



City of Farmers Branch Action Meeting Minutes City Council

Farmers Branch City Hall
13000 Wm Dodson Pkwy
Farmers Branch, Texas

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

The full video of this meeting is available on the City website at <https://farmersbranch.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Council Present: Mayor William Glancy, Mayor Pro Tem David Merritt, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Richard Jackson, Councilmember Omar Roman, Councilmember Michael Driskill, Councilwoman Tina Bennett-Burton

Staff Present: City Manager Benjamin Williamson, Deputy City Manager Mike Mashburn, Chief of Staff Jawaria Tareen, City Secretary Stacy Henderson, City Attorney Pete Smith, Police Chief Kevin McCoy, Fire Chief Daniel Latimer, Director of Parks and Recreation Rachael Arroyo, Director of Sustainability & Public Health Shane Davis, Director of Economic Development Allison Cook, Director of Finance Tammy Zimmerman, Director of Communications Jeff Brady, Director of Innovation and Technology Mark Samuels

A. CALL TO ORDER - EXECUTIVE SESSION (4:00 P.M.)

Mayor Glancy called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The City Council convened into Executive Session at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the following items:

- A.1 The City Council may convene into closed Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code to discuss economic development incentives for Project Frito.**
- A.2 The City Council may convene into closed Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code to discuss economic development incentives for Project Teach.**
- A.3 The City Council will convene into closed Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.074 Personnel Deliberation and Section 551.071(2) of the Texas Government Code, to discuss and review Code of Ethics complaints against Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Richard Jackson, Councilmember Omar Roman, and Councilwoman Tina Bennett-Burton, and receive a report from the City Attorney regarding said complaints.**

B. STUDY SESSION

The City Council reconvened from Executive Session at 5:05 p.m. and called the Study Session meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

B.1 Discuss regular agenda items.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson discussed with staff questions related to Agenda Item K.1 asking why the length of the permitting process was being extended. Danielle Summers, Director of Community Services explained that the amendment would assist contractors with the delay in obtaining materials in a timely manner.

Councilmember Roman discussed with staff questions related to Agenda Item I.2, culvert project, regarding timelines for completion and communication with residents. Ryan Sartor, Director of Public Works explained the project was in the design phase and would communicate with residents before the project begins.

B.2 Discuss and provide direction regarding contracts for services with non-profit organizations.

Jawaria Tareen, Chief of Staff presented this item reviewing funding requests. Ms. Tareen noted that Stand 4 Sisterhood did not respond to staff inquiries and discussed the contract proposal for a case manager to oversee homelessness initiatives and the home repair program. City Manager Ben Williamson discussed with the City Council current resources for homelessness initiatives and duties of the proposed case manager.

The City Council requested additional information outlining funds paid for membership and events for the Farmers Branch Chamber and Metrocrest Chamber and identify what percentage this funding was of their total budget. Each non-profit group would also be invited to upcoming City Council meetings to have further discussions regarding their proposed funding requests.

B.3 Discuss future agenda items.

Mayor Pro Tem Merritt requested a housing program document be created promoting the various housing strategies available such as Builders of Hope, Demo Rebuild Program, and the Home Repair Program, and how the City intends to approach future housing needs and demands.

C. CALL TO ORDER - REGULAR MEETING (6 P.M.)

Mayor Glancy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

D. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Merritt lead the Invocation and Councilmember Driskill lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

E. CEREMONIAL ITEMS

E.1 Presentation from the DFW Directors Association recognizing Jan Wooldridge with the Supreme Service Award.

Mayor Glancy and Venera Flores with DFW Directors Association presented the Supreme Service Award to Jan Woolridge for her service and commitment.

E.2 Presentation of a Proclamation recognizing May 2023 as Tap Dance Month in Farmers Branch.

Mayor Glancy presented a Proclamation declaring May 2023 as Tap-Dancing month.

E.3 Presentation of a Proclamation Recognizing May as National Bike Month.

Mayor Glancy presented a Proclamation recognizing May as National Bike Month.

F. ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Jeff Brady, Director of Communications presented items of community interest.

G. DISCUSS THE STATE OF THE CITY

Councilmember Roman thanked Neighborhood Services Director Leo Bonanno and staff for their code enforcement efforts in his district that generated a total of 1,124 violations with a 99 percent compliance rate. Councilmember Roman also thanked Police Chief McCoy and the Police Department for their efforts on curtailing speeding in the community with an increase in traffic stops up 36.8 percent.

Mayor Glancy thanked staff for hosting the Fishin Fun event with over 1,400 people in attendance.

H. TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY AS A RESULT OF THE CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, seconded by Councilmember Driskill to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute on behalf of the City an economic development incentive agreement for Project Frito, including any amendments or instruments relating thereto, which provides five annual grants equal to 50% of the incremental increase in the property taxes assessed against the business personal property located at 4350 Innovation Drive in Farmers Branch provided the taxable value of such property is at least \$26,000,000 each for the five years subject to: (1) company purchasing the real property and improvements located 14460 Innovation Drive & 4350 Innovation Drive Farmers Branch, Texas; (2) company continuously owns and occupies such real property for at least 5 years following the purchase; (3) company creates, fills and maintains at least 150 full time employment positions at the real property for at least 5 years; and (4) subject to the standard City terms and conditions. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Driskill, Councilwoman Burton

A motion was made by Councilwoman Burton, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Merritt to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute on behalf of the City an economic development incentive agreement for Project Teach, including any amendments or instruments relating thereto, which provides an economic development grant in the amount of \$50,000 to be paid in two equal installments with the first installment to be paid on execution of a lease of 12990 Bee Street Suite E 3A, Farmers Branch (the "Leased Premises) for a period of at least 7 years (the "Lease"), and with the second installment to be paid upon issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the Leased Premises, subject to: (1) company execution of the Lease for the Leased Premises; (2) company continuously leasing and occupying the Leased Premises for a period of 7 years; (3) company using the Leased Premises for its corporate headquarters and for incubator space for teaching entrepreneurs on financial literacy, with minor retail sale of its products to the public; and (4) subject to the standard City terms and conditions. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Driskill, Councilwoman Burton

A motion was made by Councilmember Roman, seconded by Councilmember Driskill to reject the ethics complaint filed against Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Richard Jackson. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Driskill, and Councilwoman Burton. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson recused himself from this vote.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, seconded by Councilmember Roman to reject the ethics complaint filed against Councilwoman Tina Bennett-Burton. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, Councilmember Roman, and Councilmember Driskill. Councilwoman Burton recused herself from this vote.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, seconded by Councilwoman Burton to reject all three ethics complaints filed against Councilmember Roman. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, Councilmember Driskill, and Councilwoman Burton. Councilmember Roman recused himself from this vote:

A motion was made by Councilmember Roman, seconded by Councilwoman Burton to make the City Attorney's report regarding the findings of the ethics complaint available to the public. The motion passed with the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Driskill, Councilwoman Burton

I. CONSENT AGENDA

- I.1 Consider approving the following City Council meeting minutes; and take appropriate action.
April 18, 2023 Regular Meeting**
- I.2 Consider approving Resolution No. 2023-067 authorizing the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with Freese and Nichols, Inc., in the amount of \$109,247 for the Valley View Culvert Rehabilitation Project; and take appropriate action.**
- I.3 Consider approving Resolution No. 2023-059 authorizing Quorum Architects, Inc. to provide conceptual design and related items for the Squire Park Project in the amount of \$7,400.00; and take appropriate action.**
- I.4 Consider approving Resolution No. 2023-062 authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Hunt Strategies, LLC in the amount of \$14,700; and take appropriate action.**

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Driskill, Councilwoman Burton

J. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings held at this meeting.

K. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

- K.1 Consider approving Ordinance No. 3793 amending Chapter 22, Buildings and Building Regulations Article III.5 Residential Code, Section 22-101 Amendments to International Residential Code of the Code of Ordinances by amending the expiration of certain permit applications and permits; and take appropriate action.**

Danielle Summers, Director of Community Services presented the item discussing the ordinance amendment for extending the amount of time for completion of permits from one year to 18 months for single family construction.

The following individuals requested to speak:

Tom Cusick, 13901 Midway, Farmers Branch
Re: spoke in favor of amending the ordinance.

Todd Bonneau, Farmers Branch resident
Re: spoke in favor of amending the ordinance.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, seconded by Council Member Driskill, that this Ordinance be accepted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Mayor Pro Tem Merritt, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jackson, Councilmember Roman, Councilmember Driskill, Councilwoman Burton

L. CITIZEN COMMENTS

The following individual requested to speak during Citizen Comment:

James Lockridge, 11771 Mira Lago, Farmers Branch
Re: Spoke regarding code enforcement concerns and Council code of ethics.

M. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Approved by: _____
Mayor Terry Lynne

Signed by: _____
City Secretary Stacy Henderson