

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 10, 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: Susie M. Homeyer, City Secretary; Cary Bovey, Legal Counsel; Bobbie Lehrmann, Marketing and Communication Director; Jennifer Reyna, Public Works Director; Jose Coronilla, Director of Streets and Sanitation, Rayna Teicheira, Economic Development Director; Jason Katkoski, Fire Chief/EMC; Lupe Diosdado, Director of Development Services; Michael Mize, Police Chief and Evette Fannin, Grants Coordinator.

VISITORS: Connie Clements, Phyllis Allen, Lara Meece, Dia Copeland, Yolanda Fultz, Diana Westmoreland, Debbie Hancock, Lynn Hildebrandt; Marti Luedke, Beth Logan, Brenda Story, Allyson Stebbins, Lee Stebbins, Kathy Cave Wells, Julie Dierlam, Nancy Hook, Laurie Lind, Georgia Molitor, Todd Wisner, Sharon Hudson, Nancy Framer, John Sanders, Velma Smith, Nikki Parkerson, Julie Horn, Lucy Ybarra, Les Letter, Suellen Letter, Dr. Friedrichs and Jon C. Fultz.

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 Matthew Morse. 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: Several citizens filled out a request to speak but those requests were for Agenda items 7-10.

4. Staff report:

- a) Jennifer Reyna, Public Works Director, gave an update on the following CIP projects: Fire hydrant project, CIP Street project, the annual street project and the AWOS system at the airport;
- b) No one was present, from the Navasota Evening Lions Club, to make a presentation about the future skatepark expansion project; and
- c) There was not an update on Board and Commissions, and
- d) Councilmembers and staff informed the audience about upcoming events.

5. Diana Westmoreland, President of the Navasota Housing Authority, gave an annual report update of activities of the Navasota Housing Authority for its Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023.

6. Councilmember Pattie Pederson moved to approve the annual funding disbursement of \$7,000.00 to the Grimes County Health Resource Center for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

7. A public hearing was held regarding a sign variance application submitted by the City of Navasota for the property located at 1411 East Washington Ave (Public Library), in Navasota, Grimes County, TX 77868. The variance requests to install a programmable LED sign nineteen (19) square feet in area, a sign not allowed within the Washington Historic Overlay District, embedded within a freestanding sign, eight feet (8') in height, two feet (2') taller than permitted and a sign area of forty (40) square feet, eight (8) square feet larger than permitted. The property affected is legally described as S7304 - Park Meadows, Sec 4, Block 16, 5 (S75'), All 6. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 6:35 p.m. The following citizens spoke against the sign variance: Lori Land, Kathy Wells, Julie Dierlam, Dia Copeland, Allyson Stebbins, Brenda Story and Debbie Hancock. Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to deny the sign variance request for the property located at 1411 East Washington Avenue (Public Library), seconded by Councilmember Pattie Pederson and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

8. A public hearing was held regarding a sign variance application submitted by the City of Navasota for the property located at located at 202 East Washington Ave (Visitor Kiosk), in Navasota, Grimes County, TX 77868. The variance requests to install a programmable LED wayfinding sign, a sign not allowed within the Central Business District, seven feet (7') in height, one foot (1') taller than permitted. The property affected is legally described as H&TC, Block 84,

Lot 1. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 7:06 p.m. The following citizens spoke against the sign variance: Kathy Wells, Judy Dierlam, Todd Weisner and Sharon Hudson. Lucy Ybarra spoke in favor of the sign variance. Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 7:35 p.m. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to deny the sign variance submitted by the City of Navasota for the property located at 202 East Washington Avenue (Visitor Kiosk), in Navasota, Grimes County, Texas 77868, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner. The following votes were recorded:

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

NAYS: Councilmember Pattie Pederson

ABSTAIN: None

Mayor Bert Miller announced that the sign variance failed.

9. A public hearing was held regarding a sign variance application submitted by the City of Navasota for the property located at 101 Stadium Dr (Community Center), in Navasota, Grimes County, TX 77868. The variance requests to install a freestanding sign, eight feet (8') in height, two feet taller than permitted and a sign area of forty-eight square feet (48), sixteen square feet (16) larger than permitted. The property affected is legally described as A0002 D Arnold, Tract 78-2, Acres 1.85. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 7:39 p.m. The following citizens spoke against the sign variance request: Dia Copeland, Judy Dierlam and Todd Weisner. Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved to deny the sign variance request submitted by the City of Navasota for the property located at 101 Stadium Drive, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

10. A public hearing was held regarding a sign variance application submitted by the City of Navasota for the property located at 100 Veteran Memorial Dr (August Horst Park), in Navasota, Grimes County, TX 77868. The variance requests to install a freestanding sign, eight feet (8') in height, two feet taller than permitted and a sign area of fifty-three square feet (53), twenty-one square feet (21) larger than permitted. The property affected is legally described as A0055-0 D Tyler, Tract 8, Acres 73.01. Mayor Bert Miller opened the public hearing at 7:47 p.m. After a brief discussion, Mayor Bert Miller closed the public hearing at 7:53 p.m. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to deny the sign variance request submitted for the City of Navasota for the property located at 100 Veteran Memorial Drive,


seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

11. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved to approve the consent agenda items which include the minutes from the month of June 2023 and the Municipal Court Report for the month of June 2023, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

12. Mayor Bert Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.


BERT MILLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:


SUSIE M. HOMEYER, CITY SECRETARY

