

**REGULAR MEETING  
LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL**

**APRIL 4, 2023**

**6:30 P.M.**

**CLARK LIBRARY ANNEX-COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 217 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 3RD FLOOR, LOCKHART, TEXAS**

**Council present:**

Councilmember John Castillo  
Councilmember Juan Mendoza  
Councilmember Jeffry Michelson

Mayor Lew White  
Councilmember Brad Westmoreland  
Councilmember Kara McGregor  
Mayor Pro-Tem Angie Gonzales-Sanchez

**Staff present:**

Steve Lewis, City Manager  
Sean Kelley, Public Works Director  
Randy Jenkins, Fire Chief  
Tina Ramsey, Victim Services Coordinator

Patty Akers, City Attorney  
Julie Bowermon, Civil Service/HR Director  
David Fowler, Planning Director

**Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council:** Representatives of the Hays-Caldwell Women's Center; Melissa Reese of Texas Monthly.

**Work Session 6:30 p.m.**

Mayor White opened the work session and advised the Council, staff and the audience that staff would provide information and explanations about the following items:

**DISCUSSION ONLY**

**A. PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS DECLARING APRIL 2023 AS CHILD ABUSE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH.**

Mayor White presented the proclamations to Representatives of the Hays-Caldwell Women's Center.

**B. DISCUSS CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2023 MEETING.**

Mayor White requested corrections to the minutes. There were none.

**C. DISCUSS RESOLUTION 2023-05 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER AN AMENDED ADVANCE FUNDING AGREEMENT (AFA) WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) FOR THE REPLACEMENT OR REHABILITATION OF THE NORTH BLANCO STREET BRIDGE OVER TOWN BRANCH CREEK.**

Mr. Kelley stated that on June 7, 2022, City Council approved Resolution 2022-25, entering the original AFA with TxDOT for the bridge replacement. On November 15, 2022, staff brought Resolution 2022-39 amending the cost of the City's match from \$5,500 to \$6,100 due to rising material costs. TxDOT recently informed the City that the total cost of the bridge replacement would now be covered under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) as well as the Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program (HBRP), waiving the required local match. Making this project 100% Federally funded. Once TxDOT receives the fully executed amended AFA, a refund will be issued for the previous payment of the local match. This project is still slated for design and replacement in FY2026. City staff and TxDOT will continue to monitor and inspect the bridge until the time of its replacement. Mr. Kelley recommended approval. There was discussion.

**D. DISCUSS THE PROPOSED TEXAS MONTHLY 2023 BBQ WORLD'S FAIR EVENT SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT FOR THE NOVEMBER 4-5, 2023 TEXAS MONTHLY BBQ WORLD'S FAIR EVENT.**

Mr. Kelley stated that since 2009, Texas Monthly BBQ Fest has brought together BBQ enthusiasts. In 2022, Texas Monthly held its first BBQ World's Fair in the BBQ Capital of Texas. Last year's event was very successful, and Texas Monthly is seeking to bring the event back to Lockhart for its second year.

This event is slated for November 4-5, 2023, to be held on the Historic Courthouse Square and City Park. Texas Monthly will provide planning, production, staffing, event lineup, marketing, ticketing services and sponsorships. Other notable details in the agreement include:

- Single event contract for the 2023 event
- City to contribute \$25,000 of in-kind support (permit assistance, street closures, police and fire responders staff, secure shuttle parking area and event locations)
- \$20,000 monetary sponsorship for digital promotion and \$8,700 payment for (1) full page brand ad in Texas Monthly Magazine
- City logo to be placed on promotional signage
- Minimum general liability insurance requirements

Texas Monthly has been actively working with staff since last year's event so that the 2023 event takes into consideration operational improvements that were noted during the 2022. Texas Monthly has representatives to answer any questions regarding the 2023 Event Sponsorship Agreement.

Melissa Reese of Texas Monthly provided information and there was discussion about various tasks and events to change or improve for the BBQ event in 2023.

**E. DISCUSS ORDINANCE NO. 2023-07 TO PROVIDE A NATURAL GAS FRANCHISE TO UNIVERSAL GAS COMPANY.**

Ms. Akers stated that Universal Gas Co. has requested a franchise to authorize it to provide natural gas services in the City utilizing public rights-of-way. Universal currently does not have any facilities in the City, and will probably come down W. San Antonio St. (SH 142) in order to serve Ranch Road Development—Hansford, and Red Oak Development—Lockhart 89, as well as development currently proposed in the City's ETJ. The franchise agreement ordinance is consistent with the terms of the gas franchise previously issued by the City to Texas Gas and provides for a term of 15 years, a franchise fee to the City of 5% of Universal's gross receipts payable each January and July, and relocation at the company's expense if needed for City public work projects. There was discussion.

**F. DISCUSS THE SALE OF ENGINE 2, A 1994 PIERCE PUMPER BY PUBLIC AUCTION.**

Chief Jenkins stated that staff seeks Council consideration to sell the 29-year old 1994 Pierce Pumper (Engine 2) which has exceeded its service life due to its age, operational reliability, and lack of safety features to protect firefighters and citizens. Engine 2 is currently located at Fire Station No. 2 and has not been in service since the purchase of a new fire pumper (Engine 1) in Fall 2021. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1901 Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus (2016 version), Annex D recommends, as best practice, to remove fire pumpers from all service after 25 years of service. Engine 2 must be removed from Fire Station #2 to make room for the new aerial apparatus ordered from Metro Fire Apparatus Specialists, Inc. due for delivery in the spring of 2024. The new aerial apparatus will be housed at Fire Station #2. Rescue 1 and Engine 4 are also housed at Fire Station No. 2 and Engine 4 serves as the primary reserve pumper for Fire Station Nos. 1 and 2. Fire Station #1 houses Engine 1 and

Brush 1. Chief Jenkins stated that staff recommends disposing of Engine 2 (1994 Pierce) by using a public auction to attract potential buyers. There was discussion.

**G. DISCUSS A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REGARDING THE 88TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

Ms. Akers stated that during this Legislative session, over 8,100 bills and joint resolutions were filed, breaking the record for most bills filed in a session. The update provided information and there was discussion about bills that are most impactful to cities.

RECESS: Mayor White announced that the Council would recess for a break at 7:30 p.m.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor Lew White called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m.

**ITEM 2. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

**ITEM 3. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Mayor White requested citizens to address the Council. There were none.

**ITEM 4. CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to approve consent agenda items 4A and 4B. Councilmember Castillo seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

The following are the consent agenda items that were approved:

- A. Approve City Council minutes of the February 7, 2023 meeting.
- B. Approve Resolution 2023-05 authorizing the City Manager to enter an amended Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for the replacement or rehabilitation of the North Blanco Street Bridge over Town Branch Creek.

**ITEM 5-A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE PROPOSED TEXAS MONTHLY 2023 BBQ WORLD'S FAIR EVENT SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT FOR THE NOVEMBER 4-5, 2023 TEXAS MONTHLY BBQ WORLD'S FAIR EVENT.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to approve the Agreement with Texas Monthly for the 2023 BBQ World's Fair event. Councilmember McGregor seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

**ITEM 5-B. CONSIDER AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2023-07 TO PROVIDE A NATURAL GAS FRANCHISE TO UNIVERSAL GAS COMPANY.**

Councilmember Michelson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-07, as presented. Councilmember Westmoreland seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

**ITEM 5-C. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER THE SALE OF ENGINE 2, A 1994 PIERCE PUMPER BY PUBLIC AUCTION.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to approve the sale of Engine 2, A 1994 Pierce Pumper by public auction, as presented. Councilmember Mendoza seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

**ITEM 5-D. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REGARDING THE 88TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

Mayor White stated that the update was given during the work session.

**ITEM 6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

- Update on coordination with TxDOT regarding a feasibility study for future SH 142 improvements.
- Swearing In Ceremony and reception for new Police Chief will be held on April 10, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**7. COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMENTS - ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**

Councilmember Westmoreland thanked the street sweeper for keeping the streets clean. He reminded citizens about the requirement of blowing debris out of the street after mowing your yard.

Councilmember Mendoza wished everyone a Happy Easter and encouraged everyone to be safe.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez expressed condolences to families that have recently lost a loved one. She congratulated the Hispanic Chamber for a successful annual banquet. She thanked the Hispanic Chamber for honoring her as the recipient of an award. She congratulated the Lockhart Education Foundation for the successful *50 Lions Who Can Cook* event. She also congratulated Downtown Association for a successful Sip-n-Stroll event.

Councilmember McGregor reminded everyone about First Friday and she wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Councilmember Castillo expressed condolences to families that have recently lost a loved one. He congratulated the Lockhart Education Foundation for successful event and he thanked all for participating in community events. He thanked staff for their work.

Councilmember Michelson congratulated the Downtown Association for successful Sip-n-Stroll event. He congratulated the Lockhart Education Foundation for a successful *50 Lions Who Can Cook* event.

Mayor White expressed appreciation for the successful events the past few weeks. He thanked the Lockhart Education Foundation for their successful event. He expressed condolences to families that have lost a loved one.

**8. EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE, TITLE 5, SUBCHAPTER D, SECTION 551.071, PRIVATE CONSULTATION WITH ITS ATTORNEY TO SEEK ADVICE ABOUT LEGAL MATTERS SUBJECT TO ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE. Seek advice from the City Attorney regarding City authority and options in regard to development in the City's ETJ.**

Mayor White announced that the Council would enter Executive Session at 8:05 p.m.

**9. OPEN SESSION**

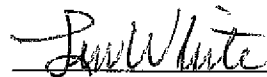
Mayor White announced that the Council would enter Open Session at 9:00 p.m.

**ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Mendoza seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 19th day of March, 2024.

**CITY OF LOCKHART**

  
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Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Julie Bowermon  
City Secretary

