

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 13, 2024**

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 (Absent)
Josh M. Fultz, Councilmember, Place # 3
Bert Miller, Mayor, Place # 4
James Harris, Councilmember, Place # 5
Kenneth Stevens, City Councilmember, Place # 2 (Newly Elected)**

Thus constituting a quorum.

STAFF PRESENT: Jason Weeks, City Manager; Susie M. Homeyer, City Secretary; Jennifer Reyna, Public Works Director; Cary Bovey, Legal Counsel; Jon MacKay, Graduate Engineer; Lupe Diosdado, Development Services Director; Kristin Gauthier, Assistant City Manager; Pat Gruner, Municipal Judge, Michelle Savensky, Executive Administrative Assistant; Keiontre Hightower, Parks & Facilities Maintenance Laborer; Taylor Hughes, Marketing and Communications Manager; Matt Julian, Chief Water/Wastewater Operator; Derrick Hodge, Cadet Police Officer; Jose Coronilla, Assistant Public Works Director; Mike Mize, Police Chief; Tiffany Byers, Community Services Director; Ana Romero, Parks and Recreation Manager; Maribel Frank, Chief Financial Officer; Peggy Johnson, HR Director; Heaven Dominguez, Accounting Manager and Alex Linderman, Communications Operator.

VISITORS: Connie Clements, Deborah Richardson, Mac Vaughn, John Sanders, Betsy Lehnert, Kathy Wells, Bobby Gentry, Dia Copeland, Philip Cox, Deborah Ricardson, Jeff Robertson, Robin Presley and Judy McClellan.

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 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: John Sanders addressed the City Council concerning the ditches on Clayton Street.
4. Staff report:
 - (a) Mayor Bert Miller proclaimed May 12-18, 2024 as "National Skilled Nursing Week" (Navasota Nursing and Golden Creek).

- (b) Peggy Johnson, HR Director, introduced the following new employees: Heaven Domingues, Accounting Manager; Ana Romero, Parks and Recreation Manager; Keiontre Hightower, Parks and Facilities Maintenance Laborer; Alex Linderman, Communication Operator and Derrick Hodge, Cadet Police Officer.
- (c) Tiffany Byers, Community Services Director, gave an update on the Library and Parks and Recreation Department.
- (d) Jon MacKay, Graduate Engineer, gave an update on the CIP projects.
- (e) Jason Weeks, City Manager, informed the City Council that the City would be having the City Council meeting on May 28, 2024 instead of May 27, 2024 since that is the Memorial Day Holiday.
- (f) There was not an update on Boards and Commissions; and
- (g) Councilmembers and staff informed the audience about upcoming events.

5. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to approve Resolution No. 767-24, canvassing the returns, with the official updated numbers received today, and declaring the results of the Special Election held on May 4, 2024 at which were submitted twenty-eight (28) proposed amendments to the City of Navasota Home Rule Charter, ordering the adoption of the Charter Amendments, and adopting the Charter as amended, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember present voting AYE, the motion carried.

6. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to canvass the election results for Councilmembers Position No. 1, Position No. 2 and Position No. 3, as presented tonight, seconded by Councilmember James Harris and with each Councilmember present voting AYE, the motion carried.

Mayor Miller presented Bernie Gessner, Councilmember, Position No. 1, with a Certificate of Election. City Secretary Susie M. Homeyer had Councilmember Bernie Gessner complete the Statement of Officer and then Municipal Judge Pat Gruner administered the oath of office to him.

Mayor Miller presented Kenneth Stevens, Councilmember, Position No. 2, with a Certificate of Election. City Secretary Susie M. Homeyer had Councilmember Kenneth Stevens complete the Statement of Officer and then Municipal Judge Pat Gruner administered the oath of office to him. Councilmember Kenneth Stevens then took his place on the dais.

Mayor Miller presented Josh Fultz, Councilmember, Position No. 3, with a Certificate of Election. City Secretary Susie M. Homeyer had Councilmember Josh Fultz complete the

Statement of Officer and then Municipal Judge Pat Gruner administered the oath of office to him.

7. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to nominate Bert Miller as Mayor for the City of Navasota, seconded by Councilmember Bernie Gessner, and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

8. Councilmember James Harris moved to nominate Josh Fultz as Mayor Pro-Tem. The motion died from a lack of a second. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to nominate Bernie Gessner as Mayor Pro-Tem for the City of Navasota, seconded by Councilmember James Harris and with each Councilmember present AYE, the motion carried.

9. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved to approve Resolution No. 765-24, designating authorized signatories for contractual documents and documents for requesting funds pertaining to the Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Resilient Communities Program, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

10. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to approve Resolution No. 766-24, amending the City of Navasota's Procurement Policy in Relation to Federal Grants, 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 Change Order No. 3 for the Street and Utility Bond CIP Project in the amount of \$61,720.00, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

12. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to appoint Nancy Vidotto to Position No. 2, Mac Vaughn to Position No. 5 and Alan Phillips as alternate to Position No. 1, seconded by Mayor Bert Miller and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

Councilmember James Harris moved to appoint Tiffany Woodard and Sierra Higginbotham to the Keep Navasota Beautiful Commission, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

13. Mayor Bert Miller moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Burditt Consultants, LLC in the amount of \$57,750.00 for the Navasota Center and Pool Facility and Pool Facility Feasibility Study Project, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner. The following votes were recorded:

**AYES: Mayor Bert Miller, Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner,
Councilmember Josh Fultz and Councilmember Kenneth Stevens**

NAYS: Councilmember James Harris

ABSTAIN: None

Mayor Bert Miller announced that the motion carried.

14. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1045-24, relating to speed zones which specifically designate additional areas along State Highway 90 in the City of Navasota in which rates of speed of thirty (30) miles per hour or more are authorized, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

15. Councilmember Josh Fultz moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1046-24, relating to speed zones which specifically designate additional areas along State Highway 105 in the City of Navasota in which rates of speed of thirty (30) miles per hour or more are authorized, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

16. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved to approve Resolution No. 768-24, accepting water, sewer, gas, street and underground storm water drainage improvements in Hidden Hills Phase 2, Block 5, Lots 1-10 and Block 6, Lots 1-11, except entrance signage, common areas, detention pond and open channel storm drainage improvements, in the City of Navasota, Texas, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

17. Kathy Wells addressed the City Council about creating a subcommittee to decide the best use of the Horlock House Art Gallery and History Museum. She suggested that a member from the Two Rivers Heritage Foundation be appointed to the committee. She also stated that the estimate for the Horlock House repairs, from Phoenix One, was an overkill and that Historical Markers are based on the outside appearance of a structure not what is inside.

Mayor Bert Miller appointed Councilmember Fultz and Councilmember Harris to the subcommittee for the Horlock House Art Gallery and History Museum.

18. Mayor Pro-Tem Bernie Gessner moved to approve the consent agenda which includes the minutes for the month of April 2024, the Municipal Court Report for April 2024 and the Financials for April 2024, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

19. The City Council met in Executive Session in accordance with the Texas Government Code, Section 551.072, deliberation regarding real property for the purpose of discussion and deliberation regarding the City of Navasota's potential acquisition of real property for City projects/purposes. The time was 7:53 p.m.

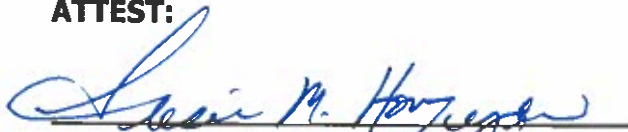
20. The City Council reconvened in open session at 8:40 p.m.

21. Councilmember Kenneth Stevens moved to authorize the City Manager to negotiate, approve and execute all necessary documentation for the acquisition of real property for City project purposes as discussed in Executive Session, seconded by Councilmember Josh Fultz and with each Councilmember voting AYE, the motion carried.

22. Mayor Bert Miller adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.


BERT MILLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:


SUSIE M. HOMEYER, CITY SECRETARY

