

August 10, 2020

On this the 10th day of August, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., the City Commission of the City of Hereford, Texas, convened in a special 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 (via telephone)
 Clint Savoini, Commissioner Place Three
 Linda Cumpton, Commissioner, Place Four
 Cathy Bunch, Commissioner Place Five
 Rocky Bhakta, Commissioner Place Six
 Steve Bartels, Interim City Manager
 Suzanne Finch, City Secretary
 Audie Sciumbato, City Attorney

Absent: Jose A. Garza, Commissioner Place One

Jeff Blackmon from the Hereford Brand was in attendance to witness the proceedings.

Also in attendance were Fire Marshal/EMC Dean Turney, HEDC Executive Director Wade Hawkins, and Officer Stephanie Billingsley.

Mayor Simons called upon Commissioner Cumpston to voice the invocation and then called upon Commissioner Bhakta 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 HEARINGS:

ITEM 1 – Consider approval of minutes for the July 6th, 2020 Special Meeting.

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

ITEM 2 – Hear report from Hereford Economic Development Corporation.

HEDC Executive Director Hawkins reported on the following:

- Caviness staffing update
- Conveyor / Expio update
- Bureau Veritas / L2L Development Advisors update
- Cross point update
- Arrowhead Mills closure
- Business Development update

ITEM 3 - Consider approval of Hereford Economic Development Corporation's action taken (August 5th, 2020) on the Hereford Sportsplex Lease.

HEDC Executive Director Hawkins stated with the new soccer field coming soon, we needed to clarify ownership.

Interim City Manager Bartels stated Hereford Sports & Wellness (in order to get their financing in place) needed all this cleared up. He noted a portion of the land the soccer field will be built on will be leased to the Hereford Sportsplex by the City; and, part of it is on the nine acres the HEDC is leasing to the Hereford Sportsplex. Interim City Manager Bartels stated these leases are for a period of 64 years and will expire the same year the lease expires [2084] for the old YMCA building on 15th Street.

Commissioner Savoini made the motion to approve the action taken on the Sportsplex Lease by the HEDC Board. Commissioner Bhakta seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 4 - Consider approval of revised Order and Notice for the City Officers' Election postponed to November 3, 2020. (*Considerere aprobacion de Orden y Aviso revisado de Eleccion de los Oficiales de la Cuidad pospuesto el 3 de noviembre de 2020.*)

**ORDER OF ELECTION
FOR THE CITY OF HEREFORD**

An election is hereby ordered to be held on **Tuesday, November 3, 2020** for the purpose of electing the following official of said city:

COMMISSIONER, PLACE FOUR

Location of Polling Places:

**Caviness Sportsplex, 525 S. Kingwood, Hereford, TX 79045
Deaf Smith County Courthouse, 235 E. 3rd Street, Hereford, TX 79045
Hereford Senior Citizens Center, 426 Ranger, Hereford, TX 79045
Hereford Community Center, 100 Avenue C, Hereford, TX 79045**

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the Deaf Smith County Courthouse, 235 E. 3rd Street, Hereford, Texas, 79045

between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on October 13, 2020, and ending on October 30, 2020. Hours will be extended on October 29, 2020 and October 30, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:

**Rachel Garman, County Clerk
Deaf Smith County Courthouse
235 E. 3rd Street
Hereford, Texas 79045**

Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on October 23, 2020.

Issued this the 10th day of August, 2020.

/s/ Tom Simons
Tom Simons, Mayor

**NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION
(AVISO DE ELECCION GENERAL)**

To the Registered Voters of the City of Hereford, Texas:
(A los votantes registrados de la Ciudad de Hereford, Texas:)

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on November 3, 2020, for voting in a general election to elect Commissioner Place Four (Por la presente se notifica que las casillas electorales sitados abajo estaran abierto desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 3 de noviembre de 2020 para votar en la Eleccion General para elegir Comisionado Lugar Cuatro.)

**LOCATION OF POLLING PLACES
(UBICACION DE LAS CASILLAS ELECTORAL)**

Caviness Sportsplex, 525 S. Kingwood, Hereford, TX 79045

Deaf Smith County Courthouse, 235 E. 3rd Street, Hereford, TX 79045

Hereford Senior Citizens Center, 426 Ranger, Hereford, TX 79045

Hereford Community Center, 100 Avenue C, Hereford, TX 79045

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted each weekday at the Deaf Smith County Courthouse, 235 E. 3rd Street, Hereford, Texas, 79045 (La votacion adelantada en persona se llevara acabo de lunes a viernes en Deaf Smith County Courthouse, 235 E. 3rd Street, Hereford, Texas, 79045)

Between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. beginning on **October 13, 2020** and ending on **October 30, 2020**. (entre las 8:00 de la manana hasta las 5:00 de la tarde empezando el 13 de octubre de 2020 y terminando el 30 de octubre de 2020.) Hours will be extended on **October 29, 2020** and **October 30, 2020** from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Horas seran prolongado el **29 de octubre de 2020** y **el 30 de octubre de 2020** desde 7:00 de la manana y terminando a las 7:00 de la tarde.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to:
(Las solicitudes de voto por correo deberan enviarse a:)

**Rachel Garman, County Clerk
Deaf Smith County Courthouse
235 E. 3rd Street
Hereford, Texas 79045**

Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on **October 23, 2020**. (Las solicitudes de voto por correo deberan recibirse para el fin de las horas de negocio el **23 de octubre de 2020**.)

Issued this the 10th day of August, 2020.
(Emitada este dia 10th de August de 2020.)

/s/ Tom Simons
Tom Simons, Mayor
(Tom Simons, Alcalde)

Interim City Manager Bartels stated this is the new order and notice required since the election was postponed until November 3rd. He noted this election is only for Commissioner Cumpton's position.

Commissioner Bunch made the motion to approve the revised order and notice. Commissioner Bhakta seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 5 - Consider approval of Resolution No. 08.10.20 authorizing a Joint Election Agreement between the City of Hereford and Deaf Smith County, Texas. (*Considere la aprobacion de la Resolucion No. 08.10.20 que autoriza de Acuerdo de Eleccion Conjunta entre la Ciudad de Hereford y el Condado de Deaf Smith, Texas.*)

RESOLUTION NO. 08.10.20 OF THE CITY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS
AUTHORIZING A JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT
WITH DEAF SMITH COUNTY, TEXAS

The City Commission for the City of Hereford, Texas does hereby make the following Resolution regarding the joint election to be conducted with Deaf Smith County, Texas, as more fully described in the Joint Election Agreement (the "Agreement") attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and fully incorporated as if set forth herein:

WHEREAS, Texas Election Code § 271.002(a) authorizes the governing bodies of political subdivisions to enter into an agreement to hold joint elections and share common polling places; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hereford, Texas ("City") and Deaf Smith County ("County") are each political subdivisions of the State of Texas; and,

WHEREAS, the County will conduct an election on November 3, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the City also intends to conduct an election on November 3, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the governing bodies of the City and the County desire to hold a joint election as set forth in the Agreement; and,

WHEREAS, the City and the County have agreed to use polling places as permitted by Texas Election Code § 271.003; and,

WHEREAS, the City and County have common voters, and it would be to the benefit of the County, the City, and the resident voters thereof, to share joint polling places, and for the County to provide election services, as set forth in the Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD that the Commission hereby adopts the above recitals as findings of fact and operative provisions hereof the same as if set out in full; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the City's election shall be held jointly with Deaf Smith County, Texas, as permitted under Texas Election Code Chapter 271, and as set forth in the Agreement attached hereto; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Commission authorizes the Interim City Manager to enter into the attached Agreement, and that the Interim City Manager is authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as are necessary to implement the actions that are contemplated herein, whether or not expressly authorized herein.

PASSED AND APPROVED, this 10th day of August, 2020, by the City Commission of the City of Hereford, Texas.

/s/ Tom Simons
Tom Simons, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Suzanne Finch
Suzanne Finch, City Secretary

Interim City Manager Bartels stated the County will run and do everything necessary for this election; hopefully, next year we will be able to have the election at its usual time in May.

Commissioner Bhakta made the motion to approve the joint election. Commissioner Alonzo seconded and the motion passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 6 - Consider cancelling regular City Commission Meeting scheduled for September 7th, 2020.

Mayor Simons stated the Commission will cancel the September 7th meeting unless there are objections. There were none.

ITEM 7- Announcements and comments from Mayor and City Commissioners.

Commissioner Alonzo inquired about the maximum number of people allowed to gather. Fire Marshal/EMC Turney noted the maximum is no longer 10, it is now 100.

Commissioner Cumpton thanked all the City Staff for keeping the parks looking great in spite of the drought.

Commissioner Savoini praised Interim City Manager Bartels for doing a great job on the budget.

Commissioner Bhakta noted the golf course looks good and the new assistant golf pro is doing a good job.

Mayor Simons noted some shingles on the backside of the pro shop had blown off.

Interim City Manager Bartels stated he had contacted a roofer and they were supposed to go by today and look at it.

Mayor Simons praised Fire Marshal/EMC Turney for his handling of COVID-19.

ITEM 8 – Announcements and comments from City Staff.

Fire Marshal/EMC Turney noted numbers continue to go up; 763 total with 257 active cases.

Commissioner Savoini inquired about how the numbers were derived if a person is tested more than once. Fire Marshal/EMC Turney advised each person is only on the list one time.

Commissioner Savoini and Commissioner Bhakta thanked Fire Marshal Turney for his work on COVID-19.

Commissioner Alonzo inquired about the mayors' and the governor's role in relation to COVID-19. Mayor Simons advised that mayors in our state do not have the authority to override the governor's orders.

Interim City Manager Bartels went over the results of the bid openings for the lift station, well drilling, and pipe; he stated the awarding of the contracts will hopefully be on the September agenda for the Commission's consideration.

Interim City Manager Bartels stated our website is in need of updating and we are working with GoDaddy to get that done. The cost with their current deal will be approximately \$2900.00 which is relatively cheap in comparison to other companies that host websites. He noted currently we are unable to post anything on the old website.

Interim City Manager Bartels noted construction on the new Civic Center is going relatively smooth.

Interim City Manager Bartels stated the City has had some positive cases; we were able to use employees from other departments to cover the work.

Interim City Manager Bartels thanked everyone for their attendance at the budget work session and asked them to call with any questions.

Mayor Simons asked for prayers for the hospital and others dealing with the pandemic; he stated he appreciates all that Jeff Barnhart [Hereford Regional Medical Center] and Sherri Blankenship [Hereford Independent School District] are doing.

Mayor Simons thanked the City Staff for setting up the Commission Chamber this way [in conformance with social distancing recommendations].

ITEM 9 – Public Comments.

There were no public comments.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 p. m.