

City Council  
May 2, 2016

A regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie, Texas was held in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas, on Monday, May 2, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Kevin Strength, Mayor  
Mark Singleton, Mayor Pro Tem  
Chuck Beatty, Councilmember  
David Hill, Councilmember  
Mary Lou Shipley, Councilmember

Others Present: Paul Stevens, City Manager  
Michael Scott, Assistant City Manager  
Steve Chapman, City Attorney  
Amber Villarreal, Assistant City Secretary

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Mayor Kevin Strength called the meeting to order. City Manager Paul Stevens gave the invocation, led the pledge of allegiance and the Texas pledge of allegiance.

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**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of April 18, 2016
- b. Minutes of the City Council and Planning & Zoning Commission Work Session of April 18, 2016
- c. Minutes of the Mid-Way Regional Joint Airport Board meeting of April 14, 2016
- d. Approve Budget Amendment request by Fire Department
- e. Approve Budget Amendment request by Parks Department

**Councilmember Chuck Beatty moved to approve Items a. through e. on the Consent Agenda.**  
Councilmember Mary Lou Shipley seconded. **All Ayes.**

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Councilmember Mary Lou Shipley introduced Devin Merrell as the Honorary Councilmember for the month of May. Mr. Merrell is enrolled as a Senior at Global High School, Navarro College, and University of Texas at Tyler. He will graduate with his associate's degree in May. Academic awards include Honored for performance in Spanish II Freshman Year, Honored for performance in Algebra II Sophomore Year, and Scored among the top in the nation on the Project Lead the Way Principles of Engineering and Design Final Exam. Mr. Merrell is involved with Double H Farms, Central Texas Conference of Youth in Mission, Member of Ferris Heights Methodist Church and affiliated with Youth Group and Choir, Interact Club, The National Honor Society, Technical Students Association, and volunteer with Engineering Now.

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Mayor Strength read a Proclamation proclaiming May 2016 as “National Preservation Month” and presented it to Ms. Anita Brown, Director of Downtown Development along with Heritage Preservation Commission members Becky Kauffman, Glinda Felty, and Bonney Ramsey.

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Anita Brown, Director of Downtown Development, presented an update on Heritage Preservation Commission activities. She reported the Commission completed exemptions for the 2016 tax year and approved 213 properties to receive the exemption. Twelve of those had never applied or received the tax credit before. The Webb Gallery was one of two properties who received a 50% tax incentive. Ms. Brown stated she will deliver Heritage Preservation coloring books to all Waxahachie I.S.D. second graders this month. She noted the commission is currently reviewing and revising the current preservation ordinance to correct mistakes, more clearly align the information with actual processes, and possibly add new incentives for preservation projects. Ms. Brown thanked council for their support and expressed her gratitude for the hard work of her preservation commission members.

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Senior Center Director Jeanne Smiles requested approval to host the Senior 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration and Street Dance on July 4, 2016 at the Waxahachie Senior Center. She noted the event will benefit the senior community who are not able to travel to the Crape Myrtle Festival at the Sports Complex. There will be portable restrooms available, food trucks, and firework display.

**Councilmember David Hill moved to approve the Senior 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration and Street Dance on July 4, 2016 at the Waxahachie Senior Center.** Councilmember Chuck Beatty seconded. **All Ayes.**

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Public Works Director Jeff Chambers presented a request for a budget amendment for the engineering fees associated with the following street projects:

<u>Project:</u>	<u>Engineering:</u>	<u>Construction:</u>
Overhill Drive	\$149,513	\$1,196,987
Olive/Greenbrier	\$99,529	\$796,471
Stadium Drive	\$249,200	\$1,215,325
Indian Trace (Indian Hills)	\$108,175	\$676,092
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$606,417</b>	<b>\$3,884,875</b>

Mr. Chambers noted the projects will be funded through the City’s General Fund budget.

Mr. Chambers also requested direction for the four additional large-scale projects that will most likely be funded through future C.O. bonds. Mayor Strength inquired about funding the street improvements for Cynisca and Alexander at the same time. City Manager Stevens noted he would check with the Finance Director to see if the funding will be available.

**Councilmember Mary Lou Shipley moved to approve the budget amendment for the Capital Improvement Project Engineering as presented.** Mayor Pro Tem Mark Singleton seconded. **All Ayes.**

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**CITIZENS' PETITIONS AND REQUEST**

Glinda Felty, 200 S. Hawkins, thanked council for improving the Women's Building parking lot.

James Hightower, 1805 Alexander, thanked council for moving forward on the street improvement for Alexander.

Betty Square Jefferson, 116 Bradshaw, inquired about street improvements and the status of the Penn Park Project. Mayor Strength noted the streets are being improved in phases by necessity and noted the Penn Park Project is close to kicking off.

Ms. Jefferson announced the Juneteenth Celebration will be held on June 18<sup>th</sup> at Penn Park.

Alan Fox encouraged council not to consider ordinances that interfere with the gender identity of citizens in our community.

Anita Brown recognized current Heritage Preservation Commission members who have been on the board since its inception: Becky Kauffman, Glinda Felty, Louis Brown, Shannon Simpson, and Peggy Crabtree.

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**COMMENTS BY MAYOR, CITY COUNCIL, CITY ATTORNEY AND CITY MANAGER**

Assistant City Manager Michael Scott thanked Council and Planning and Zoning Commission members for their input on the Comprehensive Plan. He also asked to keep City Secretary Lori Saunders in their prayers.

Councilmembers Mary Lou Shipley and Chuck Beatty commended the Heritage Preservation Commission for their knowledge and hard work.

City Manager Paul Stevens noted the street projects are progressing and thanked the Heritage Preservation Commission for their work.

Mayor Pro Tem Mark Singleton suggested opening up the Senior Center for their July event for the safety of the seniors from the heat.

Councilmember David Hill thanked staff for their work day to day.

City Attorney Steve Chapman noted he is pleased with the progress of the Comprehensive Plan, the future of Waxahachie, street improvement, and quality of life in our community.

Marketing and Communications Director Amy Hollywood invited the community to attend the Crossroads of Texas Film Festival May 18-21.

Mayor Strength commended everyone in the city for their team work and expressed his appreciation for the attendance of the board members.

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There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal  
Assistant City Secretary