



**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
CITY OF ODESSA, TEXAS**

**January 19, 2021**

On January 19, 2021, a work session meeting of the Odessa City Council was held at 3:01 p.m., Odessa, Texas. Due to the COVID-19, the meeting was teleconferenced, as allowed by the Governor's executive order. City Council was present through teleconference.

City Council present: Mayor Javier Joven; Council members: Mark Matta, District One; Detra White, District Three; Tom Sprawls, District Four; Mari Willis, District Five; and Denise Swanner, At-Large.

City Council absent: Steven Thompson, District Two.

Others present: Michael Marrero, City Manager; Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, City Secretary; Natasha Brooks, City Attorney; Cindy Muncy, Assistant City Manager; Phillip Urrutia, Assistant City Manager; and other members of City staff.

A quorum being present, Mayor Joven called the meeting to order and the following proceedings were held:

Mayor Joven gave the invocation.

**Recycling services and budget allocation and contract award to Basin Disposal.** Tom Kerr, Director of Public Works/Utilities, stated that there was a Solid Waste Management Plan underway. The recycling will be included in the plan. The plan would provide an analysis and performance. There may be a potential cost increase that may be needed. Mr. Kerr stated that the recycling market has dropped and were reviewing sustaining the services or other options through the RFP. There were seven collection centers in the community. The City's facility was not a long-term option. Two proposals were received. Basin had a total cost of \$269,000 and Butts was \$382,000. The costs included an additional haul cost to take the recyclables to its facilities. Basin, the current contractor, could not sell the materials and needed additional funding to operate. The City was paying an additional \$5,000 a month to sustain Basin's operations. Mr. Kerr asked for Council's direction on funding the recycling services. The recycles picked up cardboard, plastic, and shredded paper. Most of the material went to the landfill about 1,000 tons a year. Without the recycling services, there was a potential for illegal dumping. The Solid Waste Plan would be completed in a month. Council requested a list of businesses participation and amount of participation cost. Mr. Kerr stated that the benefits were hard to quantify.

**Consider bid award for algicide for the Water Treatment Plant (\$60,000).** Mr. Kerr stated that algicide was a chemical used to prevent algae at the Water Treatment Plant. The cost was \$60,000 a year.

**Consider accepting and appropriating donation from Occidental Petroleum to Odessa Fire Rescue.** John Alvarez, Fire Chief, stated that Occidental Petroleum donated \$10,000 to the Fire Rescue. The funds would purchase personal protection equipment.

**Consider accepting and appropriating donation from Walmart Community Grants to Odessa Fire Rescue.** Chief Alvarez stated that two donations were received for \$2,000 and \$5,000. The funds would be used to purchase necessary equipment. Walmart Community

Grants have been donating for several years.

**Consider award of contract to Mid-Tex of Midland for construction of Fire Station #9 (\$5,875,000).** Chief Alvarez stated that JSA Architect and City staff reviewed and evaluated the ten proposals for the new fire station. It was recommended that Mid-Tex be awarded the contract for \$5,875,000. The construction would take 330 days to complete. The 2019 Certificates of Obligation funds would be used. Cruz Castillo, JSA Architects, reported that the company's resume, management team, and references were reviewed. Mid-Tex was the best ranked contractor. Mayor Joven asked about change orders. Mr. Castillo stated that the contractor was fair and there would be no issues with the project. The design allowed for contingency on changes to the project. The changes would be reviewed and was confident in the review process. The design was efficient. Mr. Castillo stated that the timeline provided for weather delays, but it would take 11 months to complete. The Building Official was reviewing the permits. Chief Alvarez stated that this new fire station on 87<sup>th</sup> St. would meet the necessary response time as the Lawndale area has grown. Personnel will be added, and it would help with Fire Stations #6 and #8. Mr. Marrero stated that the property was donated by the Hurt Family.

Council member White joined the meeting at 3:39 p.m.

**Discuss upcoming pool season.** Steve Patton, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that there was a time frame of mid-March for a June opening date of the pools. He recommended that the pools be opened at the 75% capacity. If the pools were open at 50% capacity, it would be a loss for the City. There was an additional cost to the contractors with the loss of revenue. In the past, full capacity at the pools was from opening day through July 5. Mr. Patton reported that the cost for management of the pools was \$280,000 and in house would be \$320,000. There was an increase in the cost from the contractor due to more cleaning and crowd control. Council member White was not pleased with the amount of cost increase last year but understood that there would be some increase.

**Discuss possible Council retreat.** Mr. Marrero recommended a strategic planning session for the City Council. The purpose was to review the procedures and policies, formulate a shared vision for the City, define strategic direction and develop goals and objectives. He suggested a Strategic Planning Committee. A third-party facilitator would facilitate the meeting. Other topics would include role and responsibilities, ethics, media relations and other topics. The Council agreed that the strategic planning session would be a good idea.

**Consider appointment of the Municipal Court Judge.** Motion was made by Council member Willis and seconded by Council member Matta to appoint Carlos Rodriguez as Municipal Court Judge with an effective date of January 12, 2021. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Joven, Matta, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Swanner  
Nay: None

Motion was made by Council member Sprawls and seconded by Council member Willis to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Joven, Matta, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Swanner  
Nay: None

The meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, CMC  
City Secretary

Javier Joven  
Mayor