



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

May 4, 2021

On May 4, 2021, a work session meeting of the Odessa City Council was held at 3:00 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; Steven P. Thompson, District Two; Detra White, District Three; Tom Sprawls, District Four; Mari Willis, District Five; and Denise Swanner, At-Large.

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:

Council member Sprawls gave the invocation.

Discover Odessa Report. Monica Tschauner, Discover Odessa, provided a report from October 2020 through April 21, 2021. She reported that the total economic impact was \$5,201,434 with room nights of 7,272. Discover Odessa assisted 65 groups and total attendees was 33,322. She reviewed the groups that were assisted and upcoming events. She highlighted the activities with 65 events serviced and total service of 606.50 hours. Mrs. Tschauner provided an event impact summary for the West Texas County Judges and Commissioners Conference. The event had a direct tax return on investment of \$15,812. She provided a marketing report with total google searches of 10,865. The kiosk engagement was a great tool that was located at the conference center. The Sports Enhancement Recruitment Program incentivized groups that was overseen by a sports committee. The total request was \$68,000 with total granted of \$18,590. She reviewed the upcoming sport events. Council member White thanked Mrs. Tschauner and the staff for all they do for the community. She stated we should all promote our city. Council member Willis thanked the staff for all the hard work.

Keep Odessa Beautiful 2021 Report. Claudia Ortega, Keep Odessa Beautiful Executive Director, reviewed the mission and goals of Keep Odessa Beautiful. She explained the hybrid organization composed of Board of Directors and staff. She reviewed each of the programs and events that included categories of beautification, litter prevention, recycling, and sustainability. She discussed the signature fundraiser, the Recycle Fashion Show. Mrs. Ortega reviewed the 2021 initiatives for each of the categories. Council member Thompson asked if zero scape landscaping was encouraged. He stated that succulents and granite suit our area and be cognizant of zero scape. Mrs. Ortega stated that Keep Odessa Beautiful did encourage zero scape.

Consider award of bank deposit agreement. Larry Fry, Director of Finance, stated that three proposals were received for the City's bank deposit. Staff recommended BBVA who was our current financial institution. The agreement was for two years with three one-year extensions. Mr. Marrero stated that the process was based on evaluation.

Consider an agreement between the City and Paymentus to assume electronic payment process. Agapito Bernal, Director of Billing and Collection, stated that there was a transition from the utility software to Munis. Bids were received and it was recommended that an agreement with Paymentus be made. The charge was \$1.63 per transaction. Mayor Joven asked about the security issue. Mr. Bernal reported that Paymentus had a high security rating. It was a company that was proactive, good alliance and provide protection. He stated that payments could be made online and other services such as ambulance could be added to give customers options to pay. The City received a discount with utility payments and other services would be subject to 2.95% for non-utility payments. The City could expand its payable services through Paymentus.

Bid award for an erosion control project at Memorial Gardens. Steve Patton, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that the project was redesigned due to overbids on the first set of bids. He recommended Onyx Contractors for \$105,000. He explained the project to encase the bridge footings with a concrete wall.

Reject bids for installation of acoustic panels at Lawndale Community Building. Mr. Patton stated that one bid was received and was over budget. He recommended to reject the bid. He would resend the bid with a change in the format by not including the floating ceiling clouds to get competitive bids.

Bid award for replacement of red metal roofs on pavilions and restroom building at Woodson Park and pavilion at Floyd Gwin Park. Mr. Patton stated that the red on the roofs were only tin and no red color. The bid would replace the red roof restroom and pavilion at Woodson Park and the pavilion at Floyd Gwin Park. The roof was a high quality and guaranteed in color. He recommended the bid to Onyx Contractors for \$43,835. Council member Thompson stated it was hard to keep the color red. Mr. Patton stated that in the park system it was easy identifiable. The parks were identifiable with the bright red.

Recess for executive session: As authorized by the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), the City Council may adjourn into executive session for proposed contract. Reconvene in open session for possible action. Motion was made by Council member Thompson and seconded by Council member Matta to go into executive session under 551.071. The motion was approved by the following vote:

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

The Council returned from executive session with no action was taken in executive session.

Motion was made by Council member Matta and seconded by Council member Swanner return from executive session. The motion was approved by the following vote:

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

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

Javier Joven
Mayor