

On this the 8th day of January, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., the City Commission of the City of Hereford, Texas, convened in a special session in the Commission Chamber in 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:

Cathy Bunch, Mayor
 Rose Mary Barrett, Commissioner Place One
 Clint Savoini, Commissioner Place Three
 Mark Collier, Commissioner Place Four
 James Stow, Commissioner Place Five
 Steve Bartels, City Manager
 Suzanne Finch, City Secretary

Absent: Angie Alonzo, Commissioner Place Two
 Rocky Bhakta, Commissioner Place Six
 Audie Sciumbato, City Attorney

No one was in attendance from the media to witness the proceedings.

Also, in attendance were Dean Turney, Wade Hawkins, Kurt Jones, Landon Swan, and Jon Galland.

Mayor Bunch voiced the invocation and then asked Commissioner Savoini to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag. She called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

REGULAR HEARINGS:

ITEM 1 – Public Comments.

Mayor Bunch reminded the audience of the new rule: the public is not allowed to approach the dais after the meeting; they will be escorted out of the chamber.

There were no comments from the public.

ITEM 2 – Consider approval of minutes for the December 18th, 2023 Regular meeting.

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

ITEM 3 – Hear presentation from Jon Galland regarding the West Park Cemetery.

Jon Galland passed out to the Commission some general information on the cemetery that included a current balance sheet, profit & loss statement, proposed expansion including the cost to demo the old Alco building, and the new cemetery budget.

He went over the information in the handouts and noted they have purchased software and are in the process of transferring information from a 1,000-page book into it; however, it is a big project.

He went over the average number of plots sold, cost per plot in comparison to other cemeteries, proposed prices, employees, and perpetual care.

In response to questions, he stated several reasons for not wanting to take over the cemetery North of town – lots too close together, no perpetual care, and not a lot of documentation.

Mr. Galland thanked the Commission and asked them to look at some sort of partnership noting he would be willing to help out; they are just looking for a good solution for the cemetery.

ITEM 4 – Consider approval of Resolution No. 01.08.24 confirming the City of Hereford, Texas, supports the rehabilitation of affordable rental housing at 401 Jack Griffin Drive named Hereford Estates in the City of Hereford.

RESOLUTION NO. 01.08.24

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE CITY OF HEREFORD, TEXAS, SUPPORTS THE REHABILITATION OF AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING AT 401 JACK GRIFFIN DRIVE NAMED HEREFORD ESTATES IN THE CITY OF HEREFORD

WHEREAS, Hereford Estates, LP has proposed the rehabilitation of affordable rental housing at 401 Jack Griffin Drive named Hereford Estates in the City of Hereford; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for affordable housing in the City of Hereford for citizens of modest means; and

WHEREAS, Hereford Estates, LP intends to submit an application to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) for the 2024 Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program for Hereford Estates.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the City of Hereford, acting through the City Commission its governing body, hereby supports the rehabilitation of the above-named development; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Hereford also affirms it will offer a discount of \$250.00 off the total amount of the building permit fee for the benefit of the development.

This resolution was duly **PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED** by the City Commission of the City of Hereford this the 8th day of January, 2024.

/s/ Cathy Bunch
Cathy Bunch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Suzanne Finch
Suzanne Finch, City Secretary

Commissioner Collier made the motion to approve Resolution No. 01.08.24 as presented. Commissioner Barrett seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 5 – Hear report from Hereford Economic Development Corporation.

HEDC Executive Director Kurt Jones reported on the following:

- Extended Stay Motel
 - Entering into an agreement with Rocky Bhakta
 - Approximately \$56,000.00
 - Relax Inn
 - Remodel
 - Extended stay
 - Will bring before City Commission for approval at their next meeting
- Restaurants
 - Typically, Board is looking for a “new stream of revenue”
 - Harder requirements by law – not a lot of retail
 - Hereford Bar & Grill
 - Rusty Pit BBQ
 - Golden Chick

ITEM 6 - Consider approval of Hereford Economic Development Corporation’s expenditure of money (Resolution No. 01.03.24) for a baseball complex.

Mayor Bunch read the resolution caption “A Resolution of the Hereford Economic Development Corporation approving the expenditure of money for a new baseball complex and establishing criteria related thereto.”

Commissioner Savoini made a motion to approve HEDC Resolution No. 01.03.24 authorizing the expenditure of an amount not to exceed three million dollars for the development and construction of the Baseball Complex in the City of Hereford, Texas after the City of Hereford spends three million five hundred thousand dollars on the development and construction of the Baseball Complex. Commissioner Barrett seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 7 - Consider authorizing the city manager to enter into a contract between the City of Hereford and Hereford Sports & Wellness for the operation and management of the new baseball/softball complex.

Commissioner Collier made the motion to authorize the city manager to enter into a contract between the City of Hereford and Hereford Sports & Wellness for the operation and management of the new baseball/softball complex. Commissioner Savoini seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 8 – Consider cancelling the Regular Meeting set for January 15, 2024.

Commissioner Savoini made the motion to cancel the meeting set for January 15th, 2024 in observance of the holiday. Commissioner Stow seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 9 - Announcements and comments from Mayor and City Commissioners.

Commissioner Collier thanked Jon Galland for coming to the meeting.

ITEM 10 - Announcements and comments from City Staff.

City Manager Bartels thanked everyone for coming out in this inclement weather and complimented the staff and first responders for going out in it to take care of business.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:10 p.m.