

Minutes of the of the City Council meeting held at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 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

General Election Business:

1. Council canvassed the Election Returns for the May 1, 2021, General Election for the City of Harker Heights, Texas.

Councilmember McCann and Councilmember Nash canvassed the Election results. The results are as follows:

TOTAL VOTERS – 1,393

COUNCIL PLACE 2 CANDIDATES	TOTAL VOTES
Michael Blomquist	865 / 64%
Howard “Scot” Arey	497 / 36%

COUNCIL PLACE 5 CANDIDATE	TOTAL VOTES
Vitalis Dubininkas	48 / 4%
Sam Halabi	504 / 36%
Stacey L. Wilson	473 / 34%
Jeffrey Keith Harris	360 / 26%

Michael Blomquist was declared elected for the Councilmember, Place 2 race for a three-year term (2021-2024).

No candidate received a majority vote for the office of Councilmember, Place 5, (expired three-year term).

McCann made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.

2. Installation of Officer:

- (a) Swear in Councilmember, Place 2. Three Year Term 2021-2024.

Judge Billy Ray Hall, Municipal Court Judge, administered the Oath of Office to Michael Blomquist to serve as Councilmember, Place 2, for a three-year term ending May, 2024.

3. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, Ordering a Runoff Election to be held on Saturday, June 5, 2021, for the purpose of electing a Council Member, Place 5, for a three year term (2021-2024) to the Harker Heights City Council; Designating the Polling Place; Authorizing the appointment of Election Officials; Authorizing an Election Services Contract with the Bell County Election Administrator for the coordination and use of voting machines and equipment, and authorizing the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the City; Providing for an effective date. Julie Helsham, City Secretary, made the presentation. McCann made the motion to approve as presented. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.

Mayoral Proclamations and Presentations:

1. Mayor Smith presented Eugene Gardner with the Outstanding Citizen Award.
2. Mayor Smith presented a proclamation to Police Department personnel proclaiming May 9 – 15, 2021, as “National Police Week”.
3. Mayor Smith presented a proclamation to Fire Department personnel proclaiming May 16 – 22, 2021, as “Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week”
4. Mayor Smith presented a proclamation to Mark Hyde, Public Works Director and Yvonne Spell, Public Works Customer Relations Supervisor, proclaiming May 16 – 22, 2021, as “Public Works Week”.
5. Mayor Smith presented a proclamation to Mike Beard, Building Official and Eric Moree, Building Inspector, proclaiming May 2021, as “Building Safety Month”.
6. Mayor Smith presented a proclamation to Jeff Achee, Parks and Recreation Director and Angie Wilson, Parks Advisory Board Chairperson, proclaiming May 2021, as “National Bike Month”.
7. Mayor Smith presented a proclamation to Sara Gibbs, Activities Coordinator, proclaiming May 2021, as “Older Americans Month”.

At 5:35 p.m. Mayor Smith called for a short break.

Mayor Smith reconvened the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Consent Items:

1. Council discussed and considered approving the minutes of the meeting held on April 27, 2021. Blomquist made the motion to approve as written. Seconded by Nicholas. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.

Old Business:

1. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, establishing its Policy and Procedures for Mayor and Council relations, Council and Staff relations, and Council and Media relations. Jerry Bark, Assistant City Manager, made the presentation. Nicholas made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nash. All in favor. Motion approved 4-0.

New Business:

Councilmember Fountain joined the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

1. Council discussed and considered approving a request for Preliminary Plat approval for the subdivision referred to as The Village at Nolan Heights, on property described as a 47.65 acre tract of land in Bell County, Texas, being part of the H.B. Littlefield Survey, Abstract No. 511, and being all of the called 47.626 acre tract of land described in a deed to Cactus Jack Development, Inc., recorded in Instrument No. 2020-064289, Deed Records of Bell County, Texas, generally located North of KISD Middle School No. 14, AKA Nolan Middle School along Warriors Path, Harker Heights, Bell County, Texas. Kristina Ramirez, Planning and Development Director, made the presentation. Blomquist made the motion to approve. Seconded by McCann. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
2. Council discussed and considered approving a Resolution of the City of Harker Heights, Texas, finding that Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC's application for approval to amend its Distribution Cost Recovery Factor to Increase Distribution Rates within the City should be denied; authorizing participation with Oncor Cities Steering Committee; authorizing the hiring of Legal Counsel and Consulting Services; finding that the City's Reasonable Rate Case Expenses shall be reimbursed by the Company; finding that the Meeting at which this Resolution is passed is open to the public as required by law; requiring notice of this Resolution to the Company and Legal Counsel. Ayesha Lealiiee, Finance Director, made the presentation. McCann made the motion to approve. Seconded by Nicholas. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.
3. Council discussed and considered approving a request for Alcohol Services for the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce "Central Texas Food, Wine & Brew Festival" at 2410 Community Park on Saturday, September 11, 2021. Jeff Achee, Parks and Recreation Director, made the presentation. Nash made the motion to approve a request for alcohol services for the Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce "Harker Heights Food, Wine & Brew Festival – Cheers to our Hometown Heroes" at the 2410 Community Park for September 11, 2021. Seconded by Blomquist. All in favor. Motion approved 5-0.

Reports of Advisory Boards & Commissions:

Mayor Pro-tem Blomquist informed Council that the Director of the Bell County Health District, Amanda Robinson-Chadwell has offered her resignation. Blomquist stated that Bell County Health District Commissioner Bill Shumann and the rest of the Board are in search mode to find an interim Director and that he will keep Council updated as things develop.

Items from Council:

Mayor Pro-tem Blomquist stated that he attended the following events:

- May 8th – Harker Heights Farmers Market Grand Opening at City Hall
- May 8th – Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Spring Fest at Carl Levin Park

Councilmember McCann stated that she and Police Chief Gadd participated in the National Day of Prayer and that she said a prayer for government and Chief Gadd said a prayer for our First Responders. She stated that Chief Gadd did an amazing job.

Councilmember Nash stated that attended the Vision 21 Class hosted by Fort Hood and got to be part of a Community Forum hosted by Congressman Roger Williams.

Staff Reports:

1. Council received and discussed an update on the 2021 Street Improvement - Winter Storm Repair Projects. Mark Hyde, Public Works Director, made the presentation. No action taken.
2. Council received and discussed the Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 Second Quarter Investment Report. Ayesha Lealiiee, Finance Director, made the presentation. No action taken.

3. Council received and discussed the Unaudited Financial Statements for the Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021. Ayesha Lealiiee, Finance Director, made the presentation. No action taken.

At 6:54 p.m. Mayor Smith called for a short break.

Mayor Smith reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

Announcements:

Mayor Smith stated that he attended the following events:

- April 28th – Fort Hood Community Services Council Meeting
- April 28th – Broadband Meeting at Harker Heights City Hall
- May 3rd - Luncheon Meeting at Taiwan Dragon in Killeen with III Corps Commander Lieutenant General and Mrs. White, Mayor Segarra (Killeen) and Mayor Diaz (Copperas Cove)
- May 4th – Harker Heights City Council Workshop
- May 5th – Harker Heights High School JROTC Awards Ceremony
- May 8th – Harker Heights Farmers Market at City Hall
- May 8th – Harker Heights Chamber of Commerce Spring Fest at Carl Levin Park
- May 10th – Recorded Memorial Day video presentation at Harker Heights City Hall

Adjournment:

There being no further business the City of Harker Heights City Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

CITY OF HARKER HEIGHTS, TEXAS:

Spencer H. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST:

Julie Helsham, City Secretary