

**CITY OF SANTA FE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 25, 2024 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: Mayor Pro Tem Brandon Noto  
Councilmember Jason O'Brien  
Councilmember Ronald "Bubba" Jannett  
Councilmember John Dickerson  
Councilmember Dana Marks

Absent: Mayor Bill Pittman, excused

The invocation was given by Pastor Gregg Lackey from Santa Fe Christian Church, and Mayor Pro Tem Noto then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U. S. Flag and to the Texas Flag.

**Presentations and Staff Report(s)**

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) Finance – city finance activities (including financial reports, sales tax, balance sheet, check registers, and investment reports if applicable), and SFEDC project updates as required, presentation given by Finance Director Rudy Zepeda.

**Citizens' Comments:**

Clint Blair, who resides at 13419 S. Bellaire Street, addressed drainage issues he is having on his property. Mr. Blair's neighbor, Greg Pulscher, of 13515 S. Bellaire Street, confirmed the concerns about the drainage issues and culverts that are full of debris.

Klaiton Hartman, 19011 McKay Road, also expressed his concerns about drainage issues by his property. Mr. Hartman said he has been to City Hall twice about the property owners next to him and their multiple buildings and dirt that is being brought in on that property and cannot understand why they are still receiving permits. He is concerned that the property is causing the drainage issues to his property.

Council and City Manager Alun Thomas let the citizens know that Mr. Thomas would work with City staff to try to address all of the concerns raised during this item.

**Business:**

**New Business:**

**1. Consideration and possible action: Appointment of one member to the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation, Position 4, to serve an unexpired term ending September 2024**

City Secretary Natalie Arnett told Council that Tamra Loftin had resigned from her position (Position 4) on the Board of Directors of the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation (EDC). There is now a vacancy on the Board for one member to serve an unexpired term ending September 2024. There are four applicants interested in filling the

the unexpired term. Two of the applicants, Chrystal Hoelscher and Gary Summerville were present and introduced themselves to Council.

Motion by Councilmember O'Brien, seconded by Councilmember Dickerson, to appoint Gary Summerville to Position 4 on the Board of Directors of the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation to serve the remainder of the unexpired term ending September 2024. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

**2. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing execution of a Contract for Election Services between the County Clerk, County Election Officer for Galveston County, and the City of Santa Fe for services and equipment for the May 4, 2024 special election to fill the unexpired term of Councilmember, Position 1 ending May 2025**

City Secretary Natalie Arnett explained that Councilmember Noto has filed to run for Mayor and by doing so he has, per the Texas Constitution, resigned from his position on the Santa Fe City Council. Therefore, the City will need to conduct a Special Election to fill the vacancy for City Council, Position 1, to serve the remainder of her unexpired term ending May 2025. The Special Election will be conducted concurrently with the General Election on May 4, 2024. Approval of this item will allow for the City to contract with Galveston County for Election Services and equipment.

Motion by Councilmember O'Brien, seconded by Councilmember Jannett, to approve a Contract for Election Services for the Special Election between the City of Santa Fe and Galveston County and authorize the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem to execute the agreement on behalf of the City.

**Announcements:**

Terri O'Connell said that Dear Donut Man is hosting the Santa Fe Sunrise and providing refreshments, January 26, 2024, at 7:30 a.m. The Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce is having the annual Gala January 26, 2024 at the Santa Fe Fire and Rescue at 6:00 p.m. The Santa Fe Chamber is having the After-Hours Mixer January 31, 2024, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., at Pook's restaurant. City Secretary Natalie Arnett reminded everyone that if they are interested in running for a position on Council that they can still turn in applications, and that the deadline to turn in an application is February 16, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Noto said that the Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce recently had a meeting to look at its mission and what it would like to accomplish and that the Chamber is looking forward to new and continued partnerships.

Motion by Councilmember Jannett to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Natalie N. Arnett, City Secretary

  
BILL PITTMAN, MAYOR