0