

**CITY OF SANTA FE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 23, 2021 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6, SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Jason Tabor.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Jason Tabor
Mayor Pro-tem Bill Pittman
Councilmember Melanie Collins
Councilmember Fidencio Leija
Absent: Councilmember Jason O'Brien, excused

The invocation was given by Mayor Pro-tem Bill Pittman. The pledge of allegiance to the U. S. Flag and to the Texas Flag was led by Councilmember Melanie Collins.

Mayor's and City Manager's Report:

a. Mayor Tabor presented a proclamation for World Teachers' Day supporting the statewide movement #Teachers Can to recognize and honor those in the teaching profession.

Citizen's Comments: None

Planning and Zoning Business: None

City Business (Other):

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the approval of a contract for collection services providing for the collection of delinquent taxes and court fines and fees with Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP; making certain findings associated with the Texas Government Code §2254.1032; authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract for Collection Services; and providing an effective date

City Manager Glen Adams said this agreement was authorized at the last meeting, but we were advised that certain requirements, in accordance with HB 2826, must be met for renewal of contingent fee contracts for legal services, including a resolution and a meeting notice separate from the meeting agenda notice. These requirements have now been met so Council action to approve the resolution and authorize the Mayor to execute the contract is appropriate. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember Pittman to adopt the resolution authorizing the approval of a contract for collection services providing for the collection of delinquent taxes and court fines and fees with Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP; making certain findings associated with the Texas Government Code §2254.1032; authorizing the Mayor to execute the contract for Collection Services; and providing an effective date. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

2. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution designating representatives to the Houston Galveston Area Council 2022 General Assembly

Mayor Tabor said the city representatives to HGAC are typically the Mayor and Mayor Pro-tem. Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember Collins to adopt the resolution designating the Mayor and Mayor Pro-tem as representatives to the Houston Galveston Area Council 2022 General Assembly. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

3. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution amending the City's Investment Policy to change the Investment Committee and Investment Officers

City Secretary Janet Davis said the investment committee and investment officer designations need to be amended to reflect the establishment of the position of Finance Director and the abolishment of the position of Director of Administrative Services. Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember Leija to adopt the resolution amending the city investment policy to change the investment committee and investment officers. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

4. Consideration and possible action: Selection of a consulting firm to develop the comprehensive plan

Finance Director Rudy Zepeda said the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors has recommended the approval of Kimley Horn as the consulting firm to develop the city's comprehensive plan. Councilmember Leija said both firms that submitted proposals are highly qualified and highly recommended by references. He said the most important piece of the comprehensive plan is community engagement to ensure a workable document reflective of the entire community. Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember Collins to select Kimley Horn as the consulting firm to develop the city's comprehensive plan. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

5. Consideration and possible action: Approval and authorization of the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation's (SFEDC) "Comprehensive Plan Project" for payment of the cost of professional consulting services for development of a comprehensive plan for the city

Finance Director Rudy Zepeda said the SFEDC has included funding in their budget for the estimated cost of \$225,000 for the comprehensive plan project. He said approval by the Council is required for projects proposed for funding by the EDC. Councilmember Pittman stressed that this is a city project in collaboration with the EDC and other community partners and community members. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember Pittman to approve and authorize the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation's (SFEDC) "Comprehensive Plan Project" for payment of the cost of professional consulting services for development of a comprehensive plan for the city. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

6. Consideration and possible action: Approval and authorization of the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation's (SFEDC) "Gradall Excavator Project" for payment of the City of Santa Fe's second-year lease purchase payment on the acquisition of the new excavator for drainage projects

Finance Director Rudy Zepeda said the SFEDC has including funding in their budget for the second year lease purchase payment of the excavator at a cost of \$78,846. He said Council approval is necessary prior to EDC projects being funded. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember Collins to approve and authorize the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation's (SFEDC) "Gradall Excavator Project" for payment of the City of Santa Fe's second-year lease purchase payment on the acquisition of the new excavator for drainage projects. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

7. Consideration and possible action: Appointment of city representatives to serve on the Bayou Animal Services Corporation Board of Directors

Mayor Tabor said the Bayou Animal Services Corporation bylaws requires two city representatives be appointed to serve on the Board of Directors and each representative must be an elected official. Councilmember Pittman asked if we have looked into reconciling our relationship with the county and reconsider our service provider for animal control services. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember Collins to appoint the Mayor and Mayor Pro-tem as city representatives to serve on the Bayou Animal Services Corporation Board of Directors. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

8. Consideration and possible action: First reading of an ordinance providing for the suspension or modification of certain ordinances and regulations as an emergency measure in response to a state of disaster due to Tropical Storm Nicholas; and providing that this ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage and adoption

City Manager Glen Adams said Councilmember O'Brien requested we consider waiving the \$10 fee for a 60 day burn permit after a local state of disaster. Fire Marshal Tony Dauphine said we have already issued about 60 permits to residents who followed the proper protocol by securing a permit to burn debris. He said a permit is necessary to provide the city's requirements and safety regulations to the applicant prior to a lawful burn. Councilmember Leija said Councilmember O'Brien was expressing compassion for those affected by the storm, but he feels it's too late to implement a fee waiver for this past storm. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember Collins to table this item for a workshop discussion. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

9. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing City Manager to execute the Texas Traffic Safety Program Grant Agreement for funding of the 2022 STEP Comprehensive Program for traffic enforcement activities

City Manager Glen Adams said this a continuation of grant funding for the STEP program for traffic enforcement activities for the upcoming fiscal year. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember Pittman to authorize the City Manager to execute the Texas Traffic Safety Program Grant Agreement for funding of the 2022 STEP Comprehensive Program for traffic enforcement activities. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

Announcements: Council and staff will be attending the TML annual conference October 6-8 in Houston. The Galveston County Daily News is sponsoring a press run on October 9 over the causeway to raise funds and provide support for The Newspapers in Education program.

Summary of action from this agenda, request for future agenda items, and scheduling future meetings

Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember Collins to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

JASON TABOR, MAYOR

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary