



CITY OF ARCOLA

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MINUTES

Arcola City Hall
13222 Highway 6
Arcola, Texas 77583

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

6:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Veeda V. Williams

Mayor Veeda Williams called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

INVOCATION

Council Member Eveyln Jones

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro-Tem Ebony Sanco

ROLL CALL

Mayor, Council Members and Administration

QUORUM PRESENT

City Council Members that were present.

Council Member E. Jones; Council Member G. Abarr; Council Member Florence Jackson; Mayor Pro - Tem E. Sanco; Mayor Veeda V. Williams; Council Member R. Bigby arrived at 6:03pm

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.

1) Priscilla T Graham

II. 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 Ebony Sanco, and Council Member Rosemary Bigby.

Council Members did not have any comments

III. 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 February 11, 2025. *Ingrid Flornoy, City Secretary*

A motion to **Approve**, Items III-A is a Consent Agenda item listed is considered to be routine by the City Council and was enacted by one motion 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

IV. MATTERS HELD

- A. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action on AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCOLA, TEXAS ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS; AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR DESIGNEE TO AMEND THE CITY BUDGET TO ACCOUNT FOR ANY SUCH COMPENSATION; REPEALING ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Item was **Tabled** July 9, 2024.) *Mayor Veeda. V. Williams, PhD*

A motion to **Approve**, to instruct staff to come back at a later date with an ordinance change to increase the compensation of the Mayor and Council Members from \$75.00 to \$100.00 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- B.** Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve the Financial Reports for October, 2024, November, 2024, and December, 2024. (Item was **Tabled** on February 11, 2025). **Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator**

A motion to **Approve**, Item IV: B Financial Reports for October, 2024, November, 2024, and December, 2024. (Item was **Tabled** on February 11, 2025) 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- C.** Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve the **Employee Handbook**. (Item was **Tabled** on February 11, 2025.) **Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator**

A motion to **Approve**, Item IV: C the **Employee Handbook**. (Item was **Tabled** on February 11, 2025) 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- D.** Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve the **JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT AND CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES** between Fort Bend County and the City of Arcola for a joint May 3, 2025 election in the amount of \$6,111.00 (General Fund). (Item was **Tabled** on February 11, 2025.) **Ingrid Flornoy, City Secretary**

A motion to **Approve**, Item IV: D the the **JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT AND CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES** between Fort Bend County and the City of Arcola for a joint May 3, 2025 election in the amount of \$6,111.00 (General Fund). (Item was **Tabled** on February 11, 2025) was made by Council Member Mayor Pro-Tem, 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

V. PRESENTATIONS (INFORMATION ONLY)

- A. Moment of Silence in honor of George Johnson- *Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator*
- B. Notice of CenterPoint Energy's 2025 Gas Reliability Infrastructure Program- *Judy Smith, CenterPoint Energy, Operations Manager*
- C. Application of CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC for Approval to Amend its Distribution Recovery Cost Factor- *David Olson, City Attorney*
- D. February 2025 Permit Monthly Report- *Lyneshia Garrette, Permit Manager*
- E. City Engineer Report- *Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.*
- F. Presentation of Capital Improvement Financing- *Tina Peterman, Masterson Advisors, Financial Advisor*
- G. Proclamations - *Mayor Veeda. V. Williams, PhD:*
 - a) Aging Gracefully Assisted Living Residence
 - b) Deputy Jesus "Jesse" Vargas
- H. State of the City- *Mayor Veeda. V. Williams, PhD*

VI. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve the February, 2025 Municipal Operations and Consulting (MOC) report. *Roland Leal, MOC Area Manager Operations*

Mr. Roland Leal, Area Manager Operations, gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to Approve, Item VI-A: The approval of the February, 2025 Municipal Operations and Consulting (MOC) report 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- B. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve the 2024 Police Racial Profiling Report. *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 VI-B: the 2024 Police Racial Profiling Report 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- C. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve a Resolution authorizing Publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2025. ***Mayor Veeda V. Williams, PhD, and Reginald Wilson, Partner with Norton Rose Fullbright US LLP***

Reginald Wilson gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VI-C: a Resolution authorizing Publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2025 was made by Council Member E. Jones, and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco, the motion **Passed**.

Roll Call Vote - Ayes: Council Member E. Jones, Council Member G. Abarr, Council Member R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- D. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve the Quarterly Investment Reports for FY24. ***Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator***

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

A motion to **Approve**, Item VI-D: the Quarterly Investment Reports for FY24 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- E. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve payment invoice to Flood & Flood Attorneys At Law in the amount of \$12,592.50 (General Fund). ***David Olson, City Attorney***

David Olson gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VI-E: payment invoice to Flood & Flood Attorneys At Law in the amount of \$12,592.50 (General Fund) 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 R. Bigby, Council Member F. Jackson and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: Council Member G. Abarr

Motion carried. 4-1

VII. PLANS, PLATS AND PERMITS

- A.** Discussion, consideration of and possible action approving a variance request to omit sidewalks along the commercial reserves in **Post Oak Pointe Commercial**. *Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.*

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

A motion to Approve, Item VII-A: a variance request to omit sidewalks along the commercial reserves in **Post Oak Pointe Commercial** was made by Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco, 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- B.** Discussion, consideration of and possible action approving a variance request to modify the original approved General Plan for **Reverie Ranch** regarding connections of public roads within the development to Porter Road and Kathy Lane. *Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.*

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

A motion to Approve, Item VII-B: approving a variance request to modify the original approved General Plan for **Reverie Ranch** regarding connections of public roads within the development to Porter Road and Kathy Lane 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- C.** Discussion, consideration of and possible action to accept a **Preliminary Plat of Reverie Ranch Section 2**, along Fenn Rd and FM 521, City of Arcola, Fort Bend County, Texas. *Llarance Turner, Kaluza, Inc.*

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

A motion to Approve, Item VII-C: to accept a **Preliminary Plat of Reverie Ranch Section 2**, along Fenn Rd and FM 521, City of Arcola, Fort Bend County, Texas 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

VIII. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

- A. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to approve a contract with **Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP** to continue to represent the City of Arcola as the Bond Counsel for Certificates of Obligation in the amount of \$20,000.00 plus \$1.00 per \$1,000.00 of the principal amount of the obligations issued and authorize city staff to give notice of termination of prior finance advisory agreement with RBC Dain Rauscher. *Dr. Annette Goldberg, City Administrator*

Reginald Wilson gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VIII-A: a contract with **Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP** to continue to represent the City of Arcola as the Bond Counsel for Certificates of Obligation in the amount of \$20,000.00 plus \$1.00 per \$1,000.00 of the principal amount of the obligations issued and authorize city staff to give notice of termination of prior finance advisory agreement with RBC Dain Rauscher 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- B. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract to purchase two (2) parcels of land not to exceed the appraised value for the site of the **Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion** (Enterprise Fund). *David Olson, City Attorney*

David Olson gave a presentation, made comments and answered questions from the City Council.

A motion to **Approve**, Item VIII-B: to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract to purchase two (2) parcels of land not to exceed the appraised value for the site of the **Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion** (Enterprise Fund) was made by Council Member E. Jones, and seconded by Council Member G. Abarr, the motion **Passed**.

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

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

- C. Discussion, Consideration of and Possible Action to authorize the Mayor to sign an **Interlocal Agreement between Fort Bend County, Texas and the City of Arcola** for reimbursement for the purchase of two (2) parcels of land and associated costs for the site of the **Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion**. *David Olson, City Attorney*

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

A motion to **Approve**, Item VIII-C: Action to authorize the Mayor to sign an **Interlocal Agreement between Fort Bend County, Texas** and the **City of Arcola** for reimbursement for the purchase of two (2) parcels of land and associated costs for the site of the **Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion** 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 and Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco.

Nay: 0

Motion carried. 5-0

IX. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council will convene into Closed Executive Session as authorized under Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code for:

A. Consultation with Attorney. The city council will seek the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, or a settlement offer (section 551.071).

- a. Harris and Cole v. City of Arcola
- b. EEOC Claimant Charlene Holmes
- c. Lillie v. City of Arcola
- d. Miramontes v. City of Arcola
- e. Saenz v. City of Arcola
- f. Stewart v. City of Arcola
- g. Sanco v. City of Arcola et al

RECESS: The Mayor recessed the meeting into Closed Executive Session at 7:42 p.m. under Texas Local Government Code, Section 551.087, for the purpose of deliberation regarding Section 551.071 Consultations with Attorney.

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; David Olson, City Attorney; and Ingrid Flornoy, City Secretary

Mayor Pro-Tem E. Sanco recused herself on item IX-A-g: Sanco v. City of Arcola et al

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

RECONVENE: The Mayor reconvened into the regular meeting at 8:08 p.m. with no action to be taken.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

A motion to **Approve** to close out the city council meeting, was made by Council 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.

Nays: 0

Motion carried: 5-0

Ingrid Flornoy, City Secretary

