



CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 1, 2020

The City of Fredericksburg City Council met in a regular session on Monday, June 1, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting was held remotely via Zoom Teleconferencing, and in-person attendance was not available. Members of the public attended the meeting remotely by web or telephone via Zoom Teleconferencing. These actions are being taken to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring people into a group setting and in accordance with Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code.

Members Present on the Teleconferencing:

Mayor Gary Neffendorf
Councilmember Charlie Kiehne
Councilmember Tom Musselman
Councilmember Bobby Watson

Members Absent:

None

City Staff Present:

Kent Myers, City Manager
Clinton Bailey, Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works and Utilities
Daniel Jones, City Attorney
Lynn Bizzell, Fire Chief
Steve Wetz, Police Chief
Brian Jordan, Development Services Director
Russell Immel, Information Technology Director
Andrea Schmidt, Parks Department Director
Lea Feuge, Public Information Officer
Kelli Olfers, Gillespie County Health Department Director
Laura Hollenbeck, Finance Director
Kris Kneese, Assistant Director of Public Works and Utilities
Garrett Bonn, Assistant Engineer
Shelley Goodwin, City Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Neffendorf called the regular meeting of the Fredericksburg City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020, via Zoom Teleconference. On roll call vote:

Mayor Neffendorf	aye
Councilmember Musselman	aye
Councilmember Kiehne	aye
Councilmember Watson	aye

Mayor Neffendorf announced a quorum of the City Council present.

2. UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC

Lynn Bizzell, Fire Chief, reviewed the history of the pandemic and how Gillespie County and the City has addressed the issues. He updated the Council on the Governor's plan to test all nursing homes (residents and staff), jails/prisons, and meatpacking plants. He also reviewed the following:

- World cases 5,596,550 positive cases and over 362,9210 deaths
- National cases- 1,698,523 positive cases and 98,218 deaths
- Texas cases- 59,776 positive cases and 1,601 deaths
- Region 8 -3,503 positive cases and 102 deaths.

He also reviewed the surrounding counties cases:

Gillespie County 5
Mason County 31
Llano County 3
Blanco County 8
Burnet County 29
Kerr County 18
Kendall County 28

He reminded everyone of the symptoms of the virus and to continue:

- Social distancing
- Wearing masks
- Good hygiene
- Stay home when sick
- Wipe down offices and home
- Use hand sanitizers

Mayor Neffendorf stated the following

As we transition to the reopening phase of this pandemic, I want to take a moment to thank Chief Bizzell and all the first responders who kept the community safe through the first 75 days. You and the citizens have gotten us to this point with only 5 cases ~ all recovered ~ and no deaths. That is the best result possible. I also want to thank the City employees who kept city services going during this unprecedented time. Thank you all.

The next 75 days will be just as critical. Businesses and City Hall are reopening; visitors are returning. We need to help our community and economy restart. But, we need to do so while all the time being vigilant about social distancing, wearing masks, and all the other things we have learned are safety essentials.

Councilmember Watson thanked everyone for their contributions to getting us where we are today with the lack of cases we have experienced.

3. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS

Kent Myers, City Manager, stated he received the following:

- A letter from Hill Country Memorial Hospital Foundation thanking the City leaders and Parks Department for providing RV spaces for health care workers.
- A letter from the City of Mason Administrator and Employees thanking the City for the calls, emails, and texts of support during their recent shut down due to a large number of COVID-19 cases.

- Email from Sonia Rivera thanking the Electric Department for their quick response in getting power restored after the recent storm.
- Make the City Council aware that the Electric Department assisted the City of Kerrville with getting power and restored after the last storm.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Neffendorf reviewed the different ways the public could provide comments. He stated the City received one citizen comment, and the staff will get back with the citizen who commented.

5. CONSENT

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MAY BE ACTED UPON IN A SINGLE MOTION. NO SEPARATE DISCUSSION OR ACTION ON ANY OF THESE ITEMS WILL BE HELD UNLESS PULLED AT THE REQUEST OF A MEMBER OF CITY COUNCIL.

A. Consider approval of City Council Minutes

i. May 6, 2020, Special Meeting

ii. May 18, 2020, Regular Meeting

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Musselman, seconded by Councilmember Watson, to approve the City Council Minutes for May 6, 2020, Special Meeting and May 18, 2020, Regular Meeting, with corrections. On roll call vote:

Councilmember Musselman	aye
Mayor Neffendorf	aye
Councilmember Kiehne	aye
Councilmember Watson	aye

The motion carried unanimously.

6. OTHER ACTION ITEMS AND UPDATES

A. Consider a presentation from the Gillespie County Health Board.

Kelli Olfers, Gillespie County Health Department Director, introduced Brett Beyer, Chairman of the 2019 Gillespie County Health Board.

Brett Beyer, Chairman of the 2019 Gillespie County Health Board, reviewed the PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2019 Annual Report. He also provided recommendations that the City and County can do to help the Health Board.

The City Council discussed the PowerPoint presentation and recommendations. They also recommended that the proposals be discussed during the FY 2021 Budget process.

B. Consider approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Calendar.

Kent Myers, City Manager, reviewed the FY 2021 Budget Calendar and stated Staff recommends the approval of the Budget Calendar.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Watson, seconded by Councilmember Kiehne, to approve the FY 2021 Budget Calendar. On roll call vote:

Mayor Neffendorf	aye
Councilmember Kiehne	aye
Councilmember Watson	aye
Councilmember Musselman	aye

The motion passed unanimously.

C. Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action concerning the appointment of a qualified person to fill a vacancy in the Office of Councilmember until the May 2021 City election.

The City Council discussed the process provided in the City Charter and agreed to return to this item after the Executive Session.

7. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Governor Abbott's Executive Orders

Kent Myers, City Manager, stated Governor Abbott held a press conference today. He reported that City staff is still working through the new order, but some of the reopening approved are:

- The immediate reopening of daycares and Boys/Girls Clubs.
- Restaurants can increase their capacity to 50% with restrictions.
- Bowling Alleys at 25% capacity with restrictions.
- Youth sports and camps on June 1st with restrictions.
- Summer school on June 1st with restrictions.

B. COVID-19 Recovery Task Force

Clinton Bailey, Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works and Utilities, stated the COVID-19 Recovery Task Force will hold their fourth meeting tomorrow. He noted at the May 26, 2020, meeting the Task Force adopted the following:

- Mission Statement -A cooperative effort among community leaders to help facilitate the safe reopening and operations of local businesses via guidance, information, and assistance, consistent with the recommendations and guidelines of state and local governments.
- Vision Statement: Neighbors helping neighbors build a safe community.

He also reported the Task Force received an update from the City on the reopening of City Hall, Weekly Industry/Stakeholder updates, and Dr. Partin provided education regarding wearing masks. They also discussed the needs and how other businesses are addressing issues regarding the Governor's Executive Orders.

C. Format for Future City Council Meetings

Kent Myers, City Manager, stated Daniel Jones, City Attorney, provided three options available for public government meetings in Texas. The meeting options are wide-ranging, with the three primary options being:

1. Virtual meeting – meetings can be conducted remotely by teleconference or web conference, using audio only or both audio and video. There is no requirement that the Council have a quorum gathered together in a public location, and there is no requirement that the public attend in person. The public attends the meeting remotely, by web or phone. This is the method that has been utilized by the Council for the past few meetings.
2. Hybrid meeting – meetings are held in a publicly accessible location, with a quorum of Council members attending in person. The remaining Council members can attend the meeting via video conference. Members of the public can attend the meeting in person, at the location where the quorum of members is present. The video and audio feeds of each Council member

attending remotely will be broadcast at the public meeting location for the Council and public to see/hear.

3. Traditional meeting – meetings are held in person, at a publicly accessible location. Council members are all physically present at the location, and the public attends in person.

The City Council discussed the three options and ongoing pandemic issues related to gatherings. They agreed by consensus to continue to use the Zoom format and add public comments and allow City Council and Staff to use video.

D. Financial Update

Kent Myers, City Manager, reviewed the following:

- Status of the budget since the budget amendments.
- Status of the CARES Act and the amount the city is eligible to claim for COVID-19 expenses.
- Sales tax report and reminded the city council that this report is two months behind
- Hotel occupancy taxes that have been paid and the number of reports the city has received without payments.
- Update on Avenue Insight and the collection process for HOT and STR Permits.
- Update on outstanding utility payments.

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Kent Myers, City Manager, reviewed the Future Agenda Items.

9. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Musselman read the following statement.

Our community seems to be weathering the storm caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. While not perfect, ZOOM conferencing for City Council meetings has worked and I believe we should continue to meet remotely until the second meeting in July, 2020.

Now is not the time for us as a City, and as a City government, to let down our guard. Safety, of our citizens and of our City employees, must be our prime consideration. City staff has been effective in completing their duties using the ZOOM platform. In the interest of safety, I urge City management to continue to video conference meetings for the next fifteen to thirty days. Better to be safe, than sorry.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council will recess its open meeting and reconvene in Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), and Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters), and Section 551.087 (Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations):

- A. Consider and discuss economic development agreement related to the construction and operation of a Hotel and Conference Center in the City; and to receive legal advice concerning said economic development agreement (Section 551.087 and Section 551.071) and**

- B. Consider and discuss the appointment of a qualified person to fill the vacancy in the Office of Councilmember, and to receive legal advice regarding the interpretation of the City Charter and other laws as applicable to said appointment (Section 551.071 and Section 551.074).**

The City Council will recess its open meeting and reconvene in Executive Session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), Section 551.087 (Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations), and Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters):

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Musselman, seconded by Councilmember Watson, to go out of Regular Session into Executive Session at 7:24 p.m. On roll call vote:

Councilmember Musselman	aye
Mayor Neffendorf	aye
Councilmember Kiehne	aye
Councilmember Watson	aye

The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Musselman, seconded by Councilmember Watson, to go out of Executive Session into Regular Session at 8:02 p.m. On roll call vote:

Councilmember Musselman	aye
Mayor Neffendorf	aye
Councilmember Kiehne	aye
Councilmember Watson	aye

The motion carried unanimously.

6.C. Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action concerning the appointment of a qualified person to fill a vacancy in the Office of Councilmember until the May 2021 City election.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Watson, seconded by Councilmember Kiehne, to appoint Polly Rickert to fill the vacancy of the Office of the City Council until the next city election. On roll call vote:

Councilmember Musselman	aye
Mayor Neffendorf	aye
Councilmember Kiehne	aye
Councilmember Watson	aye

The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Musselman, seconded by Councilmember Kiehne, to send a letter of default to the Hotel and Conference Center. On roll call vote:

Councilmember Musselman	aye
Mayor Neffendorf	aye
Councilmember Kiehne	aye
Councilmember Watson	aye

The motion carried unanimously.

11. BUSINESS ITEM

See the actions taken in Executive Session under Agenda Items 10. A. and 10.B.

12. ADJOURN

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Kiehne, seconded by Councilmember Musselman, to adjourn the Monday, June 1, 2020, City Council Regular Meeting at 8:05 p.m.

On roll call vote:

Councilmember Musselman aye

Mayor Neffendorf aye

Councilmember Kiehne aye

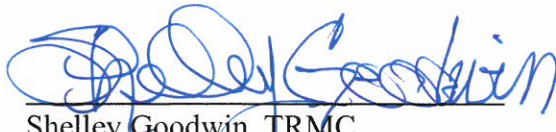
Councilmember Watson aye

The motion passed unanimously.



Gary Neffendorf
Mayor

ATTEST



Shelley Goodwin, TRMC
City Secretary

