

On this the 6th day of January, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., the City Commission of the City of Hereford, Texas, convened in a regular 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
 Angie Alonzo, Commissioner Place Two
 Mark Collier, Commissioner Place Four
 James Stow, Commissioner Place Five
 Deven Black, Commissioner Place Six
 Steve Bartels, City Manager
 Wade Hawkins, Assistant City Manager
 Franchesca Jimenez, City Secretary
 Audie Sciumbato, City Attorney

Absent: Clint Savoini, Commissioner Place Three

Also, in attendance were Todd Murray, Johnny Torres, Landon Swan, Margaret Del Toro, and Ramon Nunez.

Jim Steiert from Hereford Brand was in attendance to witness the proceedings.

Mayor Bunch voiced the invocation and then called upon Commissioner Stow 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 3-minute limit and also the rule that the public is not allowed to approach the dais and will be escorted out of the chamber after the meeting adjourns.

Margaret Del Toro stated she is excited to hear that there are 14 applicants for the city manager position. She urged the Commission to take the time to listen to the applicants and determine who would best represent and lead the city.

ITEM 2 – Consider approval of minutes for the December 16th, 2024 Regular meeting.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ITEM 3 – Consultation with legal counsel regarding legal matters related to the baseball/softball complex. (Provided by Texas Government Code §551.071)

(Mayor Bunch ended the executive session at 7:26 p.m. and noted no action was taken.)

REGULAR HEARINGS:

ITEM 4 – Discuss and consider authorizing approval of spending additional money for the baseball/softball complex.

Commissioner Collier made the motion to approve the spending of \$750,000.00 for additional items to the baseball/softball complex. Commissioner Alonzo seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 5 – Discuss and Consider approval of bid for paving baseball/softball complex parking lot.

City Manager Bartels stated three bids were submitted; Advanced Pavement from Amarillo, Texas, submitted a bid total for 2” hot mix asphalt of \$380,633.00 and a bid total for 5” concrete paving totaling \$840,366.00; Holmes Construction from Amarillo, Texas submitted a bid total for 2” hot mix asphalt of \$478,065.00 and a bid total for 5” concrete paving totaling \$846,508.00; and Bermea Construction from Friona, Texas submitted a bid total for 2” hot mix asphalt of \$487,875.00.

Advanced Pavement was the lowest bidder. City Manager Bartels stated the additional money approved for the baseball/softball complex of \$750,000.00 includes the cost of the parking lot. He noted locals were asked but chose not to submit a bid.

Commissioner Stow made the motion to approve the bid to Advanced Pavement from Amarillo, Texas. Commissioner Barrett seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 6 – Discuss and consider approval of the City of Hereford Municipal Court Youth Diversion Plan Agreement of Understanding with the Deaf Smith County.

Mayor Bunch read the agreement. City Manager Bartels stated it was approved by the Legislature in 2023 to provide an alternative for eligible youth offenders, its main objectives are to reduce recidivism, identify and support at-risk youth, focus on accountability and community safety, and encourage collaboration. The diversion plan applies to minors with a Class C misdemeanor, excluding traffic citations. If the plan is followed the offense will be expunged from the minor's record. City Manager Bartels stated the Deaf Smith County Deputy Constable will be the coordinator for this program. The coordinator will oversee and keep track of the program.

Commissioner Collier made the motion to approve the City of Hereford Municipal Court Youth Diversion Plan Agreement of Understanding with the Deaf Smith County. Commissioner Black seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 7 – Consider cancelling the regular City Commission Meeting scheduled for January 20th, 2025 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day).

Commissioner Barrett made the motion to cancel the regular meeting for January 20th, 2025, and reschedule it for Tuesday, January 21st, 2025. Commissioner Alonzo seconded the motion and it passed with the unanimous vote of the Commission.

ITEM 8 – Announcements and comments from Mayor and City Commissioners.

Commissioner Collier thanked Margaret Del Toro and Ramon Nunez for attending the meeting. He expressed his excitement about the new year and the opening of the baseball/softball complex.

Mayor Bunch read thank you notes from Margaret Chisholm and Stacy Knight.

Mayor Bunch mentioned that many people have expressed their gratitude for the dog park.

ITEM 9 – Announcements and comments from City Staff.

City Manager Bartels stated the costs of revenue for the golf course have increased compared to 2023. He also noted the dog park is being utilized.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:41 p.m.