

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 14, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Navasota, Grimes County, Texas met at the City Council Chambers, Room No. 161, located at 200 E. McAlpine Street at 6:00 p.m., Navasota, Texas on the above date with the following being present:

**Bernie Gessner, Mayor Pro-Tem, Place # 1
Pattie Pederson, Councilmember, Place # 2
Josh M. Fultz, Councilmember, Place # 3
Bert Miller, Mayor, Place # 4
James Harris, Councilmember, Place # 5**

Thus constituting a quorum.

STAFF PRESENT: Jason Weeks, City Manager; Susie M. Homeyer, City Secretary; Jose Coronilla, Director of Streets and Sanitation; Jason Katkoski, Fire Chief/EMC; Michael Mize, Police Chief; Peggy Johnson, HR Director; Rayna Teicheira, Economic Development Director; Jennifer Reyna, Public Works Director; Pat Gruner, Navasota Municipal Judge; Cary Bovey, Legal Counsel; Jon McKay, Graduate Engineer; Ryan Kendricks, Parks and Recreation Manager; Officer Krezel, Officer Byrd and Officer Moon.

VISITORS: Connie Clements, Johnny McNally, Lise' McNally, Deborah Richardson, Mac Vaughn, John Sanders, Les Lester, Suellen Lester and Jodi Cobler.

THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WERE TAKEN UP IN DUE ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

1. Mayor Bert Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Invocation was given by Mac Vaughn. The City Council, staff members and visitors then recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.
3. Remarks of visitors: Johnny McNally addressed the City Council and told them how wonderful the Navasota swimming pool looked and that he hopes it will continue to be opened. He lives outside of the City limits but thoroughly enjoyed using the pool. The pool is a great asset and the pool staff are great.

Deborah Richardson addressed the City Council and asked them to consider the senior citizens that are on fixed incomes when it comes to raising the utility rates.

4. Staff report:

- a) Jennifer Reyna, Public Works Director, gave an update on the CIP projects.
- b) Councilmember Bernie Gessner gave an update on the latest Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. Councilmember Pattie Pederson gave an update on the latest Airport meeting.
- c) Councilmember and staff informed the audience about upcoming events.

5. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved to approve the consent agenda items which include the minutes from the month of July 2023; the Municipal Court Report from the month of July 2023; the second reading of Ordinance No. 1026-23, authorizing restricted prior service credit (RPSC) for employees who are members of the Texas Municipal Retirement System; the second reading of Ordinance No. 1027-23, authorizing the settlement of the proposed fuel reconciliation of Entergy, Texas, Inc.; and the second reading of Ordinance No. 1028-23, with the changes noted on the terms being two years instead of one year for the members, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

6. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved to authorize the City Manager to work with the Human Resources Director to speed up the process, by posting the job opportunities, so that most of the new positions proposed in the FY 23-24 budget could begin on October 1, 2023, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

7. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved that the City of Navasota propose to adopt a tax rate of \$0.5221 per \$100 valuation for tax year 2023 and hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on September 11, 2023 at the City Council Chambers located at 200 E. McAlpine Street, and a meeting to adopt the tax rate on first reading at 6:00 p.m. on September 11, 2023 at the City Council Chambers located at 200 E. McAlpine Street; and a meeting to adopt the tax rate on second reading at 6:00 p.m. on September 25, 2023 at the City Council Chambers located at 200 E. McAlpine Street
10. Mayor Bert Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson. The following votes were recorded by a show of hands:

AYES: Mayor Bert Miller, Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner, Councilmember Josh Fultz, Councilmember Pattie Pederson and Councilmember James Harris

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Mayor Bert Miller announced that the motion carried.

8. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved to set the date of September 11, 2023 for the public hearing on the City's FY 2023-2024 proposed budget.

9. Mayor Bert Miller adjourned the meeting at 10:16 p.m.



BERT MILLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:


SUSIE M. HOMEYER, CITY SECRETARY