

City of Wallis
Regular City Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 21, 2022

This is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting for the City of Wallis, Texas held on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 6.00pm.

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Main Jr. called the meeting to order at 6.02pm.

2. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by Mayor Pro-Tem, Clark Main Jr.

3. **Roll Call and Certification of Quorum**

A quorum was present. Present were Councilmember James King, Councilmember Melissa McFarland, Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Main Jr., and Councilmember Joell Prado.

4. **Communication from the Public**

Belinda Halfin asked that we prioritize fixing the leak in the roof of the courthouse and keep up with other city maintenance.

5. **Proclamation**

A Proclamation from the City of Wallis, honoring the late Mayor Dennis L. Diggs was read by mayor Pro-Tem Clark Main Jr. in front of Mayor Diggs family. Mrs. Mary Diggs accepted the Proclamation on behalf of her late husband.

6. **Consent Agenda**

Motion made by Councilmember James King, second by Melissa McFarland, to approve the Minutes from the November 16, 2022 Regular Council Meeting and the November 23, 2022 Special Council Meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Department Report**

- a. Public Works – No action on monthly report.

Royce Macha reported that all City facilities have been winterized in preparation for the upcoming freeze. He also asked that Council approve the temporary closure of restrooms at Mynarik park until the weather warms up again. Signs will be placed on the doors to advise of the situation. Council gave approval.

Royce also advised that all backup generators will be tuned on after lunch on 12/12/22 to get them running and prevent freezing in the inside. This is just a cautionary measure but is also beneficial to let them run every now and again.

The contract for the smart meters has been signed with Accurate Meter and Supply in Katy. We received 2 proposals but only one was for the correct system. We have worked with GrantWorks and our Attorney, and the contract is ready to go with the Council's blessing. Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Main Jr. asked that since there was only one clear bid, do we need to have a special meeting to formally approve moving forward. We will verify with the City Attorney

- b. Police Department/Admin Monthly reports – No action on monthly report.

Chief Moseley reported that the Wallis Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade went well and he thanked Public Works, the Fire and Police Departments for their hard work and support to cover the event.

We had another very successful Kids, Cops and Christmas. This is the 9th year the program has run.

The December food drive went well and a huge thanks from Chief Moseley went out to all volunteers young and old.

Cole Jackson, our new Police Officer was introduced by Chief Moseley.

As part of this section, there will now be a monthly report on our City Ordinance Violations and the actions being taken by our Code Enforcer. A process is in place where a work order is filled out by the Chief, our Code Enforcer will investigate and Certified Letters will be sent out when necessary.

- c. Municipal Court – No action on monthly report.

8. **Financial Review**

No amendments to be made to bills or payments. Finance Director did bring to the Council's attention that overtime requests had been made by Public Works due to the Chamber of Commerce asking for assistance with the transport of Christmas decorations.

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Melissa McFarland to approve the financial reports and payment of monthly bills. All in favor and motion passed unanimously.

9. New Business

- a. Discuss and Act on Selection of Financial Institution to handle City Banking Services

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Melissa McFarland to select FNB First National Bank Bellville, Wallis Branch to handle all City banking services. All were in favor and motion passed unanimously.

- b. Discuss and Possible Action on inspections and moving forward with the project at 5414 Demel Street

Work has been completed on this project but rough in inspections failed as sheetrock had already been installed therefore inspector could not see electrical, framing or plumbing work. Two letters have been sent out asking the owner to remove sheetrock so inspections can be carried out and the project closed. Homeowner not keen to do this. If need be, city attorney has advised that we can turn off utilities to the facility if they do not comply.

- c. The Sheepfold Men's Home

Discussion tabled yet again; no representative attended meeting.

- d. Discuss, act on and approve the Interlocal Agreement for Jail Services

When an arrest is made in the City of Wallis, this Agreement allows the city to hold individuals in Austin County jail facilities. Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Melissa McFarland to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Jail Services. All in favor and motion passed unanimously.

- e. Approve Purchase of 2 x Zero Turn Lawnmowers from Washington County Tractor, Sealy Kubota

This purchase had already been budgeted for but the bank requires an official motion to be able to write the loan. The terms with FNB are 7% over 4 years and would be \$752 per month total. Councilmember James King made a motion and second by Joell Prado, to approve the purchase of the 2 x Zero Turn Lawnmowers from WC Tractor, Sealy Kubota. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

- f. Appointment of a person to handle city business when the Mayor Pro-Tem is unavailable.

When we have a Mayor, he has a Mayor Pro-Tem to back him up, but as the city currently is operating without a Mayor, our Mayor Pro-Tem does not have a backup. Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Main Jr., recommended Councilmember James King to act as his backup. Mr. King agreed. Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Main Jr., and second by Melissa McFarland, to have Councilmember James King

act as backup should the Mayor Pro-Tem be unavailable. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

g. EDC Updates

Belinda Halfin gave an update on the Downtown Revitalization Grant. The EDC is working on developing a 1-acre lot into 95-98 parking spaces. Looking at a product called True Grid which is a permeable grid/paver system which allows you to build in street lines, stripes and reflectors etc.

h. Planning Committee Updates

i. Ordinance Updates

1. Discuss and Act on replacing Subdivision Ordinance # 103 with new Proposed Ordinance

Further discussion is required on this Ordinance. Councilmembers would like more time to read and make comments and discuss in more detail in January. A question was raised regarding the need to mandate water meters. Councilmember James King will look into the specs for the water line.

2. Discuss and Act on Ordinance # 73, and Amendment to Ordinance #73 – establish the cost of a permit relating to commercial business signs.

A sample sign permit, with attached fee schedule was presented by the Code Enforcement Officer for review. Councilmembers will review and discuss and will be put on the January Agenda.

3. Update/Remove Ordinances on the website

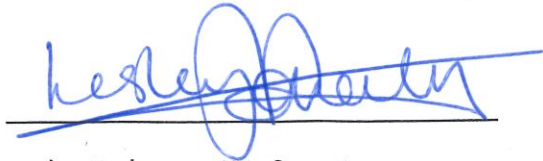
The Planning Committee provided a list of suggested changes to existing ordinances for City Council to review along with a suggested list of Ordinances which can be removed from the City Website.

10. Adjourn Meeting

Motion by Councilmember James King and second by Councilmember Melissa McFarland to adjourn the meeting at 7.05pm. Motion passed unanimously.



Clark Main Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem



Lesley Doherty, City Secretary

ATTEST: