

**CITY OF SANTA FE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 26, 2022 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6, SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m. by Mayor-Elect Pittman.

Administer the Oaths of Office, present Certificates of Election, and hear remarks from newly elected Councilmembers

Pastor Lucas Campbell led Mayor-Elect Bill Pittman in the Oath of Office, which was administered by City Secretary Alun Thomas. Mr. Thomas then presented Mayor Pittman with his Certificate of Election.

Galveston Council Precinct 2 Commissioner Joe Giusti led Councilmember-Elect Brandon Noto in the Oath of Office, which was administered by City Secretary Alun Thomas. Mr. Thomas then presented Councilmember Noto with his Certificate of Election.

City Secretary Alun Thomas led and administered the Oath of Office for Councilmember-Elect John Dickerson. Mr. Thomas then presented Councilmember Dickerson with his Certificate of Election.

Lori Marks led her husband, Councilmember-Elect Dana Marks, in the Oath of Office, which was administered by City Secretary Alun Thomas. Mr. Thomas then presented Councilmember Marks with his Certificate of Election.

Outgoing Councilmember Fidencio Leija thanked those who have served on Council and those who will serve on Council. He said that despite his loss in the election for Mayor, he is still going to work for the betterment of Santa Fe. Thanking the people for his three years on Council, he said that Council managed to accomplish a lot during those years. Mayor Pittman expressed his excitement at the opportunity to work with this new Council, and thanked the citizens for their faith in his commitment and ability. Councilmember Dickerson thanked his supporters for electing him, Jarrod Moore for running a good race against his, and his wife for her support. He pledged to do that best that he could and asked that citizens let him know if they think he can do better. Councilmember Noto said that Santa Fe has made him who he is and he wants to give back. He pledged to make good decisions for the City and said that the City's best days are ahead of it. He encouraged the public to hold the Council accountable. Councilmember Marks thanked the citizens and his family for their support, said that campaigning is hard work, and echoed Councilmember Noto's request that the public hold Council accountable for its actions.

Mayor Pittman recessed the meeting for ten minutes to allow time for photographs.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Bill Pittman
Councilmember Brandon Noto
Councilmember Jason O'Brien
Councilmember Melanie Collins
Councilmember John Dickerson
Councilmember Dana Marks

Absent: None

The invocation was given by Pastor Lucas Campbell, who first led those present in a moment of silence in honor and remembrance of the victims of the May 24, 2022 school shooting in Uvalde, Texas. The Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag and to the Texas Flag was led by Mayor Pittman.

Citizen's Comments:

None.

Business:

Old Business:

1. Consideration and possible action: Second and final reading of an Ordinance amending Subsection 1, Designation of the Floodplain Administrator, of Section D, Administration, of Section 19, Flood Hazard Area Regulations, of Chapter 3, Construction Regulations of the City of Santa Fe Code of Ordinances, to change the City's Floodplain Administrator to the City Engineer; providing a repealer clause, a severability clause, and an effective date

City Secretary Alun Thomas introduced the item and informed Council that it was the second reading of the Ordinance.

Motion by Councilmember O'Brien, seconded by Councilmember Collins, to adopt the Ordinance on second and final reading, as presented. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

2. Consideration and possible action: Second and final reading of an Ordinance deleting Subsection C, Oversize/Overweight Permit, of Section 10, Truck Traffic, of Chapter 9, Traffic Code, of the City of Santa Fe Code of Ordinances and adopting a new Subsection C, Permits for Oversize, Overweight, or Manufactured Home Loads, of Section 10, Truck Traffic, of Chapter 9, Traffic Code, of the City of Santa Fe Code of Ordinances; and providing a repealer clause, a severability clause, and an effective date

City Secretary Alun Thomas introduced the item, noting that it was the second reading of the Ordinance. Mr. Thomas addressed questions regarding the proposed fee for oversize permits, the effective date of the Ordinance, should it pass, and the types and typical extent of damage caused to City property by oversize loads.

Motion by Councilmember Dickerson, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien, to adopt the Ordinance on second and final reading, as presented. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

Old Business:

1. Consideration and possible action: Selection of Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Pittman addressed Council and asked that, due to the responsibilities of the Mayor Pro Tem position, the member selected to serve as Mayor Pro Tem be available as much as possible.

Motion by Councilmember O'Brien, seconded by Councilmember Marks, to appoint Councilmember Noto as Mayor Pro Tem. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

2. Consideration and direction: Use of Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC's \$10,000 Community Benefit Contribution

City Secretary Alun Thomas presented the item to Council and explained that the City executed a contract with Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC in December 2021 for the conversion of a billboard on Highway 6 to a digital billboard.

As part of the agreement, he said, Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC agreed to pay the City \$10,000 on the first day of the month following the new billboard's activation. The City has now received the funds, which City Staff believes were intended to be spent on parks. Mr. Thomas informed Council that Texas Parks and Wildlife Department recently opened new grant opportunities for municipalities' parks projects, and the successful award of a grant through its program requires a 50% matching contribution from the City. He said that it is staff's recommendation that Council allow staff to apply for a grant from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, using the \$10,000 Community Benefit Contribution as the City's matching funds. If the City is successful in its application, this would allow for the completion of a \$20,000 project. If the grant application is unsuccessful, the City can still undertake a \$10,000 project later. Mayor Pittman agreed with staff's recommendation.

Motion by Councilmember Noto, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien, to earmark the \$10,000 Community Benefit Contribution for use as matching fund principal for a parks grant through Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

3. Consideration and direction: Advertising events/dates for free use of Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC's digital billboard on Highway 6

City Secretary Alun Thomas presented the item to Council. He explained that, as part of the City's agreement with Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC, the City can use Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC's digital billboard on Highway 6 to display City messages. The messages require a sixty-day advance notice and such advertising is limited to one rotating eight-second spot in five separate two-week periods each calendar year. Any unused allowance does not roll over to subsequent years. Mayor Pittman said that, after speaking with Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC, the City has the option to instead have ten one-week periods, and said that the sign should be used for *Santa Fe* events, and not just *City of Santa Fe* events. He recommended that a week be given to advertising each of:

- A Santa Fe Independent School District event (to be determined by the District)
- A Santa Fe Fire and Rescue event (to be determined by Santa Fe Fire and Rescue)
- The City's Christmas events (the parade and tree lighting)
- The City's Heritage Festival
- The upcoming June 25 "Santa Fe Summer Kickoff" at Joe Tambrella Park
- The City's Easter event

Mayor Pittman told Council that notices about hurricane safety are already provided by Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC. Members of the public who were present at the meeting suggested adding advertising for:

- Back to school
- Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce events

Councilmember Noto suggested adding a "shop local" campaign to the list.

4. Consideration and possible action: Repair or replacement of one of the air conditioning units at City Hall

Acting City Manager Rudy Zepeda informed Council that one of City Hall's air conditioning units is malfunctioning due to a refrigerant leak in the coils and is in need of attention. E. J. & Son's Air Conditioning has presented the City with two options for correcting the problem - replace the air handler with a new unit for \$4,800.00 with a one-year warranty, or replace the evaporator coil in existing air handler with a new aluminum coil for \$3,600.00 with a 60-day warranty.

Mr. Zepeda addressed questions from Council and said that Staff recommends that Council approve the replacement of the entire air handler, noting that the expenditure, if approved, would be included in a budget amendment in July 2022. Councilmember O'Brien remarked that the replacement cost was very competitive in the current market.

Motion by Councilmember Noto, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien, to replace the air handler with a new unit for \$4,800.00. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

5. Consideration and possible action: Appointment or reappointment of two members to the Planning and Zoning Commission to serve 3-year terms that will expire May 2025

City Secretary Alun Thomas informed Council that two members of the Planning and Zoning Commission have terms that expire this month. One of those members, John Dickerson, was just elected to Council, so does not wish to be reappointed. The other, Tim Clark, has expressed his desire to be considered for reappointment. Mayor Pittman thanked all of the volunteers for stepping up to serve the City, and encouraged Council to consider for other volunteer positions in the future those applicants who were not chosen tonight. He recommended that Council appoint Janet Davis and Shannon Wofford to the Commission.

Motion by Councilmember O'Brien, seconded by Councilmember Collins, to appoint Janet Davis and Shannon Wofford to the Planning and Zoning Commission to serve 3-year terms that will expire May 2025. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

6. Executive Session, closed to the public, pursuant to Chapter 551.074, Texas Government Code, regarding the appointment and employment of public officers or employees – City Manager


Mayor Pittman said that the City Council would do its best to limit the number of closed sessions but said that the discussion of this item necessitated privacy. He adjourned the regular meeting at 7:58 p.m. into executive session, and reconvened the regular meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Announcements: Council photographs will be taken on June 9, so members are encouraged to wear formal attire. The first meetings of each month should be formal attire, with City polo shirts for the second meetings. Congratulations to newly-elected members of Council.


Summary of action from this agenda, request for future agenda items, and scheduling future meetings: The next Council meeting is currently scheduled for April 14.

Motion by Councilmember Noto, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien, to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

ATTEST:



Alun W. Thomas, City Secretary



BILL PITTMAN, MAYOR