

**CITY OF SANTA FE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2020 9:30 A.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6, SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Mayor Jason Tabor.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Jason Tabor
 Mayor Pro-tem Bill Pittman
 Councilmember Fidencio Leija
 Councilmember Jason O'Brien
 Councilmember IV Hoke
 Absent: Councilmember Corey Jannett, 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 Mayor Pro-tem Pittman.

Business:

1. Consideration and possible action: Determining date and location of postponed fireworks display and exhibition with Sky Wonder Pyrotechnics, LLC

City Manager Glen Adams said the original agreement with Sky Wonder Pyrotechnics was for a fireworks display and exhibition on July 4, 2020. He said when the event was postponed due to the COVID pandemic, the city used general fund money in place of donations to pay the deposit to secure the event. Councilmember Pittman said we must hold the event by January 1, 2021, or we will lose our deposit, or as an alternative, the city can pay the remaining balance of \$15,000 to secure the event through July 4, 2021. Mr. Adams encouraged Council to choose a location with enough space, under COVID restrictions, for a show should we still need to operate under COVID precautions. Councilmember Leija said he would like to bring Santa Fe and Hitchcock together for a Veterans' Day celebration and have a fireworks show at that event. He said we could then share the expense and foster our partnership with a neighboring city. Councilmember Pittman said we want to ensure that Santa Fe is the leader for any fireworks display. Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien to schedule the postponed fireworks display and exhibition with Sky Wonder Pyrotechnics, LLC for November 11, 2020, as part of the Veterans' Day celebration at Jack Brooks Park in cooperation with the City of Hitchcock. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

2. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing City Manager to execute Encroachment Agreement between the City and Houston Pipe Line Company LP for placement of a drainage ditch over the pipeline easement located within the un-opened portion of Avenue O

City Manager Glen Adams said we have a drainage problem in the area of the north Avenue O right of way. He said we would like to place a drainage ditch over the 19" high pressure gas line easement located in the unopen portion of Avenue O in order to connect the drainage between Castle Estates and Triple Bar Estates subdivisions. Mr. Adams said the drainage district will perform the work, so there will be no expense to the city. He said this

encroachment agreement will indemnify the pipeline company in the event of any damages during construction of the crossing. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember Pittman to authorize the City Manager to execute the Encroachment Agreement between the City and Houston Pipe Line Company LP for placement of a drainage ditch over the pipeline easement located within the un-opened portion of Avenue O. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

3. Consideration and possible action: Ratifying execution of Interlocal Cooperation Contract between the City and Texas State University for funding of the FY2021 Tobacco Enforcement Program grant

Police Chief Philip Meadows said this contract is for the continued tobacco enforcement grant through Texas State University to perform controlled sting operations for the purchase of tobacco products by minors. Motion by Councilmember Leija, seconded by Councilmember Hoke to ratify execution of the Interlocal Cooperation Contract between the City and Texas State University for funding of the FY2021 Tobacco Enforcement Program grant. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

4. Discussion: Purchase of vehicles for criminal investigation division

City Manager Glen Adams said the Mayor tasked the Police Captain this past summer to propose a plan to replace the outdated criminal investigation division fleet of vehicles, most of which have over \$100,000 miles each. He said since then, staff has considered lease vs. purchase options for acquisition of vehicles to compare the advantages and disadvantages of rotating lease vehicles often or outright purchasing appropriate vehicles. Mr. Adams said we have spoken with a local vendor and with McRee Ford who offers a similar program to other police agencies in Galveston County. Police Chief Philip Meadows stated a lease to change out vehicles often would be more advantageous for safety during undercover operations but purchasing vehicles would be more financially advantageous to the city in the long term. He recommended a combination of the two options by purchasing one vehicle and leasing the other two. Councilmember Pittman reminded Council and staff that we are two days into a new budget and asked why this was not discussed in depth during our summer budget workshops. Chief Meadows said we have sufficient funds in our reserved seized fund account to cover the finances the first year and then we can budget funds for future years. Staff will bring back a firm proposal to Council for consideration and action at a future meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Pittman, seconded by Councilmember O'Brien to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

ATTEST:

JASON TABOR, MAYOR

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary