

CITY OF ENNIS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 20, 2015

7:00 P.M.

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m. on April 20, 2015, in the City Commission Chambers of the City of Ennis Municipal Building, 115 W. Brown Street, Ennis, Texas 75119.

PRESENT: Mayor Thomas, Commissioners Frazier, Hackney, Walker, Searcy, and Holley, City Manager Ewings, City Attorney Wilson, Chief Erisman, City Secretary Batchler, Director of Finance Welch, Chief Aycock, ED Coordinator Nelson and Chief Building Inspector Richardson.

Commissioner Salik was not in attendance.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Frazier

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

Minutes of the April 6, 2015, workshop were approved with amendments on a motion by Commissioner Frazier and seconded by Commissioner Walker with all members present voting AYE. Minutes of the April 6, 2015, regular meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Frazier. Seconded by Commissioner Hackney with all members present voting AYE. 7-AYES, 0-NOES Measures carried.

CITIZENS REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING

No comments were received.

PUBLIC HEARING

The scheduled public hearing regarding the proposed FY 2015 Ennis Crime Control and Prevention District Budget was not held.

FIRST READING

ORDINANCE

An Ordinance approving the Ennis Crime Control and Prevention District FY 2015 Budget and appropriating funds for related programs and providing a severability clause and effective date. No action was taken

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ENNIS, TEXAS, AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF ENNIS, TEXAS, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OCTOBER 1, 2014 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR BUILDING INSPECTIONS; PROVIDING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS; PROVIDING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR ADMINISTRATION; CREATING AN INTEREST AND SINKING FUND; INCREASING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO SANITATION; CREATING A STREET MAINTENANCE SALES TAX FUND; PROVIDING ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT OVERTIME COSTS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Searcy moved to Pass, Approve, and Adopt the Ordinance amending the Fiscal Year Budget October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015 as presented on first reading. Commissioner Frazier seconded. Mayor Thomas, Commissioners Frazier, and Searcy voted AYE. Commissioners Hackney, Walker and Holley voted NO. 3-AYES, 3-NOES Measure failed. 3/5 vote is required.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC FACILITIES PERMIT

Commissioner Walker moved to grant the Public Facilities Permit to the Rotary Club of Ennis for the 2015 Polkafest Walk/Run. Commissioner Holley seconded and all members in attendance voted AYE. 6-AYES, 0-NOES Measure carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO MAIN STREET BOARD

No action was taken

2015 HISTORIC LANDMARK TAX EXEMPTIONS PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 89-04-09 AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE 94-02-01

Commissioner Holley moved to approve the ninety-one (91) 2015 Historic Landmark Tax Exemptions applications. The exemption is up to twenty-five percent of the value of the property, not to exceed \$25,000.00 per property. The approximate maximum exempt amount for the ninety-one (91) properties is \$1,809,305.00. The approximate tax revenue loss is \$12,574.67.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Frazier and all members in attendance voted AYE. 6-AYES, 0-NOES Measure carried.

REQUEST FROM CITY COMMISSION AND ROUND TABLE

Commissioner Walker stated he would like to see where we are on revenue and expenditures. City Manager Ewings stated our quarterly report will be out soon. Commissioner Searcy stated “Tonight there has been a lot of healthy debate, and I realize that we are not always going to agree; I always try to keep in mind the way this city was when we were pursuing our 5th State Championship. It seemed like we cared for each other and we supported each other good or bad. We were all supportive and I would like to see us keep that attitude in here. I’m here because the 2800 people who live in the 4th Ward chose me as their mouth piece. Let’s keep in mind who we represent. We’ve got to do what we need to do to make this city run better, safer, healthier and more viable. We will get through it together.” Commissioner Holley requested from Director of Finance Welch a one page monthly financial statement that shows where we are revenue verse expenditures every month. Mayor Thomas stated that he appreciated what Commissioner Searcy just said. The difference of opinion means absolutely nothing but good healthy debate. I would like to tell you what Ennis really is. It is the multitudes that were turned away Saturday from a blood drive for my daughter. It is the special church service that was given for her Sunday afternoon. It is every church in town has her on their prayer list, it is everybody in between is praying for her. It’s so strong and compassionate that none of this means anything other than to do our best to govern the city. And that is what I feel Ennis is about. We will get all the little difficulties worked out.” Mayor Thomas expressed his appreciation to the community.

With no further business, Mayor Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

ATTEST:

Russell R. Thomas, Mayor

Donna Batchler, City Secretary

