

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MAY 20, 2014 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Barna called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Barna gave the invocation and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL & CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

City Secretary, Kristi Gilbert, certified a quorum with the following Councilmembers present:

Mayor Eric Barna
Mayor Pro Tem Owais Siddiqui
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Ben St. Clair
Councilmember Scott Bradley
Councilmember Betty Nichols Spraggins
Councilmember Bernard Grant
Councilmember Rob Thomas

Councilmembers absent: None

4. CONSENT AGENDA

All consent agenda items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

- A. Consider and take action, if any, on the May 6, 2014 Regular Meeting minutes.
- B. Consider and/or act upon the approval of a Resolution authorizing continued participation with the steering committee of cities served by Oncor; and authorizing the payment of 10 cents per capita to the steering committee to fund regulatory and legal proceedings and activities related to Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC for 2013 and approval of a Resolution authorizing continued participation with the steering committee of cities served by Oncor; and authorizing the payment of 11 cents per capita to the steering committee to fund regulatory and legal proceedings and activities related to Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC for 2014.

COUNCIL ACTION (4.A. and 4.B.):

APPROVED

Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem St. Clair seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0. (*Resolution 14-R-793 – 2013 Rate; Resolution 14-R-794 – 2014 Rate*)

5. ELECTION PROCEDURES:

- A. Consider and act upon approval of an ordinance canvassing and declaring the election results of the May 10, 2014 General Election.

COUNCIL ACTION (5.A.):

APPROVED

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui moved to approve an ordinance canvassing and declaring the election results of the May 10, 2014 General Election. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem St. Clair

seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0. (*Ordinance 14-05-977*)

B. Issuance of Certificate of Election to Mayor and Council Members.

Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui presented Mayor-Elect Eric Barna with his Certificate of Election.

Mayor Barna presented Councilmember-Elect Scott Bradley with his Certificate of Election.

C. Administer Oath of Office to Mayor and newly elected Council Members.

City Secretary Kristi Gilbert administered the Oaths of Office to Mayor-Elect Eric Barna and Councilmember-Elect Scott Bradley.

6. NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE SEATED

Mayor Barna and the new council took their seats at the dais.

A. Consider and/or act upon nominations for Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Barna stated that he felt it was appropriate to consider nominations for Mayor Pro Tem and Deputy Mayor Pro Tem after the June runoff election for Place 5.

COUNCIL ACTION (ITEM 6.A.):

NO ACTION

No action taken.

B. Consider and/or act upon nominations for Deputy Mayor Pro Tem.

COUNCIL ACTION (ITEM 6.B.):

NO ACTION

No action taken.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

8. PRESENTATION ITEMS: None

9. INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

A. Discuss, consider and/or act upon the Utility Rate Study as presented by NewGen Strategies & Solutions.

Chris Ekret, NewGen Strategies & Solutions, reviewed his recommendations from the May 6, 2014 Council meeting. Mr. Ekret also answered questions from the previous meeting, including breakdowns of customers by meter size and usage. Mr. Ekret reviewed the money that compiles the general fund transfer. Approximately \$716,435 of the transfer includes a portion of Information Technology, Administration, Finance and Human Resources department services attributable to utility expenses. Mr. Ekret stated approximately \$497,459 of the transfer was to pay Utility Fund debt.

Mr. Ekret suggested the Council review additional questions that needed to be answered; whether any changes were warranted to the projected expenses and revenues; what action

should be taken with regards to the General Fund Transfer and should the City amend or continue it's Leak Adjustment Policy.

Council held discussions with regard to the general fund transfer. Councilmember Bradley stated that in past years he believed that there should not be a transfer to the general fund, however, now, after a thorough analysis of what is included in the transfer he is in favor of leaving the transfer in the Utility Fund.

Mayor Barna stated that he was still trying to determine if the transfer will affect conservation and that he was slowly moving towards Councilmember Bradley's way of thinking.

Councilmember Thomas stated that he felt simpler was better and the transfer should not be included in the amount.

Mayor Pro Tem Siddiqui stated that he felt the conversation was a bit premature as the Council did not have budget numbers yet and that he would like to see a stress test that would provide details if the City was in a Stage 4 drought management for an entire year.

Mr. Ekret stated that the cost of loss was currently embedded into the rates. Mr. Ekret stated the City is currently losing approximately 15% of water and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality believes between 8% and 12% is acceptable. Mr. Ekret stated that reducing the rate of loss by 3% would cost approximately \$78,000.

Councilmember Bradley stated that he was not as concerned with providing the NTMWD fees indicated on the utility bill, but he did want to see the fees broken out for each budget review.

Council reached a consensus that the rate changes would go into effect on October 1, 2014. Council discussed the need for public education on the rate changes.

COUNCIL ACTION (ITEM 9.A.):

The Council took no action on Item 9.A.

B. Consider and/or act upon the Runoff Election.

Ms. Gilbert explained that the election order and the contract for election services with Collin County specified a runoff date of June 28, 2014 due to state law provisions that prohibit any election from being held within 30 days of a primary election. Ms. Gilbert stated that, due to the May 27th primary runoffs the earliest the runoff election would be able to be held was June 28th. Ms. Gilbert stated that the Secretary of State recently issued a rule that authorized local runoff elections to be held between June 16th and July 5th.

Ms. Gilbert updated the Council on two options for conducting the election. Option 1 would be to contract with Collin County for all election services as had been done in the past at a cost of approximately \$21,946.05. Option 2 would be to contract with Collin County only for the rental of equipment and the City Secretary's Office would be responsible for hiring election workers, receiving and counting mail ballots and tallying the final results. Ms. Gilbert stated that Option 2 would cost approximately \$10,358.045.

Don Kiertscher, 416 Skyline Dr - Mr. Kiertscher stated that he felt that City should just go with the County so it's neat and clean.

COUNCIL ACTION (ITEM 9.B.):

NON ACTION ITEM

Mayor Pro Tem Siddqui moved to approve an ordinance amending Ordinance 14-02-970 to change the runoff election date to June 21, 2014 and authorize the City Manager to execute a Contract for full election services with Collin County utilizing Option 1. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem St. Clair seconded the motion. For: Unanimous. Abstention: Grant. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0-1. (*Ordinance 14-05-978*)

10. CITY MANAGER/STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Fisher provided the Council with an update on the following items:

Annual Memorial Day Observance at Decatur-Maxwell-Murphy Cemetery – Saturday, May 24th at 9:00 am

Memorial Day – May 26th City Offices will be closed

Moonlight Movies

North Murphy Road

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

APPROVED BY:


Eric Barna, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kristi Gilbert, City Secretary

