



# 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, August 18, 2020

6:00 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 Grubisich, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Bell, Councilmember Margolis, Councilmember Sherrill, Councilmember Laning and Councilmember Brown**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Dana-Bashian called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**2. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**2A.** The City Council shall convene into executive session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, §551.074 (Personnel) to deliberate on the evaluation and duties of the City Manager. (30 minutes) **THIS ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THE REGULAR SESSION.**

In Executive Session at 8:03 a.m. Out at 9:16 p.m.

**3. WORK SESSION (6:00 P.M.)\* Times listed are approximate.**

**3A.** Discuss COVID19 related budget adjustments and plans to restart certain initiative and projects. (45 minutes)

Brian Funderburk, City Manager, presented this item. He spoke concerning the April 2020 COVID strategy, how the City hoped for the best but prepared for the worst. Stated, since the original plan was implement, the City's financial condition and the predictions for FY2020 have improved. In fact, instead of a decline in revenue, both General Fund and Utility Fund revenues have increased above the original adopted budget. Staff recommends lifting the restrictions on hiring and most of the other restrictions, and adding a Disaster Backup and Storage Plan.

Discussion was had regarding the Disaster Backup and Storage Plan; as well as the Vehicle Replacement Plan (VERP). Consensus was reached to restore the funds for the projects and equipment, with the exception of the vehicles that might be purchased through a future lease program. Those funds would be set aside until a decision regarding the lease program has been made.

- 3B.** Update City Council on the amended Regulating Plan for Homestead at Liberty Grove, which includes revisions to the phasing sequence, amendments to the lot type and quantity distributions, and reallocates open spaces, blocks, and streets. (30 minutes)

Munal Mauladad, Director of Community Development, presented this items. Provided an update on the amended Regulating Plan for Homestead at Liberty Grove, which included revisions to the phasing sequence, amendments to the lot type and quantity distributions, and reallocated open spaces, blocks and streets. Stated the reductions are still within the parameters established in the Form-Based Code and do not require a major warrant request. The impact of the lot width reductions would result in fewer Estate and Village units, and would increase the Cottage, Casita and Townhouse units. The proposed plan would increase the number of units by 103 units. The street network would be revised to better accommodate the existing topography and allow for a different distribution of open space, resulting in a reduction of 7.1 acres. The developer justified the change in the street network by noting topographical conditions that would place the open space significantly above the adjacent homes, creating a difficult drainage condition, as well as an undesirable view of surrounding roofs.

Will Gietema, project developer, presented a project update. Spoke concerning the distribution of open space, making open space more usable with existing topography, increasing the neighborhood walkability, distribution of housing types and affordability, implementing a comprehensive phasing plan based on experiences in Phases 1 and 2, and accommodating future public improvements.

Concerns were voiced regarding open space reduction, affordability, increased density, and the lack of an art component and amenities.

Consensus was reached – the proposed amendments were not in keeping with the intended vision for this development.

#### **4. DISCUSS CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

After a short break, Council reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION** – Councilmember Brown

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

#### **5. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

- 5A.** Presentation of proclamation recognizing the week of August 23 – 29, 2020 as “Women’s Suffrage and Equality Week” in the City of Rowlett.

Mayor Dana-Bashian virtually presented the proclamation to Rowlett Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Commission members Diana Moore and Alena Shelbia.

- 5B.** Hear presentation for Comprehensive Monthly Financial Report (CMFR) for the period ending June 30, 2020.

Wendy Badgett, Director of Finance, presented the report.

- 5C.** Hear presentation on the third quarter investment report for June 30, 2020.

Robert Cone, Budget Officer, presented the report.

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

City Manager Brian Funderburk announced the upcoming Special Council meetings for August 24<sup>th</sup> and August 27<sup>th</sup>; as well as the public hearing scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**6. CITIZENS' INPUT**

No comments were received for Citizens' Input.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

**7A. Approving minutes.**

Consider action to approve minutes from the following City Council meetings: August 4, 2020 Regular Meeting and the August 10, 2020 Special Meeting.

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

**7B. Consider a resolution to donate protective gear.**

Consider action to approve a resolution declaring the Fire Department's expired structural firefighting protective gear as salvage and donating it to the City of Arlington, Texas for transport to and use by various Fire Departments in Mexico.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda as RES-099-20.**

**7C. Consider a resolution for alley reconstruction.**

Consider action to approve a resolution accepting the bid of and awarding a contract to Texas Civil Construction in the amount of \$587,493, with a ten percent (10%) contingency amount of \$58,749, and up to \$15,000 for an early completion bonus, resulting in a total project budget of \$661,242 for alley reconstruction between Acapulco Way and Jessica Drive, and between Maui Lane and the drainage channel, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the necessary documents for said services.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda as RES-100-20.**

**7D. Consider a resolution for accepting voting equipment.**

Consider a resolution authorizing Dallas County Elections Department to provide election services and approved voting system equipment for elections held by the City of Rowlett.

**This item was approved on the Consent Agenda as RES-101-20.**

**7E. Consider an election services contract.**

Consider approving a Joint Election Contract with the Dallas County Elections Administrator for the General Election for City Council to be held on November 3, 2020, which was postponed from May due to the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration.

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

**7F. Consider board and commission appointments.**

Consider action to approve appointments to the Rowlett Youth Advisory Council.

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

**Passed the Consent Agenda**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Grubisich, 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**

**8A. Allow public comments on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2021.**

Robert Cone, Budget Officer, presented this item.

The public comment opened with no speakers.

**8B. Conduct a public hearing (1<sup>st</sup>) on the ad valorem tax rate for Fiscal Year 2021.**

Robert Cone, Budget Officer, presented this item.

The public hearing opened and closed with no speakers.

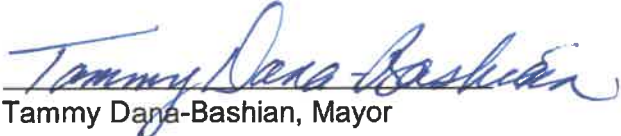
Council reconvened into Executive Session at 8:03 p.m.


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

There was no action taken.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

  
Tammy Dana-Bashian, Mayor

  
Laura Hallmark, City Secretary

Approved on: September 1, 2020

