

June 20, 2016

On this the 20th day of June 6:30 p.m., the City Commission of the City of Hereford, Texas, convened in a regular session in the Commission Chamber, in the City Hall, the meeting being open to the public and notice of said meeting having been given as prescribed by Chapter 551 of the Government Code, with the following members being present and in attendance, to-wit:

Tom Simons, Mayor  
 Angie Alonzo, Commissioner Place Two  
 Charlie Kerr, Commissioner Place Three  
 Linda Cumpton, Commissioner, Place Four  
 Cathy Bunch, Commissioner Place Five  
 Marcos Castro, Commissioner Place Six  
 Rick L. Hanna, City Manager  
 Suzanne Finch, City Secretary  
 Audie Sciumbato, City Attorney

Absent: Jose A. Garza, Commissioner Place One

John Carson from the Hereford Brand was in attendance to witness the proceedings. Also in attendance were Rick O'Conner, Ronnie Moore, Rocky Bhakta, Johnny Torres, Todd Murray, Glen Duque, and Officer M'Chele Wright.

Mayor Simons voiced the invocation and then called upon Commissioner Bunch to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag. He called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and introduced each item on the agenda.

**REGULAR HEARING:**

**ITEM 1 – Consider approval of minutes for the May 16th, 2016 Regular Meeting.**

Commissioner Cumpston made the motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Alonzo seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*Mayor Simons went into Executive Session at 6:34 p.m. noting all members were present except for Commissioner Garza.*

**ITEM 2 – Interview applicants for City Commissioner, Place Six vacancy. Provided by Title 5, Chapter 551 Government Code 551.074 Personnel Matters.)**

*Mayor Simons ended the Executive Session at 7:04 p.m. noting no action had been taken.*

**REGULAR HEARINGS:****ITEM 3 – Appoint City Commissioner, Place Six.**

Mayor Simons thanked both men, Rocky Bhakta and Marcos Castro, for their interest and willingness to serve; noting it is not an easy decision.

Mayor Simons opened the floor for nominations for City Commissioner Place Six.

Commissioner Kerr nominated Rocky Bhakta to serve as City Commissioner Place Six. Commissioner Alonzo seconded the motion. The motion failed (Mayor Simons nay; Commissioner Alonzo aye; Commissioner Kerr aye; Commissioner Cumpton nay; Commissioner Bunch nay).

Commissioner Bunch made the motion to appoint Marcos Castro to fill the Commissioner Place Six vacancy. Commissioner Cumpton seconded the motion. The motion passed (Mayor Simons aye; Commissioner Alonzo nay; Commissioner Kerr nay; Commissioner Cumpton aye; Commissioner Bunch aye).

**ITEM 4 – Swear in City Commissioner, Place Six.**

Mayor Simons called upon City Secretary Finch to swear in City Commissioner Place Six Marcos Castro.

*(Commissioner Castro then took his place at the dais).*

**ITEM 5 – Automated Meter Presentation.**

Rick O’Conner and Ronnie Moore of K. W. Sharp introduced themselves and presented a slideshow on their automated meter system. They noted the software allows the user to continuously monitor usage allowing for data driven insight to identify leaks and the health of the meters as well as giving citizens tools to monitor their behavior and usage choices; it is also compatible with our Incode software.

The Commission expressed concern over the cost and if it was possible to recoup some of the revenue by replacing older meters with the new ones that do a better job of more accurately measuring actual usage. Mr. O’Conner agreed it is a big commitment and offered to test 1-1/2% of the current meters to provide the Commission with a weighted average at no cost to the City.

Mayor Simons inquired as to how cumbersome this task was and they assured him it was a matter of randomly selecting 60-70 meters from a master list, testing them, and then calculating an average weighted loss that would give the Commission an educated guess on how much revenue is being lost due to old meters not accurately recording all the water that flows through them.

Mayor Simons asked the utility maintenance men at the meeting for their input. Todd Murray, Glenn Duque, and Johnny Torres all agreed they thought switching to the automated system was a good idea – better equipment to monitor usage and since less labor intensive not having to read meters every month would free them up to work on other projects.

The presentation concluded at 8:06 p.m.; Mayor Simons thanked them for the information.

**ITEM 6 - Discuss pool rates.**

City Manager Hanna stated this item was discussed during the work session and he would like for the Commission to review the proposed changes; offer any suggestions; and an ordinance would be presented at the next meeting.

**ITEM 7 - Consider approval of appointment of Lt. Randy Stribling as the City of Hereford's Local Rabies Control Authority for purposes of the RABIES CONTROL ACT OF 1981.**

Commissioner Kerr made the motion to appoint Lt. Randy Stribling to serve as the City of Hereford's Local Rabies Authority for purposes of the RABIES CONTROL ACT OF 1981. Commissioner Cumpton seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

**ITEM 8 - Consider approval of re-appointment to the Hereford Area Tax Abatement Board and appointment to fill vacancy.**

Commissioner Cumpton made the motion to reappoint Commissioner Alonzo and to appoint Commissioner Bunch to serve the unexpired term of Sam Metcalf as City Representatives on the Hereford Area Tax Abatement Board. Commissioner Castro seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

**ITEM 9 - Consider cancelling meeting set for July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016.**

The Commission agreed to cancel the meeting set for July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in observance of the holiday.

**ITEM 10 – Announcements and comments from Mayor and City Commissioners.**

Commissioner Kerr congratulated and welcomed Marcos Castro; the other commissioners did the same. Commissioner Castro thanked them for the opportunity and stated he was glad to serve.

Mayor Simons congratulated Commissioner Castro and thanked him for his interest.

**ITEM 11 – Announcements and comments from City Staff.**

City Manager Hanna invited Commissioner Castro to come by the office so he could bring him up to speed on current projects.

**ITEM 12 – Public Comments.**

There were no public comments.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.