

**CITY OF SANTA FE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 2023 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 Pro Tem Brandon Noto.

Roll Call: Present: Councilmember Brandon Noto
Councilmember Melanie Collins
Councilmember John Dickerson
Councilmember Dana Marks

Absent: Mayor Bill Pittman, excused
Councilmember Jason O'Brien, excused

The invocation was given by Greg Lackey, and Mayor Pro Tem Brandon Noto then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag and to the Texas Flag.

Mayor's and City Manager's Report:

1. 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) Police – 2022 Racial Profiling Report was presented by Police Chief Walter Braun and accepted by Council.
- 2) Finance – city finance activities (including financial reports, sales tax, balance sheet, check registers, and investment reports if applicable), and SFEDC project updates as required

Citizens' Comments:

None.

Business:

Old Business:

1. Consideration and possible action: Purchase of property from Santa Fe Independent School District, with such land being generally located west of Mae S. Bruce Library, legally described as approximately 4.07 acres out of Lot 193 of Gulf Coast Development Company's Subdivision, also known as Thaman's Second Subdivision, in Galveston County, Texas, according to the Map thereof recorded in Vol. 231, Page 413 in the office of the County Clerk of Galveston County, Texas, SAVE AND EXCEPT that part of Lot 193 heretofore conveyed to the County of Galveston by deed recorded in Vol. 2089, Page 482, in said County Clerk's office

Acting City Manager Alun Thomas said this is the parcel of land, approximately 4.07 acres, that forms the middle of Joe Tambrella Park. The City currently has a long-term lease agreement with the Santa Fe Independent School District (SFISD) for the use of the property as park land. SFISD approached the City and asked if the City would like to purchase the land for \$1.99, with the condition it will still be used as a park (or the ownership would defer back to SFISD). Mr. Thomas explained there were some discussions with the City Attorney about the former language of the contract that required that the Santa Fe Ten Memorial be placed on the land. However, that requirement has since been removed from the contract, as the Santa Fe Ten Memorial Foundation told Council during the November 10, 2022 meeting that it did not want the memorial located there.

Motion by Councilmember Collins, seconded by Councilmember Marks, to approve the purchase of the 4.07 acres at Joe Tambrella Park as presented. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

New Business:

1. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution of the City Council of the City of Santa Fe, Texas authorizing aerial spraying for the abatement of mosquitoes

Acting City Manager Alun Thomas said this is a resolution that is presented to Council every year. The Federal Aviation Administration requires that the governing body of a municipality grant authorization for aerial spraying for the abatement of mosquitoes. Passage of this resolution would continue the authorization to spray for mosquitoes for the rest of the year. Council asked that staff follow up with Galveston County to make sure it is notifying residents before spraying so that residents with bees are aware of when the spraying will take place.

Motion by Councilmember Collins, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, to approve the resolution to authorize the aerial spraying for mosquitoes as presented. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

2. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution of the City Council of the City of Santa Fe, Texas approving submission of the Santa Fe Resiliency Center Grant Application Number 3702405 to the Texas Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division

Acting City Manager Alun Thomas explained to Council that the City still has a great need for the Resiliency Center. Approval of this resolution, he explained, is a requirement for applying for the grant. Mr. Thomas further explained that the grant supplies the funding for the Center unless the grant is not awarded, in which case the City would then need to pay for the Resiliency Center itself or discontinue the Center.

Motion by Councilmember Dickerson, seconded by Councilmember Marks, to approve the resolution approving submission of the Santa Fe Resiliency Center Grant as presented. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

3. Consideration and possible action: Appointment or reappointment of four (4) members to the Park and Recreation Board (Parks Board) to each serve a two-year term to expire in February 2025

Acting City Manager Alun Thomas informed Council that there are 7 members on the Park and Recreation Board and that 4 of those terms expire at the end of this month. Currently the 4 members whose terms are expiring are Rebecca Martinez, Rusty Schroeder, Chris Bozeman and Mike Winburn, each of whom have expressed their desire for reappointment. There were also 4 other candidates who would like to be considered, Chrystal Hoelscher, Chris Marullo, Beverly Pruitt and Larry Wainscott. Mr. Thomas said staff does not have a recommendation of who to appoint or reappoint however, staff recommends that Council appoints or reappoints 4 members to the Parks and Recreation Board.

Motion by Councilmember Dickerson, seconded by Councilmember Marks, to reappoint the 4 current members to the Parks and Recreation Board. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

4. Consideration and possible action: First reading of an ordinance of the City of Santa Fe, Texas, amending Section 16, Regulation of Sex Offender Residency, of Chapter 1, General Provisions, of the City of Santa Fe Code of Ordinances; and providing a repealer clause, a severability clause, and an effective date

Acting City Manager explained that Police Detective Cody Myers ensures that our Ordinances are appropriate in order to ensure the protection of the community, and that while reviewing the restrictions on sex offenders' residency, noticed that currently, the City defines under the City codes that a juvenile is a person who it under the

age of 16 years however, state statute defines as someone under the age of 17 years. Therefore, the way the City has worded the phrase, it inadvertently excludes 16 year olds as juveniles. The current ordinance also provides no restrictions on those who have been convicted of possession of Child Sexual Assault Material (CSAM) (child pornography) from living within the restricted areas. Detective Myers discussed the new terminology used for such offenders and explained that such an offender is not always a violent person however, it can be someone the child knows that could prey on the child. Detective Myers explained that, fortunately, the City does not have human trafficking or child trafficking issues at this time, but the areas around Santa Fe are growing and this new ordinance will allow the City to be prepared. He said this does not prohibit sex offenders from living in the City, however, it does restrict where such people can live and if they chose to not meet the requirements the offender could be fined daily. Council asked if the restricted areas included daycares, to which Detective Myers answered that the daycares would have to be licensed in order to be included in the restricted areas. He said that he would need to get more details on the stipulations. Although children may gather at a home daycare, he said that if it is not licensed, then it is a private residence which would not be covered as if it were a public place or certified business. Council then asked if churches would be a restricted area and Detective Myers said he would need to gather more information in order to answer that question. Detective Myers said he would gather the information about churches, home schooling and residential daycares to see if there any restrictions at these places.

Motion by Councilmember Marks, seconded by Councilmember Collins, to approve the first reading of the Ordinance amending section 16, Regulation of Sex Offenders Residency as presented. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

Announcements: Acting City Manager Alun Thomas invited the citizens to come to the Girls Softball League parade this Saturday, February 25, 2023, at 9 a.m., and to the Little League Baseball parade which will be on March 4, 2023, at 9 a.m. Mayor Pro Tem Noto reminded citizens about Pocket Market scheduled for this Saturday, February 25, 2023. Christine Villere, who lives at 3015 Ave F, invited everyone to Santa Fe Baptist Church this Sunday, February 26, 2023, for a meeting about a potential community garden.


Summary of action from this agenda, request for future agenda items, and scheduling future meetings: The next regular Council meeting is currently scheduled for March 9, 2023.

Motion by Councilmember Dickerson to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

ATTEST:



Natalie Arnett, Assistant City Secretary



BILL PITTMAN, MAYOR