

**CITY OF SANTA FE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 8, 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 IV Hoke  
Councilmember Jason O'Brien  
Councilmember Fidencio Leija

The invocation was given by Pastor Brad Drake of the Dayspring Church. The pledge of allegiance to the U. S. Flag and to the Texas Flag was led by Boy Scout Alan Jones.

**Mayor's and City Manager's Report:**

- a. The minutes of 3/10/2021, 3/11/2021, and 3/18/2021 were approved as presented.
- b. Presentation of departmental reports by staff, specifically a recap of the activities performed during the previous month and a report of upcoming activities, events, and projects on the horizon
  - 1) Community Services – building permits issued, fees collected, inspections performed, subdivision plats and replats, and certificates of occupancy issued
  - 2) Parks and Community Center – routine park and building maintenance activities, center rental statistics, and Easter Egg hunt
  - 3) Municipal Court – cases filed, revenue collected, warrants issued and cleared, citations and warnings issued, cases disposed, warrant roundup, and status of warrant purge
  - 4) Police – calls for service statistics, traffic crash analysis, use of force incidents, arrests, citations, and report statistics, CID and narcotics investigations, firearm qualifications, and hiring of new officer
  - 5) Fire Marshal – burn permit issuance and childcare safety inspection statistics
  - 6) Library – patron and program attendance, circulation material statistics, fines and donations collected, library cards issued, and volunteer activity
  - 7) Street – drainage projects, street maintenance and improvement activities, and winter storm debris removal
- c. Mayor Tabor presented a proclamation to CASA recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month.
- d. Mayor Pro-tem Pittman presented a Certificate of Recognition to Alan Jones for his Welcome to Santa Fe sign as part of his service project for attainment of Eagle Scout.

Citizens' Comments: None

**Planning and Zoning Business:**

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

1. **Consideration and possible action: First reading of an ordinance of the City of Santa Fe, Texas, approving the Master Plan for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) rezoning from Single-Family Residential (R-1) and Neighborhood Commercial (NC) for a 65.639 acre mixed-use, master-planned community development located at FM 1764 and Avenue L (Novelli), City of Santa Fe, Galveston County, Texas**

Acting Community Services Director Stacey Baker said Council approved the Conceptual Plan in November, 2020. She said the Planning and Zoning Commission approved the Master Plan on April 6, 2021, along with the Section 1 plat and the road dedication plat. Developer Daniel Blanco said there have been minor changes from the conceptual plan, specifically an increase in the lot yield from 163 to 168, increase of 0.7 acres (from 6 to 6.7) for commercial use, a decrease of 0.7 acres for the amenity center, and lakes and detention dedication with downstream outfall. He said the traffic impact on FM 1764 and Avenue L is as previously discussed. Mr. Blanco said the Section 1 plat consists of about 100 homes and they are currently in the land-planning phase for the commercial business park and amenity center. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien to pass the first reading of an ordinance of the City of Santa Fe, Texas, approving the Master Plan for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) rezoning from Single-Family Residential (R-1) and Neighborhood Commercial (NC) for a 65.639 acre mixed-use, master-planned community development located at FM 1764 and Avenue L (Novelli), City of Santa Fe, Galveston County, Texas. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**2. Discussion: City's participation in Mulberry Farms Master drainage plan regarding changes to the off-site drainage area by oversizing the storm drain on Avenue L**

City Manager Glen Adams said this is an opportunity for the city to increase the capacity of the storm drain on Avenue L by upsizing the outfall from 42" to 48". Council reviewed and discussed the preliminary cost estimate comparison for the off-site storm sewer along Avenue L.

**City Business (Other):**

**Old Business:**

**1. Consideration and possible action: Second and final reading of an ordinance of the City of Santa Fe, Texas, amending Chapter 9, Traffic Code, Code of Ordinances, City of Santa Fe, Texas, Section 14, Golf Carts, Subsection C, to require a license plate**

Police Chief Philip Meadows said this is the final reading of the ordinance amendment to add a license plate requirement for golf carts permitted in the city. Motion by Councilmember Hoke, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien to pass the second and final reading of an ordinance of the City of Santa Fe, Texas, amending Chapter 9, Traffic Code, Code of Ordinances, City of Santa Fe, Texas, Section 14, Golf Carts, Subsection C, to require a license plate. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**New Business:**

**1. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing iChoosr to facilitate a competitive auction process among electricity providers and engaging residents to register for Texas Power Switch for group buying options for purchase of electricity**

City Manager Glen Adams said Trent Brackinridge with Texas Power Switch, a group energy purchasing program, has asked for permission for city residents to be able to join the program of an auction by providers to offer lower power rates for electric utilities. He said the city would have limited involvement in the process, specifically providing a link to the registration page on our website and promoting the program on social media. Council felt this program would provide options to our residents who want to look at cost-effective plans for selection of a utility provider. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien to authorize iChoosr to facilitate a competitive auction process among electricity providers and engaging residents to register for Texas Power Switch for group buying options for purchase of electricity. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**2. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution in support of 87 – HB 3029, An Act relating to the creation of the Gulf Coast Protection District**

City Manager Glen Adams said we have been asked by the President of the Galveston County Mayor and Councilmembers Association to support a resolution regarding proposed regulations by the legislature relating to the creation of the Gulf Coast Protection District. Staff's assessment of the bill places full responsibility of creating this protection system on this region, eliminating state responsibility for economic support and making it more difficult to garner federal funding. Council discussed the benefits and drawbacks of the creation of such a district along the gulf coast. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien to adopt a resolution in support of 87 – HB 3029, An Act relating to the creation of the Gulf Coast Protection District. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**3. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution in opposition of 87 – SB 234 and HB 749 relating to the use by a political subdivision of public funds for lobbyist activities**

City Manager Glen Adams said we have been asked by the President of the Galveston County Mayor and Councilmembers Association to support a resolution opposing legislation prohibiting city funds from being expended for lobbyist activities. Staff's assessment of the bill is the State is attempting to remove our ability to keep a professional forum, like the Texas Municipal League, in which we maintain ethical standards and shape discussions in support of our region. Motion by Councilmember Hoke, seconded by Councilmember Pittman to adopt the resolution in opposition of 87 – SB 234 and HB 749 relating to the use by a political subdivision of public funds for lobbyist activities. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**4. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing staff to proceed with the emergency backup communications project and allocating funding for the purchase of handheld radios**

Building Official Marty Haley said the city lost effective communications ability during the past winter freeze event. He said this emergency backup communications project will authorize the installation of two emergency radio repeaters, HAMS and GMRS on amateur radio frequencies, on the WCID #8 water tower, along with the purchase of about 20 handheld radios at an approximate cost of \$1,000. Mr. Haley said the repeaters will be installed, owned, and maintained by HAMS at no cost to the city, and the projected coverage area is most of Galveston County and portions of Harris County. Motion by Councilmember O'Brien, seconded by Councilmember Leija to authorize staff to proceed with the emergency backup communications project and to allocate funding for the purchase of handheld radios. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

Announcements: Child Bike and Water Safety Event on May 8 at 11 a.m. at the Santa Fe Jr. High; SF10 Memorial 5K run on May 22 at Jack Brooks Park; SFEDC town hall meeting on April 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the fire department.

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

Scheduled workshop on April 15, 2021, at 6 p.m. at City Hall to discuss the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember Hoke to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

ATTEST:

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JASON TABOR, MAYOR

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Janet L. Davis, City Secretary