

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF POTTER
AND RANDALL
CITY OF AMARILLO

On the 14th day of July 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
ELISHA L. DEMERSON
BRIAN J. EADES
RANDY BURKETT

MAYOR
COUNCILMEMBER NO. 1
COUNCILMEMBER NO. 2
COUNCILMEMBER NO. 3

Absent was Councilmember Mark Nair. Also in attendance were the following administrative officials:

JARRETT ATKINSON
VICKI COVEY
MARCUS NORRIS
KELLEY SHAW
FRANCES HIBBS

CITY MANAGER
DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
CITY ATTORNEY
PLANNING DIRECTOR
CITY SECRETARY

The invocation was given by Brady Clark, Hillside Christian Church. 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 for July 6, 2015 and July 7, 2015. Motion was made by Councilmember Demerson to approve the minutes as presented; motion was seconded by Councilmember Burkett, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes.

ITEM 2: Mayor Harpole advised that an appointment is needed for a certain boards and commissions. Motion was made by Councilmember Burkett, seconded by Councilmember Eades, and unanimously carried to appoint to the Amarillo MPO Policy Committee, Mark Nair to replace Ellen Robertson Green, such term to expire January 1, 2017.

Voting AYE were Mayor Harpole, Councilmembers Demerson, Eades, and Burkett; voting NO were none; the motion carried by a 4:0 vote of the Council.

ITEM 3: 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 Eades, to approve the consent agenda, motion was seconded by Councilmember Demerson, and unanimously carried, to approve the consent agenda and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary for each transaction.

- A. Purchase – Grinder/Macerator Parts:
Award to sole provider – JWC Environmental, LLC -- \$59,492.54

This item approves the purchase of replacement parts and a controller panel for a grinder/macerator machine at the existing Lift Station #26 on the City's wastewater collection system. This machine ensures the proper operation of this Lift Station and wastewater collection system by preventing objects from impeding the flow through the Lift Station. JWC Environmental is the proprietary provider of parts and controllers for this existing machine. Funding for this purchase is available in the approved

Wastewater Collection Department budget.

- B. Purchase – Toughbook Computer Hardware:
Award on Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) Cooperative Purchasing Contract to: Austin Ribbon and Computer Supplies, Inc. - \$69,764.48

This item approves the purchase of sixteen (16) Panasonic CF-31 Toughbook laptop computers and associated components with enhanced memory and theft management/security capabilities. These mobile, in-car computers are scheduled replacements for existing public safety units that have reached their usable lifespan. Funding for this purchase is available in the approved Information Technology infrastructure and support budget.

- C. Acceptance – Texas A&M Forest Service Memorandum of Understanding Parties:
City of Amarillo and Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS)

This item approves a five-year memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the City of Amarillo Fire Department and the Texas Forest Service. Under the terms of the MOU, Amarillo Fire Department personnel will be able to participate in certain prescribed fire activities conducted by the TFS in the area. Participation in these activities provides essential life-fire training to members of the Amarillo Fire Department. There is no cost or reimbursement to either party under this MOU.

- D. Acceptance TXDOT Bus and Bus Facilities Grant -- \$170,437.00:

This item considers the acceptance of a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) for the Amarillo City Transit system. TXDOT is providing \$170,437.00 in current funding to the City. The funds will be used to replace 459 bus stop signs, poles, and hardware as well as purchase additional signs for future use or replacement. There are no required local matching funds under the terms of the grant.

- E. Acceptance – TXDPS Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Award -- \$73,229.11:

This item accepts the FY 2015 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) from the Texas Department of Public Safety. This grant funding is a 6-month extension to the program that supports the on-going program of services provided by the Office of Emergency management (OEM) to the residents of Amarillo and both Potter and Randall Counties. The grant period runs from October, 2014 through March, 2016 with the particular identified funding for the FY 15 EMPG grant year.

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.

Edmund Johnston, 2116 South Hayden Street, stated he did not believe the tax abatement for the downtown hotel was fair since there was not tax abatements for the other hotels. He further stated he would like to see the multi-purpose venue on a ballot for voters to decide. Jesse Pfrimmer, 5723 South Milam Street, stated he has made improvements to his property by building a retaining wall to prevent drainage from his property, and he added air lock to his floor space to conserve energy. He stated his property taxes increased \$33 per year due to his improvements and he questioned the drainage fee and compared it to another square foot house.

Emily Bell, 4821 West 10th Avenue, stated there have been decades of meetings over the downtown projects and the City would be remise if it does not continue. She further

stated it was time for us to grow and should not be put to a vote. Lilly Gamble, 7105 Chelsea Drive, inquired as to what was holding up the downtown catalyst projects. Mayor Harpole reminded everyone that there could be no debate at this time and they were limited on how they could respond. Councilmember Burkett stated he would like to see a business model and that he has asked for one but has not yet seen one. Mr. Patel, 112 West Amarillo Boulevard, presented photos of several concerns. He inquired when the City would start to clean up Amarillo Boulevard. He stated there was a junk yard on Amarillo Boulevard that had no space between the wall and asked if height was a consideration. He inquired as to how many Historical Route 66 signs were posted and stated they were not visible at night. He also stated the need to plant additional trees and flowers. Mayor Harpole stated they have discussed many of these things including a TIRZ Zone on Amarillo Boulevard. Mayor Harpole stated they were meeting with TxDot in approximately three weeks to interface and discuss the beautification of the highways and the lack thereof. Councilmember Burkett inquired if TxDot regulated junk yards and a possible duty to enforce restrictions.

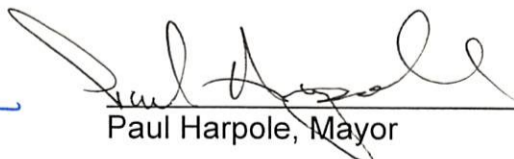
Meagan Riddlesburger, 6900 Alpine Lane, asked Councilmember Burkett if he had asked for a business model, to whom he asked, and once he received the model would it be enough to satisfy him. Councilmember Burkett answered he promised the voters this issue would go to a vote. Mayor Harpole stated the business model is not yet finely developed and not quite ready. William Sumerford, 6103 Blue Sage Circle, stated he would like to see a third-party who studies these types of venues present their findings. Mayor Harpole stated there were eleven ballparks on the DAI's website showing how they did it, studies that did very well, badly and neutral. He further asked if Melissa Dailey could give the Council a presentation. Councilmember Burkett stated they were trying to get Heywood Sanders, a professor at UT in San Antonio here to enlighten everyone. AJ Stamps, 4819 McKinley Avenue, stated he would like to see the downtown catalyst projects provide more entertainment. He asked the Council to push this forward as a Council. Councilmember Burkett inquired as to the average age of the Amarillo Millennial Movement group. Lilly Gamble answered between 17-20.

Cindi Bulla, 1400 Reagan Court, urged the new Councilmembers to not forget the actual and consequential consequences. The City must weigh the impact of the consequences and actual costs, and the matter did not need to go to the voters because that is why the Council was elected. Dipak Patel, 47 Colonial Drive, asked that the downtown projects be put to an election. Councilmember Burkett inquired as to the cut-off date for calling an election. Mr. Norris responded 78 days before the election day. Jeremy Shelton, 1013 Shasta Drive, inquired about the smoking ban. Mayor Harpole stated it was voted on but did not pass. Mr. Shelton stated the important part of the MPEV would be managing and attracting concerts to make it viable. Sharon Bowers, 6700 Smoketree Drive, stated after hearing the professional approach at the July 1st meeting, she was now in favor of the revitalization projects, and stated Amarillo would be remise in not moving forward. She challenged the new Council to come up with fresh ideas. Christen Cook, 6040 Belpree, stated Amarillo has a proud history, but it is too focused on history, and not focusing on where we are going. He encouraged Council to push Amarillo into the future, and put Amarillo on the map as a city to be considered for its wonderful place that people will recognize for entertainment venues. 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:

for 
Frances Hibbs, City Secretary


Paul Harpole, Mayor