

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 28, 2020**

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; Lance Hall, Finance Director; Jason Katkoski, Fire Chief/EMC; Eric Covarrubias, Code Enforcement Specialist; Earline Rumfield, Animal Control Officer; Tai Jones, Animal Control Assistant; Richard Hughes, Firefighter, Cade McDonald, Michael Mize, Lieutenant; and Cary Bovey, Legal Counsel.

VISITORS: Connie Clements, Deborah Richardson, Mac Vaughn, Pattie Pederson, Doris Sauls, John Hicks, Ralph Torres, Archie Sauls, Audrey Sauls, Dawn Jourdan, Joyce Yorek, Richard Hughes, Cade McDonald and others.

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: Doris Sauls addressed the City Council about an amendment to the Certificates of Obligation that will be voted on at the November 9, 2020 Council meeting. She is requesting one million dollars be added to the budget for dilapidated structures on the West side of town and three million be added to the budget for Grace Street Park.

4. Staff report:

- (a) City Manager Brad Stafford gave an update on COVID-19 response;
- (b) City Manager Brad Stafford gave an update on the storm drainage work on Railroad Street and other locations;
- (c) Code Enforcement Specialist Eric Covarrubias gave an update on the Code Enforcement violations that he was working on;
- (d) Dawn Jourdan and Joyce Yorek presented the Animal Shelter with a check from a fundraiser that the Navasota Theatre Alliance had;
- (e) Mayor Bert Miller proclaimed October 6, 2020 as National Night Out and urged citizens to support the 37th annual National Night Out program;
- (f) Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt gave an update on the latest Planning and Zoning meeting;
- (g) Councilmembers and staff informed the audience about upcoming events.

5. A public hearing was held on an order to repair or demolish the structures located at 1224 W. Washington Avenue, Navasota, Texas 77868. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 6:25 p.m. Code Enforcement Specialist Erik Covarrubias briefly went over the condition of the structures. With no other comments from the public, Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 6:35 p.m.
6. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to approve an order to demolish the structure at 1224 W. Washington, Navasota, Texas 77868, seconded by Councilmember Geoff Horn and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
7. A public hearing was held on the proposed budget for the City of Navasota for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 6:38 p.m. Finance Director Lance Hall briefly went over the budget. With no comments from the public, Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 6:45 p.m.

8. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 940-20, adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2021, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
9. A public hearing was held on a proposal to increase the tax rate for 2020. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 6:45 p.m. Finance Director Lance Hall briefly went over the tax rate. With no other comments from the public, Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 6:47 p.m.
10. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$.5693 which is effectively a 3.58 percent increase in the tax rate and approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 941-20, 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 2020 tax year, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, by a show of hands, the motion carried.
11. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to approve the second reading of Resolution No. 682-20, approving the Navasota Economic Development Corporation Budget for FY 2020-2021, seconded by Councilmember Geoff Horn and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
12. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 942-20, amending Appendix A, Article A5.000, Public Works, Article A5.003 Monthly Water Rates, Article A5.005 Monthly Sewer Rates and Article A12.000 Public Library of the Code of Ordinances, of the City of Navasota, Texas regarding fee schedules, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
13. Councilmember Geoff Horn moved to approve the Assessment/Collection contract for the 2021 Tax Year with the Grimes County Appraisal District, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.
14. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to approve a Citizen Participation Plan for the 2020 CDBG-GLO MIT programs, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

15. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to adopt a Procurement Policy for the City of Navasota, seconded by Councilmember Geoff Horn and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

16. Mayor Bert Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.



BERT MILLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:



SUSIE M. HOMEYER, CITY SECRETARY

