

CITY OF ENNIS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 7, 2014

7:00 P.M.

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on April 7, 2014, in the City Commission Chambers of the City of Ennis Municipal Building, 115 W. Brown Street, Ennis, Texas 75119.

PRESENT: Mayor Thomas, Commissioners Salik, Frazier, Walker, and Searcy, City Manager Ewings, City Attorney Wilson, Chief Erisman, ED Coordinator Nelson, Director of Utilities Bolen, HR Coordinator Kellenberger, Lieutenant Anthony, Chief Aycock, Tourism Director Rokas, City Secretary Batchler, and News Media.

Commissioners Haupt and Holley were not in attendance.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Walker

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Mayor Thomas.

ROLL CALL to determine the presence of a quorum: The City Secretary called the roll and determined that a quorum was present.

MINUTES of the March 17, 2014, workshop were approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Salik and seconded by Commissioner Walker with all members present voting AYE. Minutes of the March 17, 2014 regular meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Searcy and seconded by Commissioner Salik with all members present voting AYE.

CITIZENS REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Thomas opened citizen's requests for public hearings at 7:03 p.m. Dr. Meg Sullivan with the Greater Ennis Development Alliance spoke regarding GEDA's request that the city hire a downtown development coordinator. The group came before the commission on January 21st and spoke about their mission and outlined their short-term goals. The goals are: Hire a downtown development coordinator, apply to the Texas Main Street Commission for Main Street designation, creation of a downtown master plan incorporated into the city's master plan, and implementation of a seasonal farmer's market. The Ennis Farmer's Market opens at the end of April and the city has retained the services of a consultant to apply for Main Street designation. At this time GEDA urged the city commission to make a decision within the next two weeks to hire a downtown development coordinator. Dennis Zembala, Angie Juenemann, and Dr. John Sullivan also spoke as proponents regarding the hiring of a downtown development coordinator.

At 7:15 p.m. Commissioner Searcy moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Frazier seconded and all members in attendance vote AYE.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Thomas opened the public hearing in regards to the proposed Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan at 7:16 p.m. Director of Utilities Bolen presented the plan. The Texas Water Development Board requires that cities maintain and update water conservation and drought contingency plans every five years. Ordinance 14-04-01 will repeal the previous water conservation and drought contingency plan and provide for a new plan. The new plan is similar to the previous with few changes. Changes include the latest utility profile, an adjustment to water loss goals, reference to current utility rates and plumbing code, and updated reference to current water production capabilities. Mayor Thomas asked for comment and there was none. At 7:23 p.m. Commissioner Salik moved to close the public hearing and Commissioner Frazier seconded. All members in attendance voted AYE.

FIRST READING

ORDINANCE 14-04-01

ORDINANCE 14-04-01 REPEALING ORDINANCE 09-03-04 AND ESTABLISHING A WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN; ESTABLISHING GOALS TO REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR THE INITIATION AND TERMINATION OF DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES; ESTABLISHING RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN WATER USES; ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF AND PROVISIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THESE RESTRICTIONS; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR GRANTING VARIANCES; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Salik moved to Pass, Approve, and Adopt Ordinance 14-04-01 on first reading. Commissioner Walker seconded and the members in attendance voted AYE.

ORDINANCE 14-04-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ENNIS, TEXAS, ADOPTING A SECTION 3 POLICY, AN EXCESSIVE FORCE POLICY, A SECTION 504 GRIEVANCE POLICY, AND CONTRACTORS GUIDELINES FOR CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR PROJECTS FUNDED BY U.S. HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS; ADOPTING EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT; DECLARING A POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY STATUS; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Ewings presented Ordinance 14-04-02. The city has been approved to receive disaster relief funds related to last year's tornado damage up to \$150,000. The funds are Community Development Block Grant funds administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. The grant process requires that policies must be adopted to include a Section 3 Policy, an Excessive Force Policy, a Section 504 Grievance Policy, and Contractors Guidelines, an Equal Employment Opportunity statement, and a Non-discrimination Base Disability statement.

Commissioner Salik moved to Pass, Approve, and Adopt on first reading Ordinance 14-04-02. Commissioner Walker seconded and all members in attendance voted AYE.

SECOND READING

ORDINANCE 14-03-05

ORDINANCE 14-03-05 DECLARING UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES IN THE MAY 10, 2014, GENERAL CITY ELECTION FOR MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS PLACE 1 AND PLACE 5 ELECTED TO OFFICE; CANCELING THE ELECTION FOR MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS PLACE 1 AND PLACE 5; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Salik moved to Pass, Approve, and Adopt Ordinance 14-03-05 on second and final reading. Commissioner Walker seconded and members in attendance voted AYE.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 14-04-03

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ENNIS, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS WITH PAVECON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,688,261.12 FOR THE 2014 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

City Manager Ewings presented Resolution 14-04-03 which will authorize award of bid to Pavecon, Inc. for construction of the 2014 Street Improvement Program in the amount of \$4,688,261.12. The program is funded by \$6,000,000.00 in Certificates of Obligation approved in March and issued April 1, 2014. Staff recommends awarding the bid to Pavecon.

Commissioner Frazier moved to pass and approve Resolution 14-04-03 authorizing the City Manger to execute documents regarding the 2014 Street Improvement Program construction bid. Commissioner Salik seconded and all members in attendance voted AYE.

RESOLUTION 14-04-04

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ENNIS, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT, NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000 PLUS EXPENSES, WITH CHRIS HARTUNG CONSULTING TO RECRUIT A DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR THE CITY OF ENNIS.

City Manager Ewings presented Resolution 14-04-04 recommending the hiring of Chris Hartung Consulting for the recruitment of a public works director.

Commissioner Salik moved to Pass and Approved Resolution 14-04-04 entering into an agreement with Chris Hartung Consulting for the recruitment of a public works director. Commissioner Frazier seconded and all members in attendance voted AYE.

RESOLUTION 14-04-05

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ENNIS, TEXAS, RECOGNIZING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH AND URGING ALL CITIZENS OF ENNIS, TEXAS, TO BECOME AWARE OF AND SUPPORT THE FAIR HOUSING LAW.

The city manager stated that Resolution 14-04-05 declares April as Fair Housing Month. It serves as an important declaration and meets the requirement to receive funding from the Community Development Block Grant for last year's tornado disaster recovery.

Commission Salik moved to Pass and Approve Resolution 14-04-05 declaring April as Fair Housing Month in Ennis, Texas. Commissioner Searcy seconded and the members in attendance voted AYE.

RESOLUTION 14-04-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ENNIS, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE CONTRACT FOR THE LEASE OF VOTING MACHINES BETWEEN ELLIS COUNTY, TEXAS AND THE CITY OF ENNIS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY SECRETARY TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ENNIS.

City Secretary Batchler presented Resolution 14-04-06 stating the Secretary of State has ruled that electronic voting systems must be accessible to voters with physical disabilities requiring at least one (1) electronic voting system at each polling place. This resolution authorizes the city secretary to enter into an agreement with Ellis County for the rental of one voting machine.

Commissioner Frazier moved to Pass and Approve Resolution 14-04-06. Commissioner Salik seconded and all members in attendance voted AYE.

PUBLIC FACILITIES USE PERMIT FOR THE 2014 POLKA FESTIVAL REQUESTED BY
THE ENNIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Commissioner Searcy moved to grant the public facilities use permit contingent upon the proposed route approval by the Ennis Police Department. Commissioner Frazier seconded and the members in attendance vote AYE.

APPOINTMENTS TO CITY OF ENNIS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS: There was no action taken.

REQUEST FROM CITY COMMISSION AND ROUNDTABLE:

Commissioner Searcy encouraged all to pray for the victims at Fort Hood. Commissioner Walker requested watering of trees along Ennis Ave.

With no further business, Mayor Thomas adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mathew K. Walker, Mayor Pro-tem

Donna Batchler, City Secretary

