



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 08, 2022 – 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
Christopher Parker, District 3
James Douglas, District 4
Saundra Schultz, District 5

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Johnny Rodriguez, District 2

CITY PRESENT:

City Manager William Linn
City Secretary Ruby Mowles
Police Chief Richard Ashe
Director Parks & Streets Joe Hernandez, III
Public Works Director Gary Paredez
Building Official Jaime Albiar
City Attorney Alessandra Gad

CITY ABSENT:

Administrative Assistant Amy Desharnais

Opening Agenda

1. Call Regular City Council meeting to order.

The Regular Meeting of the City of Kenedy was called to order by Mayor Baker at 6:03 p.m. on Tuesday, March 08, 2022, in the City Auditorium in the Ruhman C. Franklin Municipal Building, 303 W. Main St. Kenedy, TX and video streaming via Facebook live.

2. Call Roll and establish a quorum is present.

With Council Members present a quorum was established.

3. Prayer to be led by Pastor Trent Enriquez with Keeping It Real Community Church.

Pastor Trent Enriquez with Keeping It Real Community Church led the prayer.

4. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

5. Citizen comment.

Gretchen Dupnik, 125 Bluebonnet Drive, addressed the Council and stated she has been a resident since 1982. Dupnik stated she has observed and appreciated the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) for work, improvements, and for protecting us along the creek waterway. SARA was a big help with major flooding in the past. Dupnik states she knows they have the knowledge, skills, and personnel. In addition, SARA is always looking out for us and others living along the waterway to protect us. Dupnik stated she appreciates SARA for everything in the last ten (10) years with Escondido Creek. It is Dupnik's hope that SARA will retain management and control over the Escondido Parkway.

6. Proclamation: Eckols Funeral Home

Mayor Baker proclaimed Eckols Funeral Home Small Business of the Month for March 2022.

7. Presentation: Small Business of the Month Award

Mayor Baker explained that a representative from Eckols Funeral Home could not be present but City Secretary Mowles will see that the award is delivered.

Mayor Baker presented the Small Business of the Month Award for March 2022 for Eckols Funeral Home.

8. Departmental Reports.

- **Public Works Report**
- **Police Chief Report**
- **Building Department & Code Compliance Reports**
- **Streets & Parks Reports**
- **City Secretary Report**

Public Works Director Report

Public Works Director Gary Paredes addressed the Council to report the Public Works report for February 2022.

Police Chief Report

Chief Ashe addressed the council to report the Police Chief report to include Animal Control and Police Department operations for February 2022.

Building Department & Code Compliance Reports

Building Official Jaime Albiar addressed the council to report the Building Department report and Code Compliance report for February 2022.

Albiar stated the spring tire roundup will be scheduled for April 30, 2022 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

Streets & Parks Director Reports

Director of Parks & Streets addressed the council to report the Streets and Parks report for February 2022.

City Secretary Report

City Secretary Ruby Mowles addressed the council to report the City Secretary report in addition to the Fire Department report and Municipal Court report for February 2022.

City Secretary Mowles reported the event planning report for February 2022.

9. City Manager Report.

Current Projects, Future Projects, Current Operations, and/or Future Operations

City Manager Linn addressed the Council and presented an update on the GLO grant funds, new Covid-19 Pandemic grant, and advertising for another Code Compliance person.

City Manager Linn stated the trash rates increased February 2022 and Council approved the rates and elected for the City to absorb the increase and not pass through to the customer. Council had requested for the City Manager to find out how much the rate increase was and the follow-up findings was a \$36,000 annual increase in expenditure.

Presentation of Financials

City Manager Linn presented the financial statements.

10. Consent Agenda

This section shall provide for items that require action by the Council, but where little or no discussion is anticipated. By a single motion, second and affirmation majority vote. Items under this section are approved without further discussion or action.

A. Consideration and approval of Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of February 08, 2022, Special City Council Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2022, and Workshop City Council Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2022.

B. Consideration and approval on Financials.

Motion: Councilwoman Schultz made a motion to approve Item A for the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of February 08, 2022, Special City Council Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2022, and Workshop City Council Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2022.

City Secretary Mowles requested for an amended motion for a single motion to approve all items as presented.

Amended Motion: Councilwoman Schultz made a motion to amend the previous motion to approve all-items A and B in the consent agenda, as presented. Councilwoman Saenz seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

Ordinance / Resolution / Other Action Items:

This section shall provide for all other official discussion and action items provided for consideration by the Council.

Mayor Baker addressed the Council and audience to state that he was going to change the order of items on the agenda for discussion. Mayor Baker recommended starting with agenda item 22 and them moving back to item 11.

11. Consideration and possible action to re-appoint Lucille Matthews and Gerardo Salas to the City of Kenedy Parks and Recreation Board for a two-year term beginning March 1, 2022 to February 28, 2024. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

City Manager Linn addressed the Council to explain Lucille Matthews and Gerardo Salas both expressed an interest in continuing on to serve on the board.

Motion: Councilwoman Saenz made the motion to re-appoint Lucille Matthews and Gerardo Salas to the City of Kenedy Parks and Recreation Board for a two-year term beginning March 1, 2022 to February 28, 2024. Councilman Douglas seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

12. Consideration and possible action for the City of Kenedy to participate in the 2022 Bluebonnet Days Parade to be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

City Manager Linn asked City Secretary Mowles to present this agenda item.

City Secretary Mowles addressed the Council to explain the Chamber has requested the City to participate in the 2022 Bluebonnet Days Parade on April 23, 2022. Mowles explained that the deadline to apply is by April 15. Mowles explained this would be a great way for the City Council to represent the City in the parade. The Event Planning Coordinator has been handling parade float design ideas for city representation.

Discussion held among the Council if members were available to attend.

Motion: Councilman Parker made the motion to approve the City of Kenedy to participate in the 2022 Bluebonnet Days Parade to be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. Councilwoman Saenz seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

13. Consideration and possible action in regard to partnering with the San Antonio Food Bank pertaining to implementing a quarterly food distribution pantry within the municipal limits. (Presenter: City Manager Linn & Councilman Douglas)

City Manager Linn addressed the Council to explain how the San Antonio Food Bank reached out to help the City when we had to shut down the water and was under a water boil notice. City Manager Linn stated that Karnes County has a food distribution once a month.

Councilman Douglas stated he and the City Manager have discussed providing a service like this in Kenedy. He stated the county pays the cost but it is not enough for the residents. Douglas stated he would like to help out the residents since some of our residents have a hard enough time getting to doctor appointments. He suggested maybe starting out having a distribution one Saturday each quarter. This takes things to another level to help residents out.

Shelby Dupnik addressed the Council and commended Councilman Douglas and City Manager Linn for thinking of this. Dupnik stated the county spends \$30,000 annually. Dupnik suggested considering a food pantry and suggested including a cooler to have better quality of food. Dupnik stated New Braunfels has the food pantry service and supports 120-180 families. Dupnik stated a food bank can offer a lot of services. Dupnik offered to help if going to open a pantry. He recommended to the San Antonio Food Bank to see what they offer.

Discussion held among the Councilwoman Shultz and Shelby Dupnik about non-perishables and volunteers.

Motion: Councilman Douglas directed City Manager Linn to collect any necessary financials and data to setup a meeting with the San Antonio Food bank pertaining to implementing a quarterly food distribution pantry within municipal limits. Councilman Parker seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

14. Consideration and possible action in regard to selecting a convention center design and authorizing the City Manager to proceed with the design and construction process. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

City Manager Linn addressed the Council about selecting a convention center design.

Mayor Baker stated design B was the consensus at the workshop.

Councilwoman Schultz stated three citizens present in the audience tonight do not like the design of the renderings. She inquired if we need to move forward or have another workshop.

Discussion held among the Council and audience members explaining the design renderings and the details that was conveyed at the workshop.

City Secretary Mowles explained that thumbnail pictures were included in the workshop minutes and will be posted on the city website for public review.

Discussion held among the Council and audience members about having an office, reservations/bookings, kitchen office, and ceilings.

Motion: Councilman Douglas made the motion to select convention center design option B and authorizing the City Manager to proceed with the design and construction process. Councilwoman Saenz seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

15. Consideration and possible action in regard to issuing an RFP for a Project Manager to oversee all aspects of the various City grant projects. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

City Manager Linn explained he is in his last year of his contract and the City has a couple of big grant projects. City Manager recommend finding a project manager to oversee grant projects. This would allow for one point of contact who would be responsible for knowing all aspects of the projects.

Discussion held among the Council with City Manager regarding new employee vs. contract employee, financial impact, current grants and future grants.

Motion: Councilman Douglas made the motion to approve issuing an RFP for a Project Manager to oversee all aspects of the various City grant projects. Councilwoman Schultz seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

16. Consideration and possible action on selecting a Grant Administration Services firm, for pre-award grant administration services to be performed regarding the City of Kenedy application for funding in conjunction with the Texas Division of Emergency Management FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4485 COVID-19 Pandemic for Infrastructure Retrofit and Flood Risk Reduction Projects. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

City Manager Linn addressed the Council stating we went out for a pre-award RFQ for Grant Administration Services for the Texas Division of Emergency Management FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4485 COVID-19 Pandemic for Infrastructure Retrofit and Flood Risk Reduction Projects. City Manager Linn explained we will need a grant administrator for this project. TLC Engineering was the only submittal for the RFQ.

Motion: Councilman Douglas made the motion to approve selecting TLC Engineering for a Grant Administration Services firm, for pre-award grant administration services to be performed regarding the City of Kenedy application for funding in conjunction with the Texas Division of Emergency Management FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4485 COVID-19 Pandemic for Infrastructure Retrofit and Flood Risk Reduction Projects. Councilwoman Schultz seconded the motion. Motion carried 3:2 with a tie-breaker vote in favor for the mayor.

For Motion: Councilman Douglas, Councilwoman Schultz, and Mayor Baker
Against Motion: Councilman Parker and Councilwoman Saenz

17. Consideration and possible action on selecting an Engineering firm, for pre-award engineering services to be performed regarding the City of Kenedy application for funding in conjunction with the Texas Division of Emergency Management FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4485 COVID-19 Pandemic for Infrastructure Retrofit and Flood Risk Reduction Projects. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

City Manager Linn addressed the Council stating we went out for a pre-award RFQ for engineering services for the Texas Division of Emergency Management FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4485 COVID-19 Pandemic for Infrastructure Retrofit and Flood Risk Reduction Projects. City Manager Linn stated there were three (3) submittals and spoke about the firm reputation and if they had previous experience with the City. City Manager Linn recommended Ardura.

Motion: Councilman Douglas made the motion to approve selecting Ardura for an Engineering firm, for pre-award engineering services to be performed regarding the City of Kenedy application for funding in conjunction with the Texas Division of Emergency Management FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4485 COVID-19 Pandemic for Infrastructure Retrofit and Flood Risk Reduction Projects. Councilwoman Schultz seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

18. Consideration and possible action in regard to Resolution 22-01 a Resolution of the City of Kenedy establishing that the Bluebonnet Days Festival serves a public purpose and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation for the temporary closure of US Business 181 (South 2nd St.) between Escondido & Main Streets, & State Route 72 (Main Street) between 2nd and 9th Streets for the purpose of the Bluebonnet parade event. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

City Manager Linn addressed Council to explain this is a formality required by TXDOT to be able to have the Bluebonnet parade.

Motion: Councilman Parker made the motion to approve Resolution 22-01 a Resolution of the City of Kenedy establishing that the Bluebonnet Days Festival serves a public purpose and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Texas Department of

Transportation for the temporary closure of US Business 181 (South 2nd St.) between Escondido & Main Streets, & State Route 72 (Main Street) between 2nd and 9th Streets for the purpose of the Bluebonnet parade event. Councilman Douglas seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

19. **Consideration and possible action in regard to Ordinance 22-03, an Ordinance of the City of Kenedy, Texas, amending the Code of Ordinances; Chapter 82 Traffic and Vehicles, Article III Specific Street Regulations, Division 8 Truck Routes, Section 82-241 Operation Restricted; providing a repealing clause; Providing for severability; and providing an effective date. (Presenter: City Manager Linn & Councilman Rodriguez)**

City Manager Linn addressed the Council stating this is a request by Councilman Rodriguez because of the concern of the trucks tearing up Houston Street. The request is to amend the ordinance to change the truck route and install new signs.

Councilwoman Saenz inquired about Karnes Street.

City Manager Linn recommended approving this ordinance to fix Houston Street and then the City can look at Karnes Street.

Motion: Councilman Parker made the motion to approve Ordinance 22-03, an Ordinance of the City of Kenedy, Texas, amending the Code of Ordinances; Chapter 82 Traffic and Vehicles, Article III Specific Street Regulations, Division 8 Truck Routes, Section 82-241 Operation Restricted; providing a repealing clause; Providing for severability; and providing an effective date. Councilwoman Saenz seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

20. **Consideration and possible action in regard to Ordinance 22-04, an Ordinance of the City of Kenedy, Texas, Cancelling the May 7, 2022 regular election for Council District 2; Declaring Each unopposed candidate elected to office; providing direction to the City Manager; providing a repealing clause; Providing for severability; and providing an effective date. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)**

City Manager Linn addressed the Council to explain this ordinance is to cancel Council District 2 election since it is unopposed.

Motion: Councilman Douglas made the motion to approve Ordinance 22-04, an Ordinance of the City of Kenedy, Texas, Cancelling the May 7, 2022 regular election for Council District 2; Declaring Each unopposed candidate elected to office; providing direction to the City Manager; providing a repealing clause; Providing for severability; and providing an effective date. Councilman Parker seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

21. **Consideration and possible action in regard to Ordinance 22-05, an Ordinance of the City of Kenedy, Texas amending Ordinance 22-01, Section 7 amending the location where early voting is to be conducted. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)**

City Manager Linn addressed the Council to explain that we are contracted with the County to run the City election. The County recently hired a new Elections Administrator with previous experience. The Elections Administrator has moved early voting to the Karnes

County Elections Office due to a lack of available equipment, overlapping elections, and meeting requirements.

Motion: Councilwoman Saenz made the motion to approve Ordinance 22-05, an Ordinance of the City of Kenedy, Texas amending Ordinance 22-01, Section 7 amending the location where early voting is to be conducted. Councilwoman Schultz seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

22. Consideration and possible action to vacate and re-plat in the Kenedy Addition Lots 1,2 and Lot 3 Block 44, Lots 1,2,3,4 and part of Lot 5 Block 55 together with a part or portion of Aransas Street between Block 44 and Block 55 in the City of Kenedy as shown on the plat record in Cabinet A, Page 149 of the plat records of Karnes County, Texas. (Presenter: Jaime Albiar)

Building Official Jaime Albiar addressed the Council and discussed the owners request to vacate and re-plat for the Baptist Church. Albiar explained this has been an ongoing project for the past three years and the request will close a portion of Aransas and all else is correct for the existing building setbacks. Albiar stated this has already been approved by the Planning & Zoning Board.

Motion: Councilman Douglas made the motion to approve a vacate and re-plat in the Kenedy Addition Lots 1,2 and Lot 3 Block 44, Lots 1,2,3,4 and part of Lot 5 Block 55 together with a part or portion of Aransas Street between Block 44 and Block 55 in the City of Kenedy as shown on the plat record in Cabinet A, Page 149 of the plat records of Karnes County, Texas. Councilman Parker seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

Executive Session

23. Closed Session

City Council will meet in Closed Session pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in:

A. Section 551.072 Deliberations about real property. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

At 8:37 p.m. Mayor Baker convened the Kenedy City Council into an executive session pursuant to provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in Section 551.072 Deliberations about real property.

24. Open Session

City Council will reconvene in Open Session at which time action on the matter(s) discussed in Closed Session may be considered.

A. Section 551.072 Deliberations about real property. (Presenter: City Manager Linn)

At 9:17 p.m. Mayor Baker reconvened the Kenedy City Council into open session pursuant to provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to take any action necessary related to the executive session noted herein, or regular agenda items, noted above, and/or related items.

Mayor Baker inquired with the Council if there were any questions or discussions regarding agenda item 24. Mayor Baker inquired with the public if they had any questions or comments.

Shelby Dupnik addressed the Council stating he feels the wording on the agenda is wrong. He stated the agenda should have been listed as Escondido Creek Parkway. Dupnik stated he felt this has been dragging on way too long and the City to request to move forward with the conveyance.

City Manager Linn explained the verbiage on the agenda is straight out of the Texas Government Code.

Motion: Councilman Douglas made the motion to convey the land that was donated to the City and the land the City purchased in the amount of \$51,968.95 that makes up part of what is now known as part of Escondido Creek Parkway with the stipulation that the land is to be conveyed back to the City of Kenedy upon abandonment by the San Antonio River Authority. Councilman Parker seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present voting in favor.

25. Items to consider for placement on future agendas. (Governing Body, City Manager, City Attorney)

Mayor Baker requested the City Manager annual evaluation to be placed on the April agenda.

26. Announcements of Community interest and/or upcoming events. (Governing Body, City Manager, City Secretary)

Councilman Douglas stated the 7th Annual Crawfish Boil for the Karnes County Humane Organization will be Held on March 26, 2022.

Jolene Terwilliger with the Chamber of Commerce stated the 2nd Friday Breakfast has a location change to KISD Administration and starts at 7:00 a.m. In addition, stated the Bluebonnet event will be held April 04/23/2022.

Mayor Baker stated the Coffee in the Park will be the second Saturday of the Month. In addition, stated the 2nd Annual Kenedy Day of Prayer will be held on March 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall front steps.

27. Adjourn.


Mayor Baker adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

APPROVED:



Joe Baker, Mayor

ATTEST:



William Linn, City Manager