

**REGULAR MEETING
LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL**

JULY 18, 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
Pam Larison, Finance Director
Gary Williamson, Police Chief
Victoria Burns, Public Information Officer

Monte Akers, City Attorney
Julie Bowermon, Civil Service/HR Director
Travis Hughes, Parks Director
Joseph Resendez, Assistant City Manager

Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council: Kimberly Clifton of the Lockhart Chamber of Commerce; Dave Marsh and Dana Platt of CARTS; Eli Fadora of Part Time Ambulance Inc.

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 BY THE LOCKHART CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REGARDING AN UPDATE ON TOURISM AND VISITOR CENTER ACTIVITIES.

Kimberly Clifton of the Lockhart Chamber of Commerce stated that during the current fiscal year, the Lockhart Chamber of Commerce entered into an agreement with the City to maintain the operation of the Lockhart Visitors Center at 104 W. Market Street. The Chamber provides paid and volunteer staffing and is open to the public from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays. The Visitor Information Center also provides tourism materials, visitor guides, local hotel information, points of interest, brochures, etc. The Chamber also conducts a continuing program of advertising and promotions for attracting visitors and tourists to the area. Finally, the Chamber recently managed the Chisholm Trail Roundup - 50th Anniversary which included promotional activities and musical entertainment. The purpose of the agenda item is to receive a presentation from Chamber representatives relative to their efforts in attracting and promoting tourism. There was discussion.

B. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT REQUEST FROM CAPITAL AREA RURAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (CARTS).

Ms. Larison stated that on April 21st, General Manager, Dave Marsh from CARTS contacted Mr. Lewis to request that for the fiscal year 2023-2024 funding be by way of an interlocal agreement. Historically, CARTS has received funding from the City Council through the Non-Profit and Human Services Organizational line item in the General Fund. In 2022, CARTS introduced their CARTS Now service. The added costs for this type of service necessitates a new and higher level of funding. CARTS is requesting \$40,000 to be approved by City Council for the upcoming fiscal year to continue providing safe, reliable transportation in the city.

Dave Marsh and Dana Plat of CARTS provided information about the additional services that CARTS provides to the community of Lockhart which includes the CARTS NOW service, Country Bus service, and the Interurban/Coach Express service. There was discussion.

C. DISCUSS FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS REQUESTING FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024.

Ms. Larison stated that on June 20, 2023, the following Non-Profit Organizations presented their funding requests to the City Council for the fiscal year of 2023-2024:

1. Hays-Caldwell Women's Center
2. Combined Community Action - Senior Nutrition
3. Lockhart Area Senior Citizens Center
4. CASA of Central Texas
5. Caldwell County Food Bank

After the presentations, it was the desire of the City Council to consider the allocation of funding during this meeting.

After discussion, the consensus of the Council was to allocate the amount that was awarded last year in addition to a five percent increase plus redistributing the \$2,000 amongst nonprofits that was not awarded to Cenikor.

D. DISCUSS WORK AUTHORIZATION #4 FOR HALFF ASSOCIATES UNDER THE MASTER GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE AQUATIC CONSULTING & VISIONING AND FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR BUILDING A NEW AQUATICS FACILITY.

Mr. Hughes stated that this is the 4th Work Authorization for Halff Associates under the Master General Services Agreement approved by Council in February. It has been the general consensus for some time that the City Park Pool is nearing the end of its service life (built 1973). The pool has settled (and continues to settle) unevenly over the years and has developed leaks in the suction lines and skimmer/drain connections below the pool deck. We have made repairs that are allowing us to continue to operate, but these types of repairs will continue to be an issue annually. In January 2023 we determined to form an Aquatics Committee to explore our options for building a new Aquatics Facility. This committee consists of members from Lockhart ISD, Caldwell County Commission, and the Lockhart Parks Board. The group is charged with identifying potential facility sites, types of activities supported by the facility, funding sources, and possible collaborations between the city, school district, and county. The Aquatics Committee is at the stage of the process that requires professional services to provide consulting & visioning, as well as program development, and feasibility/operations study. This will allow the Aquatics Committee and City Council to make a judicious decision moving forward with real-world data and pricing. There was discussion.

E. DISCUSS RESOLUTION NO. 2023-12 GRANTING CONSENT TO THE CREATION OF CALDWELL COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 5.

Mr. Akers stated that Caldwell County has been petitioned for the creation of an emergency services district to provide EMS services in the county. The City Council of Lockhart must consent to its creation in writing in order for the City and its extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) to be included in the new district. A public hearing on the creation has been scheduled by Caldwell County for July 25, 2023, Mayor White anticipates attending.

F. DISCUSS A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REGARDING THE 2023 TEXAS LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION.

Mr. Akers stated that the 2023 (88th) regular legislative session concluded on May 29, 2023, and the governor's vetoes were finished by June 18. 8344 bills were filed, 1238 were enacted, and 77 were vetoed. TML tracked 1880 bills as potentially affecting cities, of which 230 were enacted and 10 were vetoed. A summary of city-related bills most likely to affect Lockhart will be discussed by the City Attorney. A summary of all city-related bills from the regular session is available on the TML website's "Legislative Update" for June 9, 2023, and a list of the city-related bills that were vetoed is in the Update for June 23, 2023. Mr. Akers provided information regarding several bills that affect cities. There was discussion.

G. DISCUSS RESOLUTION 2023-11 OF THE CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS ADOPTING A TARGET INDUSTRY STRATEGY (TIS) REPORT REFRESH; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Mr. Lewis stated that in 2020, LEDC contracted with Garner Economics to develop a 5-year economic development strategy. This plan was prepared for the City and LEDC to guide the City's economic development programs, policies, and allocation of resources for the next 5 yrs. Jay Garner and his team spent 5 months interviewing residents and collecting data to provide a Target Industry Strategy (TIS) which was adopted by both the LEDC and City Council in 2020. LEDC has been operating from this plan for the last 3 years. Given the accelerated pace of development in Lockhart, staff recommended, and the Board approved, an expenditure in the FY 2022-23 LEDC budget to complete an update of the strategy. Lockhart has seen an incredible increase in housing starts over the past 2 years to levels never before seen. The emergence of new housing units, including multifamily, is due, in part, to Tesla locating 25 miles north of Lockhart as well as the affordability and desirability of Lockhart. Garner Economics began its work on the revisions in February 2023 and Mr. Garner presented those changes to City Council on June 20, 2023. Items in the original strategy such as an industrial park have been completed and the emergence of a viable megasite nearby have all occurred since 2020. Two new targets are being recommended for implementation over the next 3 years to evolve the strategy with the real world economic shifts occurring in Lockhart's immediate area.

H. DISCUSSION OF CITY ORDINANCE SEC. 56-280 THROUGH SEC. 56-286, OPERATING GOLF CARTS ON CITY STREETS.

Chief Williamson stated that in 2011, the City adopted Ordinance No. 2011-03 allowing the permitting and operation of golf carts on city streets. Currently, the ordinance requires a golf cart permit through the police department with an annual renewal. Golf cart drivers must be licensed to operate a motor vehicle, carry a valid driver's license and maintain financial responsibility. Drivers must abide by all traffic regulations. Required equipment on the golf cart includes: operational headlamps and tail lamps; side reflectors, an operational parking brake, rearview mirrors, operational turn signals, an operational electric automobile horn, properly operational brakes, operational brake lights, seatbelts for the operator and all passengers and a slow moving vehicle sign. Golf carts may only operate on streets with a speed limit of 30 miles per hour or less. A golf cart may cross a street at an intersection where the road or street has a speed limit of more than 30 miles per hour. Penalties for violations are outlined in the ordinance. The Lockhart Police Department has been working with the Public Information Officer in creating a dedicated webpage addressing golf carts, which will contain our current policy regarding these vehicles—including links to City ordinance, state law, a diagram illustrating the required safety equipment, and information on how people can register their vehicles and with whom. This page will be easily accessible through the Lockhart Police Department's section in the City of Lockhart's website and will be updated accordingly,

also dependent on any Council direction. There was discussion.

RECESS: Mayor White announced that the Council would recess for a break at 8:10 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Lew White called the meeting to order at 8:25 p.m.

ITEM 2. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Councilmember McGregor 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.

Eli Fadora of Part Time Ambulance Inc stated that the company would like to provide emergency medical services to the community. He provided information about the medical services that the company provides. He stated that the service would begin at a fee of \$75 for the patient with no cost to the city. The drivers would use their personal vehicle to provide transportation to the hospital.

ITEM 4-A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE PRESENTATION AND INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT REQUEST FROM CAPITAL AREA RURAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (CARTS).

Mayor White recommended that staff evaluate the proposed interlocal agreement and return it to Council at a future meeting with a proposed amount to fund.

Mayor White made a motion to table the item. Councilmember Mendoza seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

ITEM 4-B. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS REQUESTING FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to allocate the amount funded last year, divide \$2,000 (amount not funded to Cenikor) amongst all, and to add a 5% increase to each non-profit organization receiving funding. Councilmember McGregor seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

ITEM 4-C. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER WORK AUTHORIZATION #4 FOR HALFF ASSOCIATES UNDER THE MASTER GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE AQUATIC CONSULTING & VISIONING AND FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR BUILDING A NEW AQUATICS FACILITY.

Councilmember Michelson made a motion to approve the work authorization #4 for Halff Associates, as presented. Councilmember Westmoreland seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

ITEM 4-D. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 2023-12 GRANTING CONSENT TO THE CREATION OF CALDWELL COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 5.

Councilmember Westmoreland made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-12, as presented. Councilmember McGregor seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

ITEM 4-E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER A LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REGARDING THE 2023 TEXAS LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION.

There was no action.

ITEM 4-F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 2023-11 OF THE CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS ADOPTING A TARGET INDUSTRY STRATEGY (TIS) REPORT REFRESH; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Councilmember Michelson made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-11, as presented. Councilmember McGregor seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

ITEM 4-G. DISCUSSION OF CITY ORDINANCE SEC. 56-280 THROUGH SEC. 56-286, OPERATING GOLF CARTS ON CITY STREETS.

There was no action.

ITEM 5. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- Courthouse Nights will be held July 21, 2023.
- Public opinion survey for the Parks Master Plan Update opened in early July.
- The City has been awarded the maximum grant amount of \$25,000 from CAPCOG for the purchase of a replacement baler for the Lockhart Recycling Center.
- Update regarding a SH 142 corridor study for future roadway improvements.
- Update regarding the City water conservation requirements.

ITEM 6. COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMENTS - ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Councilmember Mendoza stated that he offered the City of Lockhart to host a TMLRegion 10 meeting on September 14th.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez expressed condolences to families that have lost a loved one. She thanked all involved with the successful 4th of July event.

Councilmember McGregor thanked the Parks Department for getting the city pool operational again. She encouraged everyone to stay cool. She invited all to attend Courthouse Nights.

Councilmember Castillo thanked staff for their work. He welcomed Mr. Resendez to the community, and he encouraged everyone to stay safe.

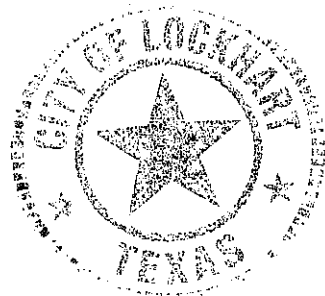
Councilmember Michelson reminded the community that there is a new splash pad on Maple Street. He welcomed the new Assistant City Manager to Lockhart.

Mayor White also thanked staff for the new splash pad on Maple Street. He wished St. Mary's Catholic Church a successful Jamaica this weekend. He thanked all involved with the successful Fireworks Extravaganza. He encouraged everyone to follow the watering restrictions and golf cart owners to follow the city's regulations.

ITEM 7. 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 8:54 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 7th day of May, 2024.



CITY OF LOCKHART


Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:



Julie Bowermon
City Secretary