

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTIES OF POTTER  
AND RANDALL  
CITY OF AMARILLO

On the 19th day of May 2015, the Amarillo City Council met at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall on the third floor in Room 303 in the Conference Room for review of agenda items, and consideration of future agenda items.

The City Council met at 3:00 p.m. in regular session in the Council Chamber located on the third floor of City Hall at 509 Southeast 7th Avenue, with the following members present:

PAUL HARPOLE	MAYOR
ELLEN ROBERTSON GREEN	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 1
BRIAN EADES	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 2
LILIA ESCAJEDA	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 3
RONALD BOYD	COUNCILMEMBER NO. 4

Absent were none. Also in attendance were the following administrative officials:

JARRETT ATKINSON	CITY MANAGER
VICKI COVEY	DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
MARCUS NORRIS	CITY ATTORNEY
CRIS VALDERDE	SENIOR PLANNER
FRANCES HIBBS	CITY SECRETARY

The invocation was given by Gene Shelburne, Anna Street Church of Christ. Mayor Harpole led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Harpole established a quorum, called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance and the following items of business were conducted:

ITEM 1: Mayor Harpole presented the minutes of May 12, 2015. Motion was made by Councilmember Boyd to approve the minutes as amended; motion was seconded by Councilmember Escajeda, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes.

ITEM 2: Mayor Harpole presented resolution canvasses the returns and declares the results of the regular election held on May 9, 2015 and orders a run-off election to be held on June 13, 2015, for Place 4 including designating early voting times and polling places for early voting days and election day. Motion was made by Councilmember Escajeda, seconded by Councilmember Green, that the following captioned resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 05-19-15-1

A RESOLUTION CANVASSING THE RETURNS AND DECLARING THE RESULTS FOR THE REGULAR ELECTION HELD IN THE CITY OF AMARILLO ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2015 FOR CITY OFFICES; ORDERING THE RUN-OFF ELECTION OF THE CITY OF AMARILLO TO BE CONDUCTED ON THE 13<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2015 IN THE CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS; DESIGNATING POLLING PLACES; AND PROVIDING FOR THE CONDUCT OF SUCH ELECTION.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Green, Eades, Escajeda, and Boyd; voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

ITEM 3: Remarks were made by outgoing Councilmember Escajeda and Councilmember Green regarding their service on the City Council.

ITEM 4: The Oath of Office for the incoming Mayor and Councilmembers was conducted by the Honorable Morris Overstreet.

The following Amarillo City Council members took their places on the dais:

ELISHA DEMERSON  
RANDY BURKETT

COUNCILMEMBER NO. 1  
COUNCILMEMBER NO. 3

ITEM 5: Mayor Harpole and the Councilmembers made comments regarding their service on the City Council.

ITEM 6: Mayor Harpole presented an ordinance appointing Sunny H. Ratliff as a part-time Associate Judge for the City of Amarillo Municipal Court. This appointment is for the remainder of the current fiscal year and two (2) year period. Motion was made by Councilmember Eades, seconded by Councilmember Boyd, that the following captioned ordinance be passed on first reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 7531

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS: APPOINTING A PART-TIME MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE CURRENT JUDICIAL TERM OF FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 AND FOR THE FULL JUDICIAL TERMS OF FISCAL YEARS 2015-2016 AND 2016-2017; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Eades, Burkett, and Boyd; voting NO was Councilmember Demerson; the motion carried by a 4:1 vote of the Council.

ITEM 7: Mayor Harpole presented an ordinance amending the Amarillo Municipal Code, Chapter 2-6, Article XVI, to amend certain elements regarding the Emergency Care Advisory Board (ECAB). The proposed amendment will expand the membership of the ECAB to include a representative from the Thomas H. Creek Veterans Administration Medical Center and to expand the definition of eligible members for the current EMS receiving hospitals. Councilmember Eades stated the VA medical center has no greater mission than to serve veterans, and they have a lot of acute care. This amendment opens up the board to all physicians not just emergency room physicians. Motion was made by Councilmember Demerson, seconded by Councilmember Boyd, that the following captioned ordinance be passed on first reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 7532

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS: AMENDING THE AMARILLO MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 2-6 ARTICLE XVI, SECTION 2-6-121 TO AMEND THE COMPOSITION OF THE EMERGENCY CARE ADVISORY BOARD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Demerson, Eades, Burkett, and Boyd; voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

ITEM 8: Mayor Harpole presented an ordinance vacating a 20-foot alley in Block 110, Plemons Addition, in Section 170, Block 2, AB&M Survey, Potter County, Texas. This vacation request is to consolidate the east and west halves of Block 110 in anticipation of upcoming development of the Southwestern Public Service (Xcel Energy) headquarters building. This is recommended for approval by a 5:0 vote of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Motion was made by Councilmember Boyd, seconded by Councilmember Burkett, that the following captioned ordinance be passed on first reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 7533

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF Amarillo, TEXAS: DETERMINING LACK OF PUBLIC NECESSITY FOR AN ALLEY IN THE VICINITY OF SOUTHEAST SEVENTH AVENUE AND BUCHANAN STREET, POTTER COUNTY, TEXAS; VACATING AND ABANDONING THE HEREIN-DESCRIBED ALLEY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Demerson, Eades, Burkett, and

Boyd; voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

**ITEM 9:** Mayor Harpole presented an ordinance vacating portions of an existing 20-foot alley in Section 149, Block 2, AB&M Survey, Randall County, in the vicinity of Osage Street and Southridge Drive. The vacation request is located in the City's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) and was originally dedicated via a plat of Arrowhead Unit No. 1. Motion was made by Councilmember Burkett to table this item until June 9; seconded by Councilmember Eades.

ORDINANCE NO. 7530

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS: DETERMINING LACK OF PUBLIC NECESSITY FOR PORTIONS OF AN ALLEY IN THE VICINITY OF OSAGE STREET AND SOUTHRIDGE DRIVE, RANDALL COUNTY, TEXAS; VACATING AND ABANDONING THE HEREIN-DESCRIBED ALLEY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

**ITEM 10:** Mayor Harpole presented a resolution conducting a public hearing on the Amarillo City Transit's Program of Projects and authorizes the City of Amarillo to submit grant applications to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for fiscal year 2015-16 operating and capital assistance. The FTA funding assists with 80% of capital projects and 50% of the operating costs of the Transit system.

Mr. Atkinson stated that when the 2021 census comes around and the City's population is over 200,000, the City will lose the Federal Transit funding. Judy Phelps, Transit Manager, stated citizens who ride the buses rely on public transportation and many would not be able to leave their neighborhoods so public transportation is valuable to the riders, and provides a great service to the community. Councilmember Demerson inquired how often the bus routes get evaluated to make sure they are being utilized. Ms. Phelps replied they constantly receive feedback from customers. Transit will make adjustments to time schedule, evaluate them and make sure the routes have accessible ramp cuts. The bus locations are proximate to the utilized services of various agencies. Claudia Stravato, 1010 South Avondale Street, stated that the Harrington Regional area and Texas Tech Medical Center has a high rate of no-shows due to transportation problems and getting patients to their appointments. Allen Finegold, 2601 North Grand Street, stated he is a regular rider of the bus system. He stated an outside audit should be done beginning at the transfer station. Mr. Atkinson stated the buses are GPS tracked and they know when and where they are, and if they are on-time. Ms. Phelps also stated there are times when they have a shortage of bus drivers so they have to cover additional routes.

Carolyn Thornton, 1947 South Marrs Street, stated the transit system is not adequate and not efficient because of the size of the city and not having enough bus drivers. Mayor Harpole stated the City has training for drivers to obtain their CDL. Councilmember Burkett replied that the hourly rate may need to be evaluated. Victor Leal, 1556 South Alabama Street, inquired if the City was looking into using smart phone technology or a public-private partnership with volunteers. Ms. Phelps replied Transit is looking into putting into the next budget software where someone could find where a bus is located, links to the City's website to schedule rides, which would improve productivity and get more information to customers.

Motion was made by Councilmember Eades, seconded by Councilmember Demerson, that the following captioned resolution be passed:

RESOLUTION NO. 05-19-15-2

A RESOLUTION A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF AMARILLO, TEXAS CONDUCTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE AMARILLO CITY TRANSIT PROGRAM OF PROJECTS; AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A GRANT UNDER THE URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 1964, AS AMENDED; PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A

## SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Demerson, Eades, Burkett, and Boyd; voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

**ITEM 11:** Mayor Harpole presented a resolution approving the application for the 2015 JAG Grant and the related Interlocal Agreement with Potter County. Under the terms of the grant, the City of Amarillo will apply for \$94,805.00 and will allocate the grant proceeds on an equal basis with Potter County. The Amarillo Police Department will use \$47,402.50 which is the City's portion of the grant to purchase additional in-car ticket writers. Motion was made by Councilmember Demerson, seconded by Councilmember Boyd, that the following captioned resolution be passed:

## RESOLUTION NO. 05-19-15-3

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF AMARILLO, TEXAS CONDUCTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE AMARILLO CITY TRANSIT PROGRAM OF PROJECTS; AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A GRANT UNDER THE URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 1964, AMENDED; PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Demerson, Eades, Burkett, and Boyd; voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 5:0 vote of the Council.

**ITEM 12:** Mayor Harpole presented the consent agenda and asked if any item should be removed for discussion or separate consideration. There were none. Motion was made by Councilmember Boyd, to approve the consent agenda, motion was seconded by Councilmember Burkett, and unanimously carried, to approve the consent agenda and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary for each transaction.

- A. Award – Simms Municipal Building Renovations -- \$4,284,494.00:  
Award to low responsive bidder: Southwest General Contractors, Inc.

This item awards the contract for the renovation of the Simms Municipal Building at 808 South Buchanan Street. The recommended award consists of the base bid of \$4,252,014.00 and Alternate No. 3 for \$32,480.00 to install a glazing film to the interior storefront glass. This project will relocate the development related departments from City Hall to the Simms Building and assist in the further implementation of the One Stop Shop model. Funding for the project is available in the approved Capital Improvement Program Budget.

- B. Award – River Road Wastewater Reclamation Plant Positive Displacement Pumps -- \$105,777.00:  
Award to low responsive bidder: J & L Equipment and Odessa Pumps, Inc.

This item approves the purchase and installation of seven (7) new positive displacement pumps at the River Road Wastewater Reclamation Plant. The project will replace pumps which have exceeded their useful life and are obsolete. Funding for the project is available in the approved FY 2014-15 Capital Improvement Project budget for the River Road Plant.

- C. Approval Task Order #4 – Task Order #4 – Runway 4/22 Edge Lighting Rehabilitation:  
RS&H, Inc. -- \$132,800.00

This item approves a task order with RS&H, Inc. for the engineering design and bidding phase services for the rehabilitation of the edge lighting for the main runway at Rick Husband Amarillo International

Airport. This project is necessary to maintain service and meet required standards. Ninety percent (90%) of task order #4 will be funded by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) funding, with the remaining 10% funded by budgeted Airport Capital Improvement Project.

- D. Dedications and Acceptances:  
Dedication of a 20-foot water line easement in Section 11, Block 9, BS&F Survey, Potter County.


ITEM 13: Amarillo 101 graduation and recognition of the sixth class. Certificates were presented to: Steven Abrahamson, Jared Blake, Cindi Bulla, Terry Dickerson, Michael Graham, Anne Jones, Jack Light, Doug Loomis, Bennett Loy, Jena McFall, Eric Miller, Kathryn Palmer Pressley, Gary Papay, William Sumerford, Chris Tatus, Casy Wyatt, and two City employees, Jeff Konishi and Kelley Shaw. Individual comments were made by the group. Mr. Atkinson stated these 18 individuals, spent approximately 30 hours of their time in five classrooms and three field days. The participants were shown what the City is, who does it, why we do it, and how we pay for it. Favorable comments were also made regarding the City's operations, staff and employees. Mr. Atkinson thanked the class and staff for their time commitments.

Mayor Harpole announced that this is the end of the regular agenda, but time is reserved to hear any citizen concerning matters pertaining to City policies, programs or services not on today's agenda. The public forum is set under the Open Meetings Act and that during the public forum the City Council can respond with a statement of fact, a statement of city policy or decide whether to place an item on a future agenda.

Robert Goodrich, 4111 Stony Point, stated he was disgusted by the enormous amount of trash taken to the landfill. Mr. Goodrich also expressed his appreciation for everyone who voted and hoped the outcome was just as great for the run-off election. Arthur Crosser, 5218 Floyd, stated he believed the Herring Hotel needed to be restored. He stated the cell phone ordinance should have been put to a vote, and he did not believe Amarillo needed to be any bigger or needed any more people. He further stated that politics was creeping into judgment with the police department.

Councilmember Eades reminded the audience that the Council could not debate issues not on the agenda and they were only able by law to state fact, policy, refer to staff, or put something on future agenda. Nathan Smith, inquired what the City was doing about climate changes, long-term plans in case of long-term drought; and how they could get away from infinite resources. Mayor Harpole replied that the City does have a water contingency policy if the City was in drought conditions and he believed there were other policies in place. John Ingerson, 4706 West 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, congratulated the election winners. There were no further comments. Mayor Harpole advised that the meeting was adjourned and the Council would return to Work Session then Closed Session.

ATTEST:

  
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Frances Hibbs, City Secretary

  
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Paul Harpole, Mayor