

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 10, 2021**

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
Pattie Pederson, 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, Development Services Director; Rayna Willenbrink, Economic Development Specialist; Cary Bovey, Legal Counsel; Lance Hall, Finance Director; Jeff Greer, Director of Utilities; Colten Haffey, Parks and Recreation Specialist; Pat Gruner, Navasota Municipal Judge; Peggy Johnson, Human Resource Director; Madison Brooks, Marketing and Communication Coordinator; Michael Mize, Lieutenant; Tiffany Sammon, Librarian; Troy Green, Sergeant; Kyle Fritz, Police Officer and Victoria Gochnour, Police Officer.

VISITORS: Connie Clements, Mac Vaughn, John Henry, Doris Sauls, R. J. Sauls, Audrey Sauls, Tim Wolf, Ashley Stevens, Shon Mangum, Deborah Richardson, Ana Cosino, Mary Stafford, Justin Bullock (Virtually), Archie Sauls, Brandi Riker, Tammy Riker, Henry Riker, Alicia Ortman, Cody Williams, Jim Engelke, Crayton Brubaker Julia Koerner, Lindsey Gonzalez, Tim Gregg, Betsy Lenhert, Arienne Boley, Jacob Somerson, Brandi Tejada, Julie Dierlam, Dominique Dierlam, John M. Fernald, Michele Steinhauser, Sheree Boegner and John Sandees.

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: Ashley Stevens addressed the City Council about the City swimming pool. Brandi Riker addressed the City Council about a flooding problem she has on her property located near Pecan Lakes. Archie Sauls addressed the City Council, on behalf of the Torres Family, concerning flooding issues on their property that is located near the construction that is going on in Pecan Lakes.

4. Staff report:

a) John Henry gave an update on the Capital Improvement Project;

b) Marketing and Communication Coordinator Madison Brooks introduced the new artist in residency;

c) City Manager Brad Stafford and the City Council recognized James Simon III, Michael Mize, Shawn Myatt and Brad Stafford for their years of service with the City of Navasota;

d) Lieutenant Michael Mize gave an update on the First Responders Day event;

e) Economic Development Specialist Rayna Willenbrink gave an update on the Transportation Alternatives Program;

f) Economic Development Specialist Rayna Willenbrink gave an update on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan;

g) Mayor Bert Miller proclaimed May 15, 2021 as Peace Officer's Week;

h) Councilmember Josh Fultz gave an update on the latest Board of Adjustment meeting; and

i) There was not an update from Councilmembers and staff about upcoming events.

5. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to canvass the returns for the May 1, 2021 City election and unopposed candidates declared elected, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

6. The City Council canvassed the election results in the previous item. A certificate of election was given to both Bert Miller and Grant E. Holt. Municipal Judge Pat Gruner had each candidate read and sign the Statement of Elected Officer and then she administered the Oath of Office to each of them. Bert Miller and Grant E. Holt then assumed the duties of their office.

7. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to nominate Bert Miller for Mayor, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

8. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to nominate Grant Holt as Mayor Pro-Tem and be elected by acclamation, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

9. A presentation of the Capstone Project was presented to the City Council regarding capital improvements over the past fifteen years.

10. Tim Gregg made a presentation to the City Council on "Celebrating Navasota".

11. Mayor Bert Miller moved to approve Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$4,208.00 for the Railroad Street 2016 Flood CDBG Disaster Recovery Grant, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

12. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 962-21, amending Appendix A, Article A12.000, Public Library of the Code of Ordinances, of the City of Navasota, Texas regarding fee schedules and that the price of the market bags be determined by staff, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

13. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to appoint Rebecca Cole to the Parks and Recreation Board, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

14. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to approve Resolution No. 690-21, expressing opposition to the proposed Senate Bill 10 and similar Legislation in the 87th Texas Legislature to restrict the ability of local governments to advocate for their communities, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

15. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to approve the consent agenda items which include the minutes and expenditures for the month of April 2021, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

16. The City Council met in Executive Session as permitted by Section 551.087, Texas Government Code, for the purpose of deliberation regarding economic development negotiations with J & H Navasota Development, LLC regarding a potential Development Agreement. The time was 7:24 p.m.

17. The City Council reconvened in open session at 7:47 p.m.

18. Councilmember Bernie Gessner made a motion to not act on the Development Agreement with J & H Navasota Development LLC, until further notice, and until the drainage issues are resolved as mentioned earlier in the Remarks of Visitors, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

16. Mayor Bert Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.


BERT MILER, MAYOR

ATTEST:


SUSIE M. HOMEYER, CITY SECRETARY

