

ENNIS COMMISSION WORKSHOP MINUTES  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015  
6:00 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Thomas called to order the Workshop Meeting of the Ennis City Commission on Monday, November 2, 2015 at 6:07 p.m. in the City Commission Chamber of Ennis Municipal Building, 115 W. Brown Street, Ennis Texas 75119. With a quorum present to wit:

Russell Thomas	Mayor
Matt Walker	Mayor Pro Tem, Ward 6
Jeremie Salik	Commission Member, Ward 1
Ken Hackney	Commission Member, Ward 3
Brian Holley	Commission Member, Ward 5

The following Commission Members were absent:

Marco Hernandez	Commission Member, Ward 2
Lola Searcy	Commission Member, Ward 4

The following Staff members were present when the workshop meeting was called to order:

Interim City Manager	John Hatchel
Interim City Secretary	Shirley Acy-King
City Attorney	Richard Wilson
Chief of Police	John Erisman
ED Director	Marty Nelson

Mayor Russell asked Interim City Manager Hatchel to brief the Commissioners on the agenda items.

Interim City Manager Hatchel asked Marty Nelson, Economic Development Director, to give an overview of the items on the Consent Agenda that involved the Economic Development Projects.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**3C. Approval of the City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of October 19, 2015.**

Interim City Manager Hatchel stated that Agenda item 14 should state that Commission Member Hackney moved to approve the item instead of the resolution. The Interim City Secretary had made the necessary corrections and a copy was placed before each Commission Member.

**5C. Consider an Ordinance on the First Reading to designate industrial Tax Abatement District #56 (Reinvestment Zone) Sterilite Corporation, Ennis, Texas, and authorize a Tax Abatement Agreement.**

Interim City Manager Hatchel stated that the Commission had approved this item for First Reading at the October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting and asked the Commission to approve the item on its second and final reading.

**6C. Consider an Ordinance on the First Reading to adopt the current Texas Board of Health Rules on “Food Services Sanitation”.**

Interim City Manager Hatchel stated that this Ordinance would bring the City of Ennis Food Services Establishment Regulations into compliance with current State Law.

**7C. Consider an Ordinance on the First Reading to establish a Comprehensive Policy Statement and Program for Economic Development Incentives in the form of a Historic Preservation Grant Program.**

Mayor Thomas stated that he had a conflict and would not participate in any discussions on this item. Mayor Thomas left the room.

Interim City Manager Hatchel asked Marty Nelson, Economic Development Director, to give a brief overview of the objectives and affects that this Ordinance would have on the City of Ennis. Mr. Nelson stated that this Ordinance would renew the historic preservation grant program by establishing a new version of the program that continues to incentivize private investors but eliminates the city tax reimbursement component. He further stated that the historic preservation grant program has, since its inception, stimulated private investment in the downtown at a level not seen before (approximately 3/1 investment ratio). The grant program is the primary incentive driving Downtown Revitalization and is vital to continuing the process for the next 2-3 years.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**8. A Public Hearing to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Ennis, Texas from “R-7” Single Family District to “D” Duplex District,**

Interim City Manager Hatchel stated that the zoning change would allow for possible four Duplex units to be constructed. In addition, he said that this change would allow for utilization of a vacant lot into a nice area for homes and add to the tax base for the City.

**ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**

**9. Consider a Resolution of votes cast to elect Directors for the Ellis Appraisal District for the years 2016-2017.**

Interim City Manager Hatchel stated that Section 6.03(k) of the Texas Property Tax Code requires that each taxing unit entitled to vote, cast their vote by Resolution and submit results of that vote to the Chief Appraiser of the Ellis County Appraiser District before December 15, 2015. He further stated that the Commission could cast all of their votes for one candidate or distribute their votes among any number of candidates or they could cast their votes for someone not listed on the official ballot.

**10. Consider a Resolution awarding the acquisition of one (1) street sweeper to TYMCO, Incorporated.**

Interim City Manager Hatchel stated that this sweeper would replace the current sweeper that has ongoing mechanical problems that are unserviceable.

**11 Consideration of appointments to Boards and Commissions.**

Interim City Manager Hatchel stated that Mayor Thomas had recommended the following individuals for appointment:

Theresa Snodgrass, Historical Landmark Commission (201 N. Gaines)

Elizabeth Fulton, Historical Landmark Commission (805 N. Dallas)

Joe Fulton, Zoning Board of Adjustment (805 N. Dallas)

Mayor Thomas stated that there were a vacancy on the Historical Landmark Commission and Ms. Snodgrass would be filling that vacancy. Mrs. Fulton would be replacing her husband Joe Fulton on the Historical Landmark Commission and that Mr. Fulton would serve as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

After all discussions had ceased, Interim City Manager Hatchel recommended approval of all items on the agenda.

**NON AGENDA ITEMS**

Interim City Manager Hatchel stated that he had some additional items that were not part of the agenda he would like to bring to the Commissioners attention.

The following are items he talked about:

Chris Hartung, Chris Hartung Consulting, LLC – received a number of resume regarding the City Manager’s search and wanted to meet with the Commission on Monday, November 16, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Hatchel asked the Commissioner’s if they would check their calendars and let his office know if they could attend.

Mr. Hatchel asked the City Commission and City Attorney Wilson for some guidelines to assist staff when using volunteers and they used their own electrical tools to protect the City.

Mr. Hatchel showed the City Commission sand that staff was purposing to use in the volley ball courts to upgrade their conditions.

Mr. Hatchel asked Marty Nelson, Economic Development Director, to give the Commission an Economic Development update. Mr. Nelson gave an overview of Sterilite, Downtown Master Plan and TCF Grant-Lake Group.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business before the Commission, Mayor Thomas declared the workshop meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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INTERIM CITY SECRETARY