



CITY OF ARCOLA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Arcola City Hall
13222 Highway 6
Arcola, Texas 77583

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MINUTES

6:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Veeda Williams

INVOCATION

Council Member Evelyn Jones

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG

Council Member Florence Jackson

ROLL CALL

Mayor, Council Members and Administration

QUORUM PRESENT

All Members of City Council were Present.

Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby,
Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco, Mayor Veeda Williams

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.

CONSENT AND REGULAR AGENDA ITEM. Citizens who desire to address the City Council, with regard to matters on the Consent Agenda or Regular Agenda will be received either at this time or, if they state at this time that they elect to do so, during the City Council's consideration of the item. The total amount of time that a member of the public may address the City Council on a given item is limited to three (3) minutes, provided that any member of the public who addresses the City Council on a given item through a translator is limited to six (6) minutes. Comments or discussion by the City Council Members will only be made at the time the agenda item is scheduled for consideration. It is our policy to have all speakers identify themselves by providing their name and residential address when making comments.

The following members of the public addressed the Council.

1. Fred Burton, 204 Texas Ave.
2. Ana Rivera, 202 Pinedde Ave.

II. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council will convene into Closed Executive Session as authorized under Sections 551.074 and 551.071 of the Texas Government Code for the following items:

- A. **Personnel Matters.** The City Council will deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee. The City Council will deliberate the employment of a City Secretary. (Section 551.074)
- B. **Consultations with Attorney.** The City Council will seek the advice of its attorney about: pending or contemplated litigation; or, a settlement offer. The City Council will consult with the attorney regarding a settlement offer for Mr. Stephan Dockery of Flood & Flood, LLP. (Section 551.071)
- C. **Consultations with Attorney.** The City Council will seek the advice of its attorney about: pending or contemplated litigation; or, a settlement offer. The City Council will consult with the attorney regarding a settlement offer for Fort Bend County, Texas and the Arcola Municipal Management District No. 1. (Section 551.071)
- D. **Consultations with Attorney.** The City Council will seek the advice of its attorney regarding the engagement of a professional services firm to conduct a forensic audit. (Section 551.071)

RECESS: The Mayor recessed the meeting into Closed Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. under Texas Local Government Code, Section 551.087, for the purpose of deliberation regarding Section 551.074 Personnel Matters and Section 551.071 Consultations with Attorney.

PRESENT

All Members of City Council and City Administration was Present.
Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby,
Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco, Mayor Veeda Williams Justin Pruitt,
City Attorney, Coretta Edwards, Assistant City Secretary, Ruthie Cable, Finance Director and
Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator

III. COUNCIL ADJOURNS CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENES INTO REGULAR SESSION

RECONVENE: The Mayor reconvened into the regular meeting at 7:18 p.m. There will be no action taken for Item III-D: **Consultations with Attorney.** The City Council will seek the advice of its attorney regarding the engagement of a professional services firm to conduct a forensic audit. (Section 551.071)

- A. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the adoption of a **RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024A** regarding the employment of a City Secretary.

A motion to **Approve**, Item III-A: The approval on the adoption of a **RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024A** regarding the employment of a City Secretary was made by Council Member R. Bigby and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- B. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the adoption of a **RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024B** regarding a settlement offer for Mr. Stephan Dockery of Flood & Flood, LLP.

A motion to **Approve**, Item III-B: The approval on the adoption of a **RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024B** regarding a settlement offer for Mr. Stephan Dockery of Flood & Flood, LLP was made by Council Member E. Jones and seconded by Council Member R. Bigby, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- C. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the adoption of a **RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024C** regarding a settlement offer for Fort Bend County, Texas and the Arcola Municipal Management District No. 1.

A motion to **Approve**, Item III-C: The approval on the adoption of a **RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024C** regarding a settlement offer for Fort Bend County, Texas and the Arcola Municipal Management District No. 1 was made by Council Member E. Jones and seconded by, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

IV. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 551.0415 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council of the City of Arcola may receive reports about items of community interest from City staff and/or a member of the City Council, but no action or possible action shall be taken or discussed concerning the subject of such report, except as provided by Section 551.042 of the Texas Government Code.

Mayor Veeda Williams, Council Member Evelyn Jones Council Member Greg Abarr, Council Member Florence Jackson, Mayor Pro-Tem Council Member Ebony Sanco, and Council Member Rosemary Bigby

Mayor Veeda Williams, Council Member Evelyn Jones Council Member Greg Abarr, Council Member Florence Jackson, Mayor Pro-Tem Council Member Ebony Sanco, and Council Member Rosemary Bigby

Mayor Veeda Williams gave comments and Council Members had no comments.

V. 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. Consideration of and action on the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 11, 2024. **Coretta Edwards, Assistant City Secretary**
- B. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the approval to open a TexPool account in the amount of \$13,662.00 for the Police Department's seize money related to criminal acts with the City of Arcola. **Police Chief Carr-Bryant**
- C. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the **PRELIMINARY PLAT IN THE ETJ – FENN PLATINUM GROUP, LLC, A SUBDIVISION OF 4.239 ACRES (184,637 SQUARE FEET) OF LAND LOCATED IN M. ESCALERO SURVEY, A-170 CITY OF ARCOLA, FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS. 1 BLOCK, 1 RESERVE.**
Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.
- D. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on a donation acceptance in the amount of \$500.00 from the Houston Grass for the Back-to-School Backpack Program.
Police Chief Carr-Bryant
- E. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on a donation acceptance in the amount of \$250.00 from the Arcola Feed Store for the Back-to-School Backpack Program.
Police Chief Carr-Bryant
- F. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on a donation acceptance in the amount of \$250.00 from the Houston Southwest Airport for the Back-to-School Backpack Program.
Police Chief Carr-Bryant

A motion to **Pull**, Item V-B and V-C: The motion to pull Item V-B of the discussion, consideration of and possible action on the approval to open a TexPool account in the amount of \$13,662.00 for the Police Department's seize money related to criminal acts with the City of Arcola and Item V-C of the discussion, consideration of and possible action on the **PRELIMINARY PLAT IN THE ETJ – FENN PLATINUM GROUP, LLC, A SUBDIVISION OF 4.239 ACRES (184,637 SQUARE FEET) OF LAND LOCATED IN M.**

ESCALERO SURVEY, A-170 CITY OF ARCOLA, FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS. 1 BLOCK, 1 RESERVE was made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco
Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

A motion to **Approve**, Item V-A, V-D through V-F: All Consent Agenda items listed were considered to be routine by the City Council and was enacted by one motion made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco
Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

VI. **REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

- B. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the approval to open a TexPool account in the amount of \$13,662.00 for the Police Department's seize money related to criminal acts with the City of Arcola. ***Police Chief Carr-Bryant***

A motion to **Pull**, Item V-B: The motion to pull Item V-B of the discussion, consideration of and possible action on the approval to open a TexPool account in the amount of \$13,662.00 for the Police Department's seize money related to criminal acts with the City of Arcola was made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco
Nay: 0
Motion carried. 5-0

No motion taken.

- C. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the **PRELIMINARY PLAT IN THE ETJ – FENN PLATINUM GROUP, LLC**, A SUBDIVISION OF 4.239 ACRES (184,637 SQUARE FEET) OF LAND LOCATED IN M. ESCALERO SURVEY, A-170 CITY OF ARCOLA, FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS. 1 BLOCK, 1 RESERVE.
Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.

A motion to **Pull**, Item V-C: The motion to Pull Item V-C of the discussion, consideration of and possible action on the **PRELIMINARY PLAT IN THE ETJ – FENN PLATINUM GROUP, LLC**, A SUBDIVISION OF 4.239 ACRES (184,637 SQUARE FEET) OF LAND LOCATED IN M. ESCALERO SURVEY, A-170 CITY OF ARCOLA, FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS. 1 BLOCK, 1 RESERVE was made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

Council Member G. Abarr amended Item V-C to correct the naming of the plat to read, **“FINAL PLAT IN THE ETJ – FENN PLATINUM GROUP, LLC”**.

A motion to **Amend**, Item V-C: The motion to Amend Item V-C of the discussion, consideration of and possible action on the **FINAL PLAT IN THE ETJ – FENN PLATINUM GROUP, LLC**, A SUBDIVISION OF 4.239 ACRES (184,637 SQUARE FEET) OF LAND LOCATED IN M. ESCALERO SURVEY, A-170 CITY OF ARCOLA, FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS. 1 BLOCK, 1 RESERVE was made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Council Member E. Jones.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- A. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the 2nd Quarterly Investment Report and other related matters. ***Ruthie Cable, Finance Director.***

Ruthie Cable, Finance Director gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VI-A: The approval on the 2nd Quarterly Investment Report and other related matters was made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- B. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the update on the City’s Travel Policy for the city employees and City Officials. ***Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator***

Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VI-B: The approval on the update on the City’s Travel Policy for the city employees and City Officials was made by Council Member R. Bigby and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- C. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the update of the Inflow & Infiltration Project Report including funding and other related matters. *Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.*

Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc. gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

VII. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

- A. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on a Lease Agreement between the **FIRST NATIONAL BANK DBA FIRST NATIONAL BANK LEASING** and the City of Arcola for a four-year lease agreement, not to exceed \$79,804.64 per year for Police Vehicles.
Police Chief Carr-Bryant

Police Chief Carr-Bryant gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to Approve, Item VII-A: The approval on a Lease Agreement between the **FIRST NATIONAL BANK DBA FIRST NATIONAL BANK LEASING** and the City of Arcola for a four-year lease agreement, not to exceed \$79,804.64 per year for Police Vehicles was made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion Passed.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

VIII. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on **CITY OF ARCOLA ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06-25A**, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA, TEXAS PROVIDING FOR A SPENDING LIMIT FOR THE MAYOR IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) SUBJECT TO ALL APPLICABLE CITY POLICIES AND STATE REGULATIONS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Justin Pruitt, City Attorney

Justin Pruitt, City Attorney gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to Approve, Item VIII-A: The approval to the **CITY OF ARCOLA ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06-25A** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA, TEXAS PROVIDING FOR A SPENDING LIMIT FOR THE MAYOR IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) SUBJECT TO ALL APPLICABLE CITY POLICIES AND STATE REGULATIONS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE was made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion Passed.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- B. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on **CITY OF ARCOLA ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06-25B**, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA, TEXAS TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE GRANTING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS TO QUALIFIED PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE CITY OF ARCOLA OF A RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD OR WHO ARE 65 OR OLDER OR ARE DISABLED.”

Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator

Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VIII-B: The approval to the **CITY OF ARCOLA ORDINANCE NO. 2024-06-25B** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA, TEXAS TO APPROVE AN ORDINANCE GRANTING PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS TO QUALIFIED PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE CITY OF ARCOLA OF A RESIDENCE HOMESTEAD OR WHO ARE 65 OR OLDER OR ARE DISABLED” was made by Council Member E. Jones and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- C. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the **CITY OF ARCOLA RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024D**, A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA TO DECLARE THE CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP AS A REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING FOR EACH REGULAR OR SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING EACH MONTH. *Justin Pruitt, City Attorney*

Justin Pruitt, City Attorney gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VIII-C: The approval to the **CITY OF ARCOLA RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024D**, A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA TO DECLARE THE CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP AS A REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING FOR EACH REGULAR OR SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING EACH MONTH was made by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- D. Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the **CITY OF ARCOLA RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024E**, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH FORT BEND COUNTY REGARDING FIRE INVESTIGATION SERVICES. *Police Chief Carr-Bryant*

Police Chief Carr-Bryant gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VIII-D: The approval to the **CITY OF ARCOLA RESOLUTION NO. 06-25-2024E**, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH FORT BEND COUNTY REGARDING FIRE INVESTIGATION SERVICES was made by Council Member G. Abarr and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Williams **adjourned** the meeting at **7:54 p.m.**

A motion to **Approve**, Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco and seconded by Council Member E. Jones, the motion **Passed**.

Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson, Mayor Pro Tem E. Sanco, Mayor Williams

Coretta Edwards, Assistant City Secretary

