



CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 22, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY AUDITORIUM IN THE RUHMAN C. FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING
303 W. MAIN ST., KENEDY, TX. 78119

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Joe Baker
Cindy Saenz, Mayor Pro-Tem, District 1
Johnny Rodriguez, District 2
Christopher Parker, District 3
James Douglas-Meyer, District 4
Saundra Schultz, District 5

MEMBERS ABSENT:

CITY PRESENT:

City Manager William Linn
City Secretary Ruby Beaven
Police Chief Richard Ashe
City Attorney Alessandra Gad

CITY ABSENT:

1. Call City Council Workshop meeting to order and establish a quorum is present.

The Workshop Meeting of the City of Kenedy was called to order by Mayor Baker at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, with a quorum present, in the City Auditorium in the Ruhman C. Franklin Municipal Building, 303 W. Main St. Kenedy, TX and video streaming via Facebook live.

2. Prayer.

Mayor Baker led the prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.

4. Discussion for Operations and Maintenance Agreement between the City of Kenedy and the San Antonio River Authority for the Escondido Creek Parkway.

Mayor stated he wanted to make a clarification that on May 25, 2021 requested the following agenda item as worded:

“Consideration and possible action in regard to establishing a date and time to conduct a workshop for the purpose of discussing items related to modifying the operations and maintenance agreement between the City of Kenedy and the San Antonio River Authority

for the Escondido Creek Parkway and possible future changes to the ownership and/or lease of the property as a way to ensure the long-term care and maintenance of the park.”

The way the current agenda item is worded we can discuss the requested item.

Stephen Graham, Assistant General Manager, with San Antonio River Authority (SARA) addressed the Council and introduced Derek Boese, General Manager. Discussion was held about the Escondido Creek Parkway, the 99-year lease agreement and the operations manual.

Gaylon Oehlke was introduced to the Council as a SARA Executive Committee member. Oehlke addressed the Council about the Escondido Creek Parkway. Discussion was held about the benefits of the park, donations and grants contributed to the development of the park, Operations and Maintenance Agreement, and proposal of the property be deeded to SARA with a clause that if the property is not utilized as contracted then it reverts back to the City.

Mayor Baker thanked SARA for brining the Escondido Creek Parkway to the City of Kenedy.

Discussion was held among the Council, City Manager, City Attorney, SARA Leadership and Committee Members on the proposal of the property be deeded to SARA with a clause that if the property is not utilized as contracted then it reverts back to the City. City Manager explained the City is a General Law Type A City and has to follow the rules as outlined. Local Government Code Title 8, Subtitle A, Chapter 253 governs municipal acquisition, sale, or lease of property. Oehlke stated the San Antonio River Foundation (SARF) is a 501c3 and asked if the land could be given to SARF. The City Manager stated the City could potentially give land to the Economic Development Corporation 4B (EDC 4B) which could potentially give the land to SARA. There are stipulations to this type of transactions in regard to economic development. Further discussion held on land maintenance and discussion on co-ownership of land.

City Manager addressed Council to remind them that this is only a Workshop and no action can be taken on this item. City Manager stated would work with the City Attorney to if the hypothetical scenario for the land to go to EDC 4B then to SARA with clause to revert back to the City and see if there is a way a future SARA Board could make changes to the clause to remove it.

The City Attorney stated it is always in the best interest and/or options for today. There is no assurance for future.

Two citizens (names not provided) addressed the Council from the audience to discuss their opinions.

City Manager stated would work with the City Attorney to review documents and research available options after Workshop discussion. Attorney Gad to draft options for consideration.

Council in favor of setting this item aside for now and to bring it back to a Workshop in a few months.

5. **Adjourn.**

Mayor Baker adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

APPROVED:



Joe Baker, Mayor

ATTEST:



Ruby Beaven, City Secretary