

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

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, Councilmember, Place # 1  
Geoff Horn, Councilmember, Place # 2  
Josh M. Fultz, Councilmember, Place # 3  
Bert Miller, Mayor, Place # 4  
Grant E. Holt, Mayor Pro-Tem, Place # 5**

Thus constituting a quorum.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Brad Stafford, City Manager; Susie M. Homeyer, City Secretary; Lupe Diosdado, Community Development Director; Michael Mize, Lieutenant; Jason Katkoski, Fire Chief/EMC; Jeff Greer, Director of Utilities; Kathrine Thogersen, Administrative Assistant/Deputy City Secretary; Jonathan Sosebee, Community Development Specialist; Lance Hall, Finance Director; Jennifer Reyna, Administrative Assistant; David Cooper, Firefighter; Cary Bovey, Legal Counsel and Sparky the Dog.

**VISITORS:** Connie Clements, Deborah Richardson, Arlo Roberson, Kent Laza, Frank Perez, Andre Perrard, Amy Salvaggio, Phil Callahan, Nan Dubbelde, Caroline Radell and Hayley Morrison.

**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 Pastor Arlo Roberson. 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: None.
4. Staff report:
  - (a) City Manager Brad Stafford introduced two new Artists in Residence.
  - (b) Community Development Director Lupe Diosdado gave an update on permits issued this year.

(c) Mayor Bert Miller proclaimed October 1, 2019 as "National Night Out" and October 6-12, 2019 as "Fire Prevention Week".

(d) Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt gave an update on the latest Keep Navasota Beautiful meeting. Councilmember Bernie Gessner gave an update on the latest Library meeting.

(e) Councilmembers and staff informed the audience about upcoming events.

5. A public hearing was held regarding a proposed alleyway closure initiated by Dorothy Grupa for the abandonment and closure of a twenty-foot (20') alleyway by the City of Navasota. The alleyway is located at Block 3 of the McNair Addition in the City of Navasota, Grimes County, Texas. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Bert Miller announced that Councilmember Geoff Horn submitted an affidavit of conflict of interest and will step down from the dais for Agenda Items 5 & 6. Mrs. Nan Dubbelde and Mr. Phil Callahan both spoke in favor of closing the alleyway and that Ms. Grupa be granted the entire twenty foot of the easement. Cary Bovey, Legal Counsel, informed the City Council that if the alleyway was closed each property owner would receive ten foot of the alleyway. With no other comments, Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 6:37 p.m.
6. Mayor Bert Miller moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 904-19, vacating a public alleyway located at Block 3 of the McNair Addition of the City of Navasota, Texas, and authorizing execution of an instrument conveying said property to abutting property owners, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner. The following votes were recorded:

AYES: Mayor Bert Miller, Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt,  
Councilmember Josh Fultz and Councilmember Bernie Gessner

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Councilmember Geoff Horn.

Mayor Bert Miller announced that the motion carried.


Councilmember Geoff Horn returned to the dais.

7. A public hearing was held on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 6:42 p.m. Citizen Deborah Richardson addressed the City Council about the deterioration of the microfilm records at the

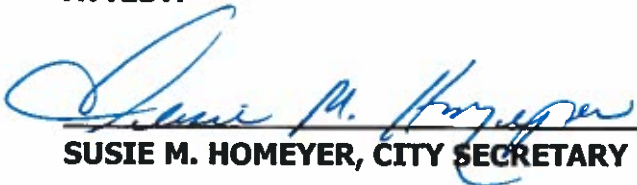
library. With no other comments from the public, Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 6:49 p.m.

8. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to ratify the tax increase reflected in the budget for FY 2019-2020, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, by a show of hands, the motion carried.
9. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 899-19, adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2020, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, by a show of hands, the motion carried.
10. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$.5693 which is effectively a 8.46 percent increase in the tax rate and approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 900-19, levying taxes for the City of Navasota and establishing the rate of taxation and the percentage of actual value of the property to be used for and during the 2019 tax year, seconded by Councilmember Geoff Horn and with each Councilmember voting AYE, by a show of hands, the motion carried.
11. Councilmember Geoff Horn moved to award the bid for the 2019 Railroad Street parking lot and drainage improvement project to Brazos Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$1,009,541.90, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
12. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to award the bid for the 2018 TxCDBG Sewer Improvements Project to D & S Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$256,698.00, seconded by Councilmember Geoff Horn and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
13. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 905-19, amending Chapter 3, Article 3.06 Signs, Section 3.06.010 of the City of Navasota, Texas regarding Home Occupation Signs, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
14. Councilmember Geoff Horn moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 901-19, amending Chapter 13, Utilities of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Navasota, Texas, by adding Article 13.07, Cross-Connection Control Program, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

15. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 903-19, with the changes mentioned, amending Appendix A, Article A5.000, Public Works; of the Code of Ordinances, of the City of Navasota, regarding fee schedules, seconded by Councilmember Geoff Horn and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
16. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 902-19, budget amendment for Fiscal Year beginning October 1, 2018 and ending September 30, 2019 for gas sales and purchases and Texas Birthday Bash expense and revenue, seconded by Councilmember Geoff Horn and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
17. Councilmember Geoff Horn moved to approve Resolution No. 660-19, nominating Kathleen Terrell for a position on the Board of Directors of the Grimes County Appraisal District, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
18. Mayor Bert Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

  
**BERT MILLER, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

  
**SUSIE M. HOMEYER, CITY SECRETARY**

