MINUTES
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL VIRTUAL MEETING
CITY ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 310 NORTH MAIN STREET
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cannon called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chris Cannon, Mayor
        Jessica Bega, Mayor Pro Tem
        Mary Penson, Council Member
        Sue Brashar, Council Member
        Forest Dennis, Council Member
        Susie Arreaga, Council Member
        Juan Gonzalez, Council Member

Mayor Cannon certified there was a quorum and stated that both Council Member Lopez and Council Member Jones notified him that they would not be in attendance.
Council Member Penson moved to excuse Council Members Lopez and Jones. Council Member Dennis seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

Staff:  Thomas L. Mattis, City Manager
        Charles Cunningham, Finance Director
        Michael Gonzalez, Parks Director
        Patrick South, Chief of Police
        Amy Miller, Community
        Owen Rock, Economic Development Director
        David Harrell, Planning Director

INVOCATION

Council Member Penson gave the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.
CITY MANAGERS REPORT

1. Update on City of Elgin Coronavirus Pandemic Response and/or Impacts.

City Manager Thomas Mattis spoke about the current status of the Coronavirus and the city response to that. He stated staff has been busy collecting information and sharing it but at times challenging to get information. He stated that all things considered, Elgin has fared well, and the city has responded well. Finance Director Charles Cunningham spoke on the impact on revenue and that the city was doing well in all areas. He stated that the Utility and General Fund were in good shape right now. Police Chief South spoke on enforcement and current situation with the EOC. He stated the EOC was established to deal with medical issues and they were doing a good job with that but the enforcement aspect was lacking and they were working through a number of challenges and working with Judge Pape and the Attorney to facilitate information to hold persons causing issues accountable. He stated at this point no charges are being filed, only educating people who violate direct orders about wearing masks and gatherings. Amy Miller, Public Information Officer spoke and stated she was working with the County getting out information and putting as much information on the city web page making it easier for the community to look for resources all in one place. Mr. Mattis stated that the swimming pool was another issue and making sure it made business sense to open. He stated the operational ramp up such as hiring lifeguards would take time and if the pool could not open until July then that would not make wise sense business. He stated the city was still issuing permits and projects on were still target. He stated staff was discussing transitioning back to normal city operations but that it would not be simply going back to level 3 but a gradual return and would vary department to department. He stated there had been no complaints or negative feedback and that the city has been responsive to the citizens so there was no pressure to return quickly.


Finance Director Charles Cunningham stated that this item would be moved to the next meeting.

3. Review and Discussion of FY2020-21 Annual Budget and Five-Year Capital Plan Adoption Calendar.

City Manager Thomas Mattis stated that the Budget Calendar was the same as every year, that the pattern was the same and Council could hold as many work sessions as needed. He stated the Charter required a meeting at the end of September.

4. General Activity Report and/or Project Update.

Mr. Mattis spoke about moving the polling place from the library to the Fleming Center as had been discussed in the past, and that he had spoken to the Elections Administrator in Bastrop County. He stated he was under the impression that moving it required Justice Department
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approval but was told that it was not required anymore, and that Council could make the decision to move it if they wanted to. After some discussion it was decided to leave the polling place at the library.

CONSENT AGENDA


Council Member Brashar moved to approve the March 17th and March 23rd meeting minutes. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS


Discussion only no vote taken.

2. Consider and Approve a COVID-19 Grant Program for Local Small Businesses in the amount of $50,000 with a Maximum Grant of $2,000 to approved applicants.

Council Member Brashar moved to approve the COVID-19 Grant Program. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

3. A RESOLUTION REGARDING A FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCURING “VEHICLES, ROLLING STOCK AND EQUIPMENT”.

Council Member Penson moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Arreaga seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

4. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS APPROVING AN ESCROW AGREEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,209,357 WITH LGI HOMES-TEXAS, LLC FOR PARTIAL CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO COUNTY LINE ROAD PURSUANT TO A COST PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES DATED SEPTEMBER 26, 2019; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO.

Council Member Dennis moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

5. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8, Article VI-SOLICITORS AND PEDDLERS, SECTIONS 8-140 THROUGH 8-160, CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, BY DELETING THIS SECTION IN ITS ENTIRETY AND REPLACING IT WITH A NEW PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS AND VENDORS ORDINANCE, PROVIDING A
SAVINGS CLAUSE; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Council Member Penson moved to approve the Ordinance as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Bega seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

6. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF $826,214, WITH ROYAL VISTA, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A CENTRAL LIFT STATION FOR THE CITY'S WASTEWATER SYSTEM AND MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS RELATED THERETO.

Council Member Penson moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Dennis seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

7. A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, RESPONDING TO THE APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY ENTEX, SOUTH TEXAS DIVISION TO INCREASE RATES UNDER THE GAS RELIABILITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM; SUSPENDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RATE APPLICATION FOR FORTY-FIVE DAYS; DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED COMPLIED WITH THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT; MAKING SUCH OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Council Member Brashar moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Penson seconds the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Cannon adjourned the City Council Meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Chris Cannon, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amelia Sanchez, City Secretary