

Minutes of the of the City Council meeting held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, by a telephonic meeting to contain the spread of COVID-19 in accordance with Governor Abbott's declaration of the COVID-19 public health threat and action to temporarily suspend certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act issued on March 16, 2020:

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Michael Blomquist	Mayor Pro-tem
	Jennifer McCann	Councilmember Place 1
	Jackeline Soriano Fountain	Councilmember Place 3
	Lynda Nash	Councilmember Place 4
	Jody Nicholas	Councilmember Place 5
	David Mitchell	City Manager
	Julie Helsham	City Secretary

**Absent:** Spencer H. Smith Mayor

### **Mayoral Proclamations and Presentations:**

1. Mayor Pro-tem Blomquist presented a Certificate of Recognition to Seton Medical Center Harker Heights for the assistance the City received from them in getting all of the City's First Responders, who so desired, their COVID-19 vaccinations. Joy Custer, Director of the Emergency Department, Heidi Cantrell, Director of Women's Services, Leigh Anders, Pharmacy Director, Calee Travis, Chief Nursing Officer, Valorie Smith, RN and Joy Gaabucayan, Administrative Assistant, were present to receive the Certificate of Recognition.

### **Consent Items:**

1. Council discussed and considered approving the minutes of the meeting held on February 9, 2021. Fountain made the motion to approve as written. Seconded by McCann. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.
2. Council discussed and considered approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, amending Ordinance 2020-06 of the Harker Heights to extend the Public Health Emergency Declaration through March 31, 2021. Fountain made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nicholas. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.

### **New Business:**

1. Council discussed and considered approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, affirming and extending the Mayor's Declaration of Disaster Due to Severe Winter Weather issued on February 16, 2021. David Mitchell, City Manager, made the presentation. McCann made the motion to approve the Ordinance, declaring a public health emergency due to severe winter weather; Providing that the declaration extends through March 23, 2021; authorizing the City to provide aid and assistance; allow the waiver of permitting fees for repair damage directly related to the winter storms; and providing for an effective date. Seconded by Nicholas. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.
2. Council discussed and considered approving an Appeal of the False Robbery Alarm Service Charge on Mary A. Bianco at 2026 Herald Drive, Harker Heights. David Mitchell, City Manager, made the presentation. McCann made the motion to approve the appeal. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.

3. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, authorizing continued participation with the Atmos Cities Steering Committee; and authorizing the payment of five cents per capita to the Atmos Cities Steering Committee to fund regulatory and related activities related to Atmos Energy Corporation. Ayesha Lealiiee, Finance Director, made the presentation. Fountain made the motion to approve. Seconded by McCann. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.
4. Council received and discussed the City's Governance Policy. Jerry Bark, Assistant City Manager, made the presentation. No action taken.
5. Council received and discussed a presentation on the Council's Budget Priorities. David Mitchell, City Manager, made the presentation. No action taken.
6. Council received and discussed the Council's Mission and Vision Statements. Jerry Bark, Assistant City Manager, made the presentation. No action taken.

**Items from Council:**

Councilmember Fountain thanked the Parks and Recreation Department Staff for all their hard work and for taking care of our Community and all that needed it. Fountain stated that she went to visit the Parks and Rec Center to see if they needed any support in any way and she ran into the Arepitas personnel and got a chance to thank them for their support to our mission.

Councilmember Nash thanked the Skipcha Community, the VFW Post 3892 and the entire City of Harker Heights for all their help during the severe weather event.

**Staff Reports:**

1. Council received and discussed the City's Racial Profiling Report. Phil Gadd, Police Chief, made the presentation. No action taken.
2. Council received and discussed the City Manager's Report. David Mitchell, City Manager, made the presentation. No action taken.

**Announcements:**

Mayor Pro-tem Blomquist thanked all City Staff for the long hard hours during the blizzard event to keep Harker Heights running and all it's citizens safe. Blomquist thanked the Parks Department Staff for handing out the FEMA water bottles. Blomquist stated that the new trashcans are being delivered.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business the City of Harker Heights City Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

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Spencer H. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Julie Helsham, City Secretary