

MINUTES OF THE
HENDERSON CITY COUNCIL
Regular Scheduled Meeting

March 19, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: *The Mayor will call the meeting to order, declare a quorum if present, and declare notices legally posted pursuant to Open Meetings Act.*

Mayor Fullen called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Council members present were Stephen Strong, Reggie Weatherton, Henry Pace, Melissa Morton, and Gina Juarez.

Staff members present were City Manager Jay Abercrombie, City Secretary Cheryl Jimerson, City Attorney Russell Brown, Chief of Police Chad Taylor, Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Stoddard, Director of Operations Davis Brown, Director of Public Services Kirk Kimbrell, Director of Utilities Randy Boyd, Planning and Zoning Administrator/Building Official Dennis Williams, Health Officer Wes Breitenberg, Finance Director Karen Arnall, Animal Center Director Charissa Pool, Civic Center Manager Stephanie Kimbrell, Main Street Corrdinator Alexa Duke, Executive Leadership Assistant/HR Specialist Hillary Faulkner, Communications and Marketing Coordinator Phedra Johnson, and HEDCO Director John Clary.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Council Member Reggie Weatherton gave the invocation, Mayor Fullen led the Pledges.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no citizens' comments.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation.

Mayor Fullen announced April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and read the Proclamation.

2. Annual Audit Presentation by Gollob Morgan Peddy, PC

Kevin Cashion gave a synopsis of the 2023 audit results. He referenced pages 1,2 and 3 explaining the Report of the Financial Statements. Kevin also went over pages 6, and 7, the breakdown of the city's net position, and separate audit of federal funds, ARP money.

3. Re-accreditation of the Henderson's Police Department Educational Program to be presented by Chief Cliff Caruth of the Marshall Police Department.

Marshall Police Department Chief presented the Police Department with a Certification Plaque for being in the top 7% of the approximately 200 agencies within Texas that are certified.

Mayor Fullen asked Health Officer Wes Breitenberg to update everyone on the City Clean-up.

Wes Breitenberg stated the Semi-annual Clean-up day is April 6th from 8 am to 5 pm. Items accepted are rimless standard tires, brush, limbs, lawn clippings, appliances, paper, plastic, cardboard, aluminum and electronics. Items NOT accepted are glass, batteries, oil, wet paint, chemicals, or human/animal waste.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Consideration of possible action upon the Minutes of the City Council Meeting from February 20, 2024.(Jimerson)
5. Consideration and Possible Action upon HEDCO financials for the month of January 2024. (Clary)

6. Consideration and possible action upon the City's Discrimination Policy. (Faulkner)
7. Consideration and possible action upon the City's Antifraud Policy (Faulkner)
8. Consideration and possible action allowing MPA Fireworks to shoot fireworks for a private event at the Henderson Civic Center for a duration of two minutes on March 29th, 2024. (Kimbrell)
9. Consideration and Possible action on Resolution for a FY24 Grant Application to receive 12 Body Worn Cameras

Council Member Henry Pace made a motion to pull and remove item 9 due to it being item 14 in the regular session of this agenda and approved the rest of the consent agenda, duly seconded by Council Member Reggie Weatherton. The vote was unanimous.

COUNCIL BUSINESS – REGULAR SESSION

10. Open a first public hearing upon the application on the proposed annexation of Bradshaw State Jail Facility located on the corner of Loop 571 and Industrial Park Drive, also known as County Road 203 and/ or Morris Street. (Mayor/Jimerson)

Mayor Fullen opened a public hearing at 6:20 p.m. on the proposed annexation of Bradshaw State Jail.

City Secretary Cheryl Jimerson stated she had received the application for a voluntary annexation from the State to annex into the city limits the Bradshaw State Jail facility. The annexation will reduce the water and wastewater rates for them. They pay outside city rates, so this will be a significant savings for them.

11. Consideration and possible action upon closing the public hearing on the proposed annexation of the Bradshaw State Jail. (Mayor)

There were no comments or questions.

Council Member Reggie Weatherton made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:22 p.m., duly seconded by Council Member Gina Juarez. The vote was unanimous.

12. Consideration and possible action upon an agreement with MD Health Pathways (MDHP) allowing citizens to have access to low-cost healthcare for a small fee and allowing this fee to be billed through the Henderson Utility Billing system. (Abercrombie)

City Manager Jay Abercrombie and the City Attorney Russell Brown went through the contract, negotiating any changes they thought should be made. MDHP representatives Leonard and Parker were present and agreed to all the changes that were made with a start date of June 1, 2024, to show up on each water bill with a 90-day opt-out period.

Council Member Henry Pace made a motion to approve the MDHP low-cost health care for citizens with a small fee of \$5.00 a month starting June 1, 2024, with a 90-day opt-out period duly seconded by Council Member Gina Juarez. The vote was unanimous.

13. Consideration and possible action upon Resolution 2024-03-01 amending the 2024 Master Fee Schedule. (Abercrombie)

Council Member Stephen Strong made a motion to approve the Master Fee Schedule, duly seconded by Council Member Reggie Weatherton. The vote was unanimous.

14. Consideration and possible action upon Resolution 2024-03-02 Body Camera Matching Grant for the Police Department. (Taylor)

Police Chief Chad Taylor explained the grant is a 25% match grant that allows the police department to purchase needed Body Worn Cameras (BWC). The BWC's have to be replaced every 3 to 5 years due to extended 24-hour use as well as older BWC's that are no longer supported by the companies' programming. This purchase will also cover the one-year cost for Cloud storage. The grant will cover 75% (\$17,055.00) spent on BWC's leaving the city, covering 25% (\$5,685.00) of the purchase. The total cost for the BWC's is \$22,740.00. This grant is submitted and pending.

Council Member Melissa Morton asked how many cameras the police department has? Chief Taylor said about 24 to 26.

Council Member Stephen Strong made a motion to approve the resolution matching the grant if it is awarded to the Henderson Police Department, duly seconded by Council Member Henry Pace. The vote was unanimous.

15. Consideration and possible action upon the second reading of ordinance 2024-02-01 regarding a request to create a new zoning district for Town Homes. (Breitenberg/McElfresh)

Mayor Fullen stated that no changes were recommended by the Council on the first reading of this ordinance last month. What is the pleasure of the Council tonight?

Council Member Stephen Strong made a motion approving said Ordinance listed in this item, duly seconded by Council Member Gina Juarez. The vote was unanimous.

16. Consideration and possible action upon the second reading of Ordinance 2024-02-02 rezoning a property from an R2 Zone to TH Zone. (Breitenberg/McElfresh)

Mayor Fullen stated that no changes were recommended by the Council on the first reading of this ordinance last month. What is the pleasure of the Council tonight?

Council Member Reggie Weatherton made a motion approving said Ordinance listed in this item, duly seconded by Council Member Henry Pace. The vote was unanimous.

17. Consideration and possible action upon the second reading of Ordinance 2024-02-03 rezoning a property from an R1 Zone to TH Zone. (Breitenberg/McElfresh)

Mayor Fullen stated that no changes were recommended by the Council on the first reading of this ordinance last month. What is the pleasure of the Council tonight?

Council Member Stephen Strong made a motion approving said Ordinance listed in this item, duly seconded by Council Member Gina Juarez. The vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

18. The City Council may deliberate and make inquiry into any item listed in the Departmental Reports.

A. City Manager

B. Fire Department

C. Police Department

D. Animal Center

E. Community Development

F. Public Services/Parks and Recreation Department

G. Public Utilities

H. Finance Department

I. City Secretary

J. Communications and Marketing

K. HEDCO Sales Tax Revenue January 2024

L. Director of Operations Departmental Reports below.

Civic Center

Main Street/Tourism

Municipal Court

The council had no questions or comments on the monthly reports.

Council Member Reggie Weatherton asked about the street list, Director of Operations Davis Brown stated there would be a meeting scheduled with the engineers. Reggie stated he would like to be at that meeting. Reggie also asked about MLK Bridge. Davis said the road and bridge are both on the street contract list.

City Manager Jay Abercrombie stated the Sports Complex road needs to be considered and could push some of the streets down on the list. During the budget process we will be discussing this list and try to finish the 25% that have not been re-built.

Council Member Stephen Strong stated he appreciated Davis and Kirk's services for taking care of a matter so quickly.

Council Member Gina Juarez also thanked Director of Operations Davis Brown for taking care of her request as well.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Board of Adjustments Minutes

Planning and Zoning Minutes

Cemetery Board Meeting Minutes

Main Street Meeting Minutes

Preservation Minutes

The council had no questions or comments on the Board meeting minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

REGULAR SESSION:

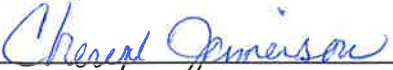
ADJOURNMENT

19. Adjourn

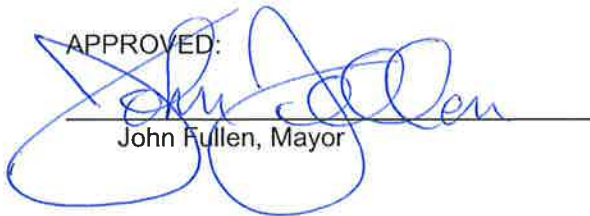
Council Member Reggie Weatherton made a motion to adjourn at 6:44 p.m., duly seconded by Council Member Gina Juarez. The vote was unanimous.

COUNCIL BUSINESS – REGULAR SESSION

ATTEST:


Cheryl Jimerson, City Secretary

APPROVED:


John Fullen, Mayor