



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

February 14, 2023

On February 14, 2023, a work session meeting of the Odessa City Council was held at 3:00 p.m., Council Chamber, fifth floor, City Hall, 411 W. 8th St., Odessa, Texas.

City Council present: Mayor Javier Joven; Council members: Mark Matta, District One; Steven P. Thompson, District Two; Gilbert Vasquez, District Three; Greg Connell, District Four, Chris Hanie, District Five; and Denise Swanner, At-Large.

Staff present: Agapito Bernal, Interim City Manager; Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, City Secretary; Dan Jones, Interim City Attorney; Aaron Smith, 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:

Council member Vasquez gave the invocation.

Performance Services Presentation. Chip Wood, Performance Services, provided background information on Performance Services. He stated that the company did not have any change orders only the ones requested from the client. The company had municipal experience with solar savings and smart metering. He reviewed its local government projects. There was no upfront cost. He explained the process as there was a preliminary utility audit, investment grade audit and implementation. Financing could include bonds or certificates of obligation. He discussed the City's smart meters in its battery life and technology. Mayor Joven stated that there was a hybrid of meters and the system was aging. An assessment was needed of the meter system. Mr. Wood stated that retrofit was considered and there were no recommendations of replacement of employees or wasting investment assets. The assessment made would determine the type of lids and would provide pros and cons on vendors. An elevated storage tower was needed in North Odessa. Options and guidance would be given regarding the project. Council had a consensus to get more information. Mr. Wood would have a preliminary review in 45 days for an assessment.

Floyd Gwin Park Renovation project update. Steve Patton, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that 98% of the Floyd Gwin project was complete. There was a delay in materials and due to weather. He reviewed the amenities of the park. The project was under budget with the change orders. The walking trail was less than a mile and there was a new fence at the pool. The turf was expanded. He reported that 122 trees were lost but would be replaced. The park had a water well.

Animal Control update. Mike Gerke, Police Chief, reported that the new shelter was near completion as the application was submitted for the certificate of occupancy. The old building would be destroyed. The one veterinarian application was withdrawn. Recruiting was being made in a ten statewide area.

Discuss to apply and accept funds for the City of Odessa Police Department from the 2023 HIDTA grant for \$8,800. Chief Gerke stated that the \$8,800 grant was for overtime for narcotic operations.

Discuss contract award for 2023 pavement rejuvenation. Yervand Hmayakyan, City Engineer, stated that the pavement rejuvenation was for preventative maintenance on low volume streets. The project was for 21 miles for a cost of \$647,451.25.

Discuss contract award for 2023 friction seal. Mr. Hmayakyan explained the friction seal process that extended the life of pavements on residential streets. The cost was \$628,459.20 which was budgeted.

Discuss the purchase of bunker gear for Odessa Fire Rescue firefighters using lifeline account. Cody Ritchie, Assistant Fire Chief, stated that 20 sets of bunker gear would be purchased through the Lifeline account for \$64,000.

Discuss and consider eliminating portions of Dawn Avenue and 61st Street as represented in the Master Thoroughfare Plan (Desert Ridge Subdivision). Mr. Smith asked for consideration of eliminating portions of Dawn and 61st St. as stated in the Master Thoroughfare Plan. The neighborhood would be divided with the road and bisect the neighborhood. He stated traffic would flow to and not through the neighborhood. Dawn could be built for five lanes but was only three lanes. Mr. Smith provided scenarios for Dawn. Mayor Joven stated that Odessa was built with traffic through the neighborhoods which helped with the overflow in main streets. Larry Lee, developer, stated that 61st St. was a dead end street leading to a back yard. The Master Plan required a five lane road. Tom Kerr, Director of Public Works/Utilities, stated that it was to provide for enough right-of-way. Mr. Lee stated that 61st St. was not needed west but was needed east as a five lane road. Mr. Kerr was notified by the consultant in December in the change of the Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) to be extended. The FFA was not in favor of improving the roadway. The right-of-way on Dawn was owned by the City. Don Stringer stated that the utility easement was for the water line. Council member Thompson stated that the RPZ could be moved to the other end. Mr. Smith recommended scenario three which was reviewed. The scenarios were discussed. There was a consensus to consider scenario three, with Dawn as a three lane collector street and not constructed to Yukon.

Receive economic development agreement between the Odessa Development Corporation and Taylor Sudden Services. Kris Crow, ODC President, stated that Taylor Sudden Service would expand its facilities and add jobs. There was a \$2.4 million capital investment. ODC approved a grant for \$862,579 to be paid out over five years. There were would be 24 new jobs.

Discuss amending the Animal Control code ordinance to allow for backyard hens. Mr. Jones summarized the proposed ordinance that included allowing four hens with a coop, yard enclosed and fenced, wings clipped and punishment. The coop must be at least 50 feet from the property line. Geneva Peterson favored the backyard chickens. She requested that the language be amended to be fifty feet with exception to the owner of the chickens. Bill Cleaver asked how it would be enforced with permits, wings clipped and coops and no roosters. Freda Daniels favored the chickens. She stated that chickens don't smell, and the fertilizer could be used on gardens. She asked to amend the language as not all types of chickens could fly and would not all need clipped wings. Caleb York supported the backyard chickens and there was no need to clip all chicken wings. Chicken would eat table scraps. Lucio Rodriguez stated that neighborhoods were built in the 1940s that had

chickens. He stated the city should be limited as what could be done in the backyard. Tim Harry supported the ordinance as eggs was a great source of protein. He asked that a tax be researched. He stated that clipping wings was not a need as chickens did not leave the property. Mayor Joven stated that the ordinance was not to outlaw fowl but was amended as recommended by the Police Department due to cock fighting. He stated that the ordinance must be enforced. He stated that there were issues of the cost to build the coop and may be a strain for the resources of enforcement. He asked for more information. Chief Gerke stated that the noise was not an issue but not having the facilities if the chickens were seized. Council member Thompson stated it was bureaucracy and how it would be enforced. He stated it was a knee jerk reaction to a short term problem.

Discuss and consider the annual review of the Code of Conduct. Mrs. Grimaldo stated that the review of the Code of Conduct was required by Ordinance. Council could make changes. The Code of Conduct was reviewed on an annual basis.

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

Aye: Joven, Matta, Thompson, Vasquez, Connell, Hanie, and Swanner
Nay: None

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

Javier Joven
Mayor