

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 27, 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; Cary Bovey, Legal Counsel; Lance Hall, Finance Director; and Lupe Diosdado, Development Services.

**VISITORS:** Connie Clements, Deborah Richardson and Mac Vaughn.

**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: None.
4. Staff report:
  - a) Code Enforcement Specialist Erik Covarrubias gave an update on the Pretty City Committee;
  - b) Mayor Bert Miller read a proclamation proclaiming October 5, 2021 as National Night Out;
  - c) Councilmember Pattie Pederson gave an update on the latest Planning and Zoning meeting. Councilmember Bernie Gessner talked about the upcoming

2021 annual Texas Municipal League conference and challenged staff to bring back some ideas, products or processes that the City can use.

d) Councilmembers and staff informed the audience about upcoming events.

5. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to approve Resolution No. 701-21, establishing September 28, 2021 as National Voter Registration Day, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

6. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to award the bid to Green Dream International in the amount of \$383,210.98 for the 2021 Downtown Revitalization W. Washington Ave., 8<sup>th</sup> Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street Sidewalk Project, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

7. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to approve the second reading Ordinance No. 977-21, approving a specific use permit application submitted to the City of Navasota by Christopher Komarzec for the property located at 1102 West Washington Avenue, Grimes County, Texas, 77868. The specific use permit application requests to allow for the development of a Food Truck Park, a use not listed under Article XI B-1: General Business District. The property affected is legally described as A0002. D. Arnold, Tract 19, Par 12, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

8. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to approve the interlocal agreement with Grimes County for fire protection services with a payment of \$93,241 for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

9. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 979-21, denying the distribution cost recovery factor rate increase of Entergy Texas, Inc. filed on August 31, 2021, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

10. A public hearing was held on the proposed budget for the City of Navasota for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 6:20 p.m. With no comments from the public, Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 6:22 p.m.

11. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 975-21, adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson. With each Councilmember voting AYE, with a show of hands, the motion carried.

12. A public hearing was held on a proposal to increase the tax rate for 2021. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 6:23 p.m. With no comments from the public, Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 6:26 p.m.

13. 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 3.32 percent increase in the tax rate and approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 976-21, levying taxation and the percentage of actual value of the property to be used for and during the 2021 tax year, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, with a show of hands, the motion carried.

14. Mayor Pro-Tem Grant Holt moved to designate Lance Hall as the Account Administrator and Point of Contact for reporting and Wilma Kay Peavy as the Authorized Representative for Reporting as the key roles for the American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARPA SLFRF), seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

15. Councilmember Bernie Gessner moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 978-21, amending Appendix A, Article A5.000, Public Works; Sec. A5.003 Monthly Water Rates, Sec. A5.004 Monthly Gas Rates, Sec. A5.005 Monthly Sewer Rates, SEC. A6.000 Miscellaneous. Article A7.000 Sec. A7.000 Planning And Development Related Fees, Article A9.000 Building And Construction; Sec A9.002 of the Code of Ordinances, of the City of Navasota, Texas Regarding Fee Schedules; Providing for a Severability Clause; Providing for a Repealer Clause; Providing for an Effective Date; Finding Proper Notice of Meeting; and Providing for Certification of the Adoption, less the sanitation fees, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

16. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to set the Christmas holidays for 2021 as Friday, December 24, 2021 and Monday, December 27, 2021, seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

17. The City Council met in Executive Session as permitted by Section 551.074, Texas Government Code – Personnel Matters – Discussion concerning the retiring City Manager’s Employment Agreement and related issues, and potential roles/duties of the retiring City Manager in facilitating the transition to a new City Manager. The time was 6:38 p.m.

18. The City Council reconvened in open session at 7:52 p.m.

20. Mayor Bert Miller made the following statement: A public notice will be going out in the next couple of weeks in regards to a public input questionnaire for City staff and the public on the selection of a new City Manager. Review of all applications will be done by the City Council at a special meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup>. The rest of the time line will go through a process on the review of the questionnaires and interviews. This will go through the week of November 22<sup>nd</sup> with the selection of a new City Manager by the end of November.

21. Mayor Bert Miller adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.



**BERT MILER, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

  
**SUSIE M. HOMEYER, CITY SECRETARY**