

Minutes of the of the City Council meeting held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 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:

Roll Call:	Spencer H. Smith	Mayor
	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

Mayoral Proclamations and Presentations:

1. Certificate of Appreciation:

a) Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG)

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist presented a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the City to CTCOG representatives, Anna Barge and Uryan Nelson for their involvement and assistance with the CARES Act Grant for Small Businesses in the City of Harker Heights, Texas.

b) Fort Hood

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist presented a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the City to representatives of the 3D Cavalry Regiment of Fort Hood, Texas, for their invaluable service and support to the citizens of Harker Heights during the February 2021 Severe Winter Storms.

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist presented a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the City to representatives of the Blacksmith Troop Fort Hood, Texas, for their invaluable service and support to the citizens of Harker Heights during the February 2021 Severe Winter Storms.

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist presented a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the City to representatives of the Regimental Support Squadron Fort Hood, Texas, for their invaluable service and support to the citizens of Harker Heights during the February 2021 Severe Winter Storms.

c) Arepitas

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist presented a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the City to Arepitas owners, Antonio Caselle and Maria Rodriguez, for their dedication and support to the citizens of Harker Heights during the February 2021 Severe Winter Storms.

d) Bite the Bagel

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist presented a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the City to Bite the Bagel owners, Jim, and Sara Januszka, for their invaluable service and support to the citizens of Harker Heights during the February 2021 Severe Winter Storms.

2. Mayor Smith presented a proclamation to Sara Gibbs, Activities Coordinator, declaring March 8 – 14, 2021, as the City of Harker Heights' Volunteer Appreciation Week.

Consent Items:

1. Council discussed and considered approving the minutes of the meeting held on February 23, 2021. McCann made the motion to approve as written. Seconded by Fountain. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Presentations by Citizens:

Monica Lund, 1905 Wolverine Trail, Harker Heights, Texas 76548, presented to Council her concerns regarding the new Waste Management trash containers.

Stacey Wilson, 2401 Creek Drive, Harker Heights, Texas 76548, spoke to Council regarding adding sidewalks and more streetlights to the inner sections of neighborhoods.

Public Hearings:

1. Council conducted a public hearing to discuss and consider approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, to change the Zoning Designation from M-1 (Light Manufacturing District) and R-2 (Two Family Dwelling District) to PD-R (Planned Development Residential) on property described as A1086BC W.E. Hall, Acres 2.649, A0723BC J.M. Roberts, & A-1086 W.E. Hall, Acres 3.003, A1086BC W.E. Hall, Acres 7.917, and Centex Waste Management Development Phase Two, Block 001, Lot Pt 4, (SW PT of 4), Acres 2.980, generally located east of Indian Trail (FM 3423) directly behind Harker Heights Central Fire Station, Harker Heights, Bell County, Texas. Kristina Ramirez, Planning and Development Director, made the presentation. Christopher Doose, applicant, was present to represent the request. Fountain made the motion to approve with attached conditions. Seconded by Blomquist. Blomquist, McCann, Fountain and Nicholas, in favor. Nash against. Motion approved 4-1.
2. Council conducted a public hearing to discuss and consider approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, to change the Zoning Designation from PD-B (Planned Development Business) to PD-B with a T-Overlay (Tavern Overlay) on property described as A0288BC V.L. Evans, Acres 30.47, generally located at 101 North Roy Reynolds Drive, Harker Heights, Bell County. Kristina Ramirez, Planning and Development Director, made the presentation. Nicholas made the motion to approve. Seconded by Fountain. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

New Business:

1. Council discussed and considered approving a Concept Plan referred to as The Enclave at Indian Trail on property described as A1086BC W.E. Hall, Acres 2.649, A0723BC J.M. Roberts, & A-1086 W.E. Hall, Acres 3.003, A1086BC W.E. Hall, Acres 7.917, and Centex Waste Management Development Phase Two, Block 001, Lot Pt 4, (SW Pt of 4), Acres 2.980, generally located east of Indian Trail (FM 3423) directly behind Harker Heights Central Fire Station, Harker Heights, Bell County. Kristina Ramirez, Planning and Development Director made the presentation. McCann made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nicholas. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
2. Council discussed and considered approving a Final Plat for the subdivision referred to as Escapology Addition, on property described as 7.07-acre tract of land situated in the Lucy O'Dell Survey, Abstract No. 644, generally located North East at the Intersection of East Knights Way (E. FM 2410) and Cedar Knob Road, Harker Heights, Bell County, Texas. Kristina Ramirez, Planning and Development Director, made the presentation. Nicholas made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
3. Council discussed and considered approving an Ordinance of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, Adopting Chapter 51 of the Solid Waste Ordinance, as amended. Mark Hyde, Public Works Director, made the presentation. McCann made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

4. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, authorizing the City Manager to sign the City of Harker Heights Public Library Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019-20; and Accreditation in State Library System Application for Local Fiscal Year 2020. Lisa Youngblood, Library Director, made the presentation. Nicholas made the motion to approve. Seconded by Blomquist. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
5. Council discussed and considered approving the appointment of a Councilmember to fill the vacancy for a Harker Heights Representative on the Hill Country Transit District (HCTD) Boar. David Mitchell, City Manager, made the presentation. Fountain made the motion to appoint Councilmember Nash to fill the vacancy. Seconded by Blomquist. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Reports of Advisory Boards & Commissions:

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist stated that on Monday, March 8th he attended the Bell County Health District Board Meeting. The COVID19 vaccine is going exceedingly well across Bell County. Citizens across Texas are coming to Bell County in order to get their vaccine because of how well it is being distributed. Emergency Management Officials are sending more vaccines to Bell County which is being distributed to Scott & White, Bell County Health District, Seton, Advent Health, and the possibility of providing vaccines to neighboring counties to help them out as well. Blomquist stated there is a high possibility of seeing an increase in vaccine releases above and beyond what is already being provided. Blomquist stated Mr. Jerry Bark, Assistant City Manager, was able to contact folks within the City and also Killeen Independent School District and get them over to Seton to get their first initial shots. Predominantly the Bell County Health District and Scott & White, Seton and Advent are primarily sticking with the Pfizer version, which is a two (2) series shot but, the new shot, the Johnson and Johnson one (1) shot version is now becoming available in HEB and expecting it to be seen more prevalent at CVS or Walgreens. Blomquist further stated that although the Governor lifted the mask mandate, he encourages citizens to wear a mask they do not feel safe and mentioned businesses can still require individuals to wear a mask to go into the business. Blomquist stated the virus is still out there but, as of today, over three (3) million Texans have been vaccinated, which is great news and that a lot of folks that got the virus have recovered. The focus has been on the nursing homes and most of the vulnerable population have been vaccinated at this point. The casualty rate is getting smaller based on the rate that people get COVID-19. Blomquist stated that sadly there are still people dying from COVID-19 and we are still working through these troubling times right now. Blomquist stated it is getting better and encourages everyone to continue practicing your safety methods by wearing your masks, washing your hands, and getting your vaccine.

Councilmember Nicholas stated that she attended the Central Texas Council of Governments meeting earlier this month and stated the Senior Centers will remain closed until April. The Area Agency on Aging home delivered to 720 home bound citizens more than once and had no waiting lists. Nicholas continued by stating that there is a lot of fraudulent activity aimed at Senior citizens. Nicholas ended by stating out of 100 businesses, the Work Force Development Board was awarded One of the Best Companies to Work for.

Items from Council:

Councilmember Fountain stated the following:

- On February 26th she attended the Fort Hood Phantom Honors Retiree Ceremony and welcomed Master Sergeant Toni L. Robinson to Harker Heights
- On March 4th she attended the “City Hall Essentials: Land Use Fundamentals Workshop” regarding Planning and Zoning along with eleven (11) members from the Council and Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilmember Fountain thanked Julie Helsham, City Secretary, Ursula Paddie, Assistant City Secretary and Gary Bates, IT Director, for doing an outstanding job of putting the training session together.

Councilmember Nash stated the following:

- On Saturday, March 6th the VFW gave out 100 bags of food, 38 COVID Hygiene Bags to Harker Heights residents only, courtesy of the Harker Heights Police Department, and 200 cases of water that were donated to the VFW from the Innovation Black Chamber of Commerce.
- On Sunday, March 14th there will be a Celebration of Female Veterans at the VFW from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Blomquist announced that they are one (1) week closer to the Harker Heights' Farmers Market re-opening for the 2021 Season.

Staff Reports:

1. Council received and discussed the City Manager's Report. David Mitchell, City Manager, made the presentation. No action taken.

Announcements:

Mayor Spencer H. Smith stressed the Harker Heights Harmony with what the City has been through and said Hats off to the City Staff, citizens, and City Council. He stated that it is important for Council to stay engaged as they represent all the citizens of Harker Heights.

Adjournment:

There being no further business the City of Harker Heights City Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

CITY OF HARKER HEIGHTS, TEXAS:

Spencer H. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Julie Helsham, City Secretary