

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTIES OF POTTER
AND RANDALL
CITY OF AMARILLO

On the 29th day of November 2011, the Amarillo City Commission 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 Commission met at 3:00 p.m. in regular session in the Commission Chamber located on the third floor of City Hall at 509 E. 7th Avenue, with the following members present:

PAUL HARPOLE	MAYOR
ELLEN ROBERTSON GREEN	COMMISSIONER NO. 1
BRIAN EADES	COMMISSIONER NO. 2
LILIA ESCAJEDA	COMMISSIONER NO. 3
JIM SIMMS	COMMISSIONER NO. 4

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

JARRETT ATKINSON	CITY MANAGER
VICKI COVEY	ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
DEAN FRIGO	ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
MARCUS NORRIS	CITY ATTORNEY
KELLEY SHAW	PLANNING DIRECTOR
DONNA DERIGHT	CITY SECRETARY

The invocation was given by Tiller Watson, New Hope Baptist Church. Mayor Harpole led 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 November 22, 2011. Motion was made by Commissioner Simms, seconded by Commissioner Escajeda, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes.

ITEM 2: Mayor Harpole presented an ordinance vacating a 20-foot drainage easement in Section 39, Block 9, BS&F Survey, Randall County, in the vicinity of Coulter Street and Arden Road. Motion was made by Commissioner Escajeda, seconded by Commissioner Eades, that the following captioned ordinance be passed on second and final reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 7306

AN ORDINANCE DETERMINING LACK OF PUBLIC NECESSITY FOR AN EASEMENT IN THE VICINITY OF COULTER STREET AND ARDEN ROAD, RANDALL COUNTY, TEXAS; VACATING AND ABANDONING THE HEREIN-DESCRIBED EASEMENT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

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

ITEM 3: Mayor Harpole presented for consideration the contract to provide hospital services to the City of Amarillo Health Plan. The City has both an open Request for Proposals (RFP) and an existing year-to-year contract available for the provision of these services. This item needs to be considered and acted on by either awarding the RFP to the highest evaluated proposer or by exercising its option to renew the existing year-to-year contract for one (1) additional year. The current contract for hospital services expires on December 31, 2011. Commissioner Escajeda stated that she serves as the Chairman of the Northwest Texas Hospital Board of Governors and therefore, would recuse herself from discussion, comment or vote on this item.

Mayor Harpole asked for comments and there were none. Motion was made by Commissioner Eades, seconded by Commissioner Green, to approve the contract to the highest evaluated proposer. Mayor Harpole asked for comments. Commissioner Simms stated that the RFP from Northwest Texas Hospital was reasonable and he is in favor of the motion. Mayor Harpole stated that he would rather award the one year extension to Baptist St. Anthony's because it would cost less than awarding the RFP. Commissioner Eades stated that Northwest Texas Hospital has been a good community partner in the city and provides excellent service. He stated that the objective is to keep down the cost of healthcare to the employees. Commissioner Green stated that she does not think the one year extension will save money. Alan Abraham, 7205 S.W. 35th, appeared and asked for clarification on what is being considered. Kathy Altman, 2105 S. Lipscomb, appeared and stated that whether an entity is taxing paying or not should have a factor in the choice. Mr. Norris advised that the taxing or non-taxing factor was not a part of the RFP and therefore, could not be considered in the recommendation. Kyle Sanders, CEO for Northwest Texas Hospital, appeared and advised that in the pre-bid conference he asked to have included in the RFP whether an entity is taxing paying or not. John Ingerson, 4706 W. 36th, appeared and stated that the Commission needs to take into consideration the employees and how this will affect them. Mr. Abraham appeared again and stated that taxpayer money is involved and the Commission should be mindful of that. There were no further comments.

Voting AYE were Commissioners Green, Eades and Simms; voting NO was Mayor Harpole; ABSTAINING was Commissioner Escajeda; the motion carried by a 3:1:1 vote of the Commission.

ITEM 4: Mayor Harpole presented the consent agenda and asked if any item should be removed for discussion or separate consideration. Motion was made by Commissioner Green, seconded by Commissioner Simms, and unanimously carried, to approve the consent agenda and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary for each transaction.

- A. Approval – Environmental Laboratory Equipment Maintenance Agreement:
Award to proprietary provider:
PerkinElmer Health Sciences, Inc. -- \$43,800.00

This approves the maintenance agreement for the Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectrometer (ICP) and the ICP-Mass Spectrometer (ICP-MS) instruments at the City Environmental Laboratory. These two instruments are heavily utilized and are essential for the operation of the Laboratory, especially as related to the detection and analysis of trace metals.

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. The public forum is set under the Open Meetings Act and that during the public forum the City Commission can respond with a statement of fact, a statement of city policy or decide whether to place an item on a future agenda. There were no comments.

Mayor Harpole advised that the City Commission would reconvene to Closed Session and the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Donna DeRight, City Secretary

Paul Harpole, Mayor