



## CITY OF ROWLETT CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

*Our Vision: A well-planned lakeside community of quality neighborhoods, distinctive amenities, diverse employment, and cultural charm. Rowlett: THE place to live, work and play.*

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

6:15 P.M.

Municipal Building

As authorized by Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code, this meeting may be convened into closed Executive Session for the purpose of seeking confidential legal advice from the City Attorney on any agenda item herein.

The City of Rowlett reserves the right to reconvene, recess or realign the Regular Session or called Executive Session or order of business at any time prior to adjournment.

**Due to the public health emergency and to conform with the social distancing requirements, the City Council meetings will be held via teleconferencing. The public can view live on the City's website (<https://www.ci.rowlett.tx.us/397/Streaming-Video>) or via RTN16.**

**Present (Remotely): Mayor Dana-Bashian, Mayor Pro Tem Brown, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Grubisich, Councilmember Margolis, Councilmember Sherrill, Councilmember Laning, and Councilmember Bell**

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dana-Bashian called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

### 2. EXECUTIVE SESSION (6:15 P.M.) \* Times listed are approximate.

- 2A. The Council will convene in Executive Session under section 551.071, Texas Government Code (Consultation with Attorney), to discuss and receive legal advice from the City Attorney on the PUC's latest ruling on Docket 46662. (20 minutes)

In Executive Session at 6:20 p.m.; out at 6:56 p.m.

### 3. WORK SESSION (6:35 P.M.)\* Times listed are approximate.

- 3A. Discuss the COVID-19 event and take any necessary action. (20 minutes)

Brian Funderburk – City Manager, reviewed the number of cases and updates from the Counties and State.

Staff recommended a resolution to apply for CESF grant funds.

**Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Brown, seconded by Councilmember Bell, to approve the item as presented. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of those members present. This item was approved as RES-059-20.**

- 3B.** Hear a presentation regarding a proposal for the Rowlett Police Department to provide detention services for the Sachse Police Department. (20 minutes)

Police Chief Michael Godfrey presented the details of the proposal. Chief Bryan Sylvester with Sachse was available for additional information. Staff will continue to work out the details and will bring the item to a future meeting for consideration.

**4. DISCUSS CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

After a short break at 7:48 p.m., Council reconvened at 7:52 p.m.

**INVOCATION** – Thomas Oyebisi, The Redeemed Christian Church of Christ

**CONVENE REGULAR SESSION (7:30 P.M.)\*** Times listed are approximate.

**5. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- 5A.** Hear a presentation on the second quarter investment report for March 31, 2020.

Wendy Badgett – Director of Finance and Barry Baughier with pfm, presented the report.

- 5B.** Recognition of COVID-related extraordinary contributions.

Mayor Dana-Bashian recognized the faith-based community by reading the following:

During this COVID event, we want to take the time during our weekly meetings to recognize those groups and individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to our community.

In these challenging and tumultuous times, we hold tight to our faith and to those who help nurture and foster it. As we face this unprecedented course of events, it is important that we can turn to those who are well versed in providing comfort.

Rowlett's faith-based community has played an integral role for our residents during this time. They have held virtual or parking lot services, providing practical and spiritual sustenance to those who have been affected by these unfortunate circumstances, and they have continued to pray for all of us.

It is good to know that they continue to do what they do day in and day out – serve as a rock upon which we may all lean.

On behalf of the City Council and the residents we serve, thank you.

Stay safe and together we will stay strong.

**5C. Update from the City Council and Management: Financial Position, Major Projects, Operational Issues, Upcoming Dates of Interest and Items of Community Interest.**

Brian Funderburk – City Manager, provided an update on the Public Utilities Commission process: “Council, as you know, we have joined together with other cities to protest the water rates and practices of the North Texas Municipal Water District.

On February 28th, the Texas Public Utilities Commission (PUC) held a hearing to address the petition filed by the City. During the hearing, the PUC ruled that the “rates were adverse to public interest”.

Since that time, the City has worked together with other cities to legally intervene in the upcoming hearing. To help with the intervention, we combined our resources to hire outside legal representation to support our efforts.

On April 17th, the PUC held a hearing to finalize its order from February 28th to conduct a rate review and to deliberate on petitions from the City and members of our customer coalition. During the hearing, the PUC ordered the parties to hire an independent third-party mediator and enter into legal mediation.

This order was disappointing and surprising given that the PUC had just ruled that the water rates were “adverse to the public interest”. Our residents want relief now and the inaction by the PUC is very disappointing.

The PUC gave the member cities until its first meeting in May to agree on a mediator or the PUC will appoint such a mediator. The goal would be to come to an agreement by January 1, 2021 or face the possibility of the State Legislature acting. The PUC did not allow any parties to make comments nor did they act on the intervention petitions filed by our coalition.

On May 14th, the PUC approved the request from the member cities for a 90-day extension regarding the appointment of a mediator.

We wanted our residents to know that the City will continue to put our full effort to achieve our goal and protect the interests of our residents during this 90-day extension until we have a positive resolution.”

Mayor Pro Tem Brown announced the City’s Memorial Day Event will be running every hour on the hour, Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> on RTN16 and the City’s website (<https://www.ci.rowlett.tx.us/397/Streaming-Video>).

Mayor Dana-Bashian announced there will be a special City Council meeting on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 1:00 p.m.

**6. CITIZENS' INPUT**

There were no comments submitted.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

**7A. Approving minutes.**

Consider action to approve minutes from the following City Council meetings: May 5, 2020 and May 14, 2020 Emergency Meeting.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda.**

**7B. Consider contract for irrigation of golf course.**

Consider action to approve a resolution approving the terms and conditions of an Untreated Water Purchase Contract with the City of Dallas for providing raw water from Lake Ray Hubbard to irrigate the Waterview Golf Course.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda as RES-055-20.**

**7C. Consider approving a maintenance agreement.**

Consider action to approve a resolution approving a maintenance agreement between the City of Rowlett and WRIA 2016-7, L.P. of the Mansions by the Lake development ensuring adequate funding for maintenance of right-of-way (ROW) replacement and open space improvements in perpetuity.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda as RES-056-20.**

**7D. Consider request for public street name change.**

Consider action to approve an ordinance changing the name of a portion of Bayside Drive located between Sunset Boulevard and IH-30, a public roadway located in the territorial limits of the City, to Sapphire Bay Boulevard.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda as ORD-014-20.**

**7E. Consider resolution to purchase emergency medical supplies and medication.**

Consider action to approve a resolution authorizing a purchase order to Bound Tree Medical, LLC ("Bound Tree") in the amount of \$85,000 for the purchase of emergency medical supplies and medication.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda as RES-057-20.**

**7F. Consider resolution for participation in TDEM reimbursement program.**

Consider action to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager or designee to file an application, including all understandings and assurances, to participate in and administer participation in the Texas Division of Emergency Management Coronavirus Relief Fund reimbursement program.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda as RES-058-20.**

**Passed the Consent Agenda**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Margolis, seconded by Councilmember Sherrill, including all the preceding item(s) marked as having been approved on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried with a unanimous vote of those members present.**

**8. INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION**


**TAKE ANY NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE ACTION ON CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS**

There was no action taken.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

  
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Tammy Dana-Bashian, Mayor

  
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Laura Hallmark, City Secretary

Approved on: June 2, 2020