

**MINUTES
OF THE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
JANUARY 12, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.
AT THE CITY AUDITORIUM
LOCATED IN THE RUHMAN C. FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
303 W. MAIN ST., KENEDY, TX. 78119**

1. Call Regular City Council meeting to order.

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

2. Roll Call and establish a quorum is present.

All present and a quorum was established.

3. Prayer.

Prior to the invocation, Mayor Baker called for a moment of silence for our Nation in light of the events that occurred earlier that day at our Nation's Capitol.

Councilor Wynn gave the invocation.

4. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Citizen comment.

There was one Citizen Comment from Ms. Mallorie Deason regarding fire department issues other than those related to finances. Ms. Deason voiced concerns centered around the various types of fire department organizational structures; communication impediments between the fire department and City staff; vehicle usage; and alleged divulgence of personal residences to the public of fire department personnel.

6. Departmental Reports.

- Public Works Director Report

Public Works Director Higgins presented the Public Works Director Report.



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- Police Chief Report

Chief Ashe presented the Police Report

7. City Manager Report.

- Departmental Reports (City Secretary/code Compliance/Fire Department/Court), Staffing, Current Projects, Future Projects, Current Operations, and/or Future Operations
- Presentation of Financials.

City Manager Linn presented the City Manager report which in addition to his normal items also included the departmental reports for the: City Secretary, Code Compliance, Fire Department and Municipal Court.

Mr. Linn also presented the financials to Council.

8. Consent Agenda

- A. City Council Minutes
- B. Approve Financials

Councilor Briones made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Douglas seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion passed.

- 9. Consideration and possible action in regard to Resolution 20-33, a Resolution confirming support to the proposed Town Oak Apartments located at 120 Water Street for construction of affordable rental housing in the City of Kenedy.**

Councilor Douglas made the motion to open item 9 for discussion. Councilor Wynn seconded the motion.

Ms. Robin Meyer of Arx Advantage presented to Council regarding Arx Advantage seeking federal funding to remodel and upgrade units at the Town Oak Apartments. Ms. Meyer answered Councilor Douglas' question explaining that residents did receive a copy of the letter, however, they did not receive a copy of the power point slides.

Councilor Wynn made the motion to take regarding Resolution 20-33 confirming support to the proposed Town Oak Apartments for construction of affordable housing in the City of Kenedy. Councilor Douglas seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion passed.

- 10. Presentation, Discussion, and possible action in regard to the tax credit application process for the Kenedy Housing Authority.**

No motion was made to open item 10.

Ms. Cristi LaJeunesse presented to Council. Ms. LaJeunesse explained to Council that there is a need for suitable affordable housing in Kenedy and that the current housing units managed by the Kenedy Housing Authority were in dire need of renovation due to their age.



Councilor Saenz asked if the Housing Authority was looking to rebuild. Ms. LaJeunesse addressed Councilor Saenz' question by explaining that they would like to build as there is a need for more housing units consisting of one- or two-bedroom floor plans.

No action was taken.

11. Consideration and possible action in regard to increasing the scope of the City Auditor to include a financial audit of the Fire Department's separate books and bank account held at Karnes County Bank under the City of Kenedy's FEIN.

No motion was made to open Item 11.

City Manager Linn explained to Council that the fire department held a separate bank account at Karnes County Bank under the City of Kenedy's FEIN that was never included in prior audits of the City's finances or audits of the fire department. Mr. Linn made the recommendation that the Council might desire to expand the scope of the City's Auditor to include a financial audit of the fire department's separate books and bank account.

Councilor Wynn made the motion to expand the scope of the City's Auditor to include a financial of the fire department's separate books and bank account held at Karnes County Bank under the City's FEIN. Councilor Saenz seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 4 Nays 0 Abstaining 1. Motion passed.

12. Consideration and possible action in regard to Ordinance 21-01 Annexing the City of Kenedy's recent acquisition of 118.23 acres located at the intersection of Business 181 and Highway 181 and moving the City of Kenedy's municipal borders to encompass the entirety of the 118.23 acres.

Councilor Briones made the motion to open item 12 for discussion. Councilor Douglas seconded the motion.

City Manager Linn informed Council that the acquisition of the 118.23 acres was completed and needed to be annexed into the City limits and the municipal boundaries moved to reflect the newly annexed property.

Councilor Briones made the motion to take action regarding Ordinance 21-01 annexing the City of Kenedy's recent acquisition of 118.23 acres located at the intersection of Business 181 and Highway 181 and move the City of Kenedy's municipal borders to encompass the entirety of the 118.23 acres. Councilor Wynn seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion passed.

13. Consideration and possible action in regard to Ordinance 21-02 ordering the May 01, 2021 City of Kenedy General Election for said purposes of electing City Councilors from Districts 1, 3, and 5; to establish the date, time, and place whereby the election and early voting shall be conducted; and providing for other matters regarding the election.

Councilor Wynn made the motion to open item 13 for discussion. Councilor Briones seconded the motion.

City Manager Linn informed the Council that an ordinance needed to be passed ordering the May 1, 2021 City of Kenedy General Election.



Councilor Briones made the motion to take action regarding Ordinance 21-02 ordering the May 1, 2021 City of Kenedy General Election for said purposes of electing City Councilors from Districts 1, 3, and 5; establishing the date, time, and place whereby the election and early voting shall be conducted; and providing for other matters regarding the election. Councilor Saenz seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion passed.

14. Consideration and possible action in regard to filling one (1) of two (2) vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Board through appointing Ms. Melissa Trawick-Sullivan to serve one two-year term beginning on January 13, 2021 and ending on January 12, 2023.

Councilor Briones made the motion to open item 14 for discussion. Councilor Douglas seconded the motion.

City Manager Linn informed the Council that there appeared to be an issue relating to Ms. Sullivan's place of residence and alleged Parks Board By-Laws. Mr. Linn made the recommendation to set this aside until the march regular meeting to provide time to research the issue further.

Councilor Saenz made the motion to set Item 14 aside until the March regular meeting. Councilor Briones seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion passed.

15. Consideration and possible action in regard to creating and registering a logo for the City of Kenedy

Councilor Briones made the motion to open item 15 for discussion. Councilor Wynn seconded the motion.

Council discussed returning to the old logo as opposed to staying with the current logo for the City. Mayor Baker asked the City Attorney if it was necessary to have a logo trademarked and the City Attorney indicated that it was not necessary, but provided some protection.

The City Attorney inquired as to whether the old logo was registered and Councilor Rodriguez indicated that the old logo was not registered. Mayor Baker was concerned about other groups using the City's logo. The City Attorney addressed Mayor Baker's concern stating that if the group is not a public forum of the City it should not be using the logo.

Councilor Rodriguez made the motion to return to the old logo and to obtain a trademark for it. Councilor Saenz seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 4 Nays 1. Motion passed.

16. Consideration and possible action in regard to establishing a date and time to conduct a workshop for the purpose of discussing items related to the proposed City of Kenedy Convention Center.

Councilor Briones made the motion to open item 16 for discussion. Councilor Wynn seconded the motion.

City Manager Linn informed Council that a workshop needed to be scheduled to begin the process of making a convention center a reality.

Discussion regarding a date and time ensued with Council settling on January, 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.



Councilor Douglas made the motion to schedule a workshop on January 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss items relating to the convention center. Councilor Saenz seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion passed.

17. **Closed Session:** City Council will meet in Closed Session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code under *Section 551.072* (Deliberations about Real Property).

A. Consideration and possible action in regard to the purchase of real property.

Councilor Wynn made the motion to adjourn into Executive Session. Councilor Briones seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.

18. **Open Session:** The City Council will reconvene in Open Session at which time action on the matter discussed in Closed Session may be considered.

A. Purchase of real property: Action to be taken regarding items discussed in executive session.

Councilor Briones made the motion to reconvene into open session. Councilor Wynn seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Council reconvened into open session at 8:37 p.m.

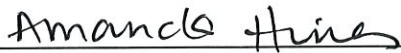
Councilor Douglas made the motion to authorize the City Manager to enter into negotiations concerning certain real properties the City has budgeted funds available. Councilor Wynn seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion passed.

19. Adjourn.

Councilor Douglas made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Wynn seconded the motion. Roll was called. Ayes 5 Nays 0. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Approved on February 9, 2021


Joe Baker, Mayor


Amanda Hines, City Secretary



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