

**Belton City Council Meeting**  
**May 9, 2023 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Belton City Council met in regular session in the Wright Room of the Harris Community Center. Members present included Mayor Wayne Carpenter, Mayor Pro Tem David K. Leigh, Councilmembers Craig Pearson, Dan Kirkley, John R. Holmes, Sr., Daniel Bucher and Stephanie O'Banion. Staff present included Sam Listi, John Messer, Amy Casey, Gene Ellis, Mike Rodgers, Chris Brown, Matt Bates, Kim Kroll, Bob van Til, Judy Garrett, Paul Romer, Cynthia Hernandez, Tina Moore, Larry Berg, Jon Fontenot and Jo-Ell Guzman.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag was led by Mayor Pro Te David K. Leigh and the Pledge to the Texas Flag was led by Director of Communications Paul Romer. The Invocation was given by Councilmember Dan Kirkley.

1. **Call to order.** Mayor Carpenter called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.
2. **Presentation of Council pay for May 2022 – May 2023.** *(Audio 2:01)*
3. **Recognition of outgoing Councilmember Dan Kirkley.** *(Audio 4:26)*

Mayor Wayne Carpenter thanked Councilmember Dan Kirkley for his years of service, and City Clerk Amy Casey presented him with a package of oreos.

4. **Administer Oath of Office to newly elected Councilmembers.** *(Audio 6:27)*

City Attorney John Messer administered the Oath of Office to newly elected councilmembers:

John R. Holmes, Sr. – Councilmember, Place 1  
Dave Covington – Councilmember, Place 2

5. **Reorganization of the City Council:** *(Audio 9:54)*

**A. Select Mayor for one-year term.**

Councilmember Pearson made a motion nominating David K. Leigh for a one-year term as Mayor. Councilmember Holmes seconded the motion which was unanimously approved upon a vote of 7-0.

**B. Select Mayor Pro Tem for one-year term.**

Councilmember O'Banion made a motion nominating John R. Holmes, Sr. to a one-year term as Mayor Pro Tem. Councilmember Bucher also nominated Craig Pearson who declined the nomination. Councilmember Pearson seconded the motion

nominating John R. Holmes, Sr., which was unanimously approved upon a vote of 7-0.

6. **Public Comments.** *(Audio 13:46)*

Bill Holmes, 505 Red River Drive, thanked the Council for their service.

Marion Grayson, PO Box 11, thanked Dan Kirkley and Wayne Carpenter for their service, and she also congratulated Mr. Leigh and Mr. Holmes on their new roles.

Jill Decker, 205 Decker Road, spoke against the zoning change at 849 Elm Grove Spur.

Bonnie Conway, 583 Decker Road, spoke neither for nor against the zoning change at 849 Elm Grove Spur, but asked that the Council consider the drainage issues that currently exist and how it could further affect existing land owners.

No one else spoke during public comments.

7. **Proclamation: National Salvation Army Week – May 15-21, 2023.** *(Audio 20:56)*

Mayor Leigh recognized National Salvation Army Week with a proclamation. Several members of the Bell County Salvation Army were present to receive the proclamation.

**Consent Agenda**

Items 8-9 under this section are considered to be routine by the City Council and may be enacted by one motion. If discussion is desired by the Council, any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to voting, at the request of any Councilmember, and it will be considered separately. *(Audio 24:28)*

8. **Consider the minutes of the April 25, 2023, City Council meeting.**

9. **Consider appointing Councilmember Stephanie O'Banion to replace outgoing Councilmember Dan Kirkley on the Hill Country Transit District Board of Directors.**

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Holmes, and a second by Councilmember Bucher, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved upon a vote of 7-0.

**Contracts**

10. **Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into a professional services agreement with Covey Planning + Landscape Architecture for design, bidding and construction administration services for the Standpipe Park Project.**  
*(Audio 25:21)*

Director of Public Works Matt Bates presented this item.

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Holmes, and a second by Councilmember O'Banion, the contract with Covey Planning + Landscape Architecture was unanimously approved upon a vote of 7-0.

11. **Consider authorizing the BEDC Executive Director to execute a contract for the sale of 6.831 acres in the Belton Business Park to Sensato, LLC or assigns. (Audio 31:31)**

BEDC Executive Director Cynthia Hernandez presented this item.

Upon a motion by Councilmember O'Banion and a second by Councilmember Bucher, the contract for the sale of 6.831 acres in Belton Business Park to Sensato LLC or assigns was unanimously approved upon a vote of 7-0.

*Councilmember Pearson announced that he would abstain from the remaining items and left the meeting.*

### **Executive Session**

At 6:06 p.m., the Mayor announced the Council would go into Executive Session in the Smith Room for the following item:

12. Executive Session pursuant to the provision of the Open Meetings Law, Chapter 551, Govt. Code, Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated, in accordance with the authority contained in Section 551.072, Deliberation Regarding Real Property and Section 551.087, Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations.

At 7:24 p.m., the Council returned to open session in the Wright Room.

13. **Consider an ordinance adopting Budget Amendment #1 to the City of Belton FY2023 Annual Budget in the amount of \$2,237,000 for the purchase of 51.341 acres located at 849 Elm Grove Spur. (Audio 37:53)**

BEDC Executive Director Cynthia Hernandez presented this item.

Mayor Leigh called for a motion, but hearing none, declared the item had failed.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-16 \*\*FAILED\*\***

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELTON, TEXAS, ADOPTING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE BUDGET OF THE CITY OF BELTON, TEXAS, FOR ITS FISCAL YEAR 2023; BY PROVIDING DETAILED LINE INCREASES; BY MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS; DECLARING THIS A MATTER OF PUBLIC NECESSITY; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF**

14. **Z-23-09 – Consider a zoning change from Agricultural (A) and Single Family-1 (SF-1) Residential District to Light Industrial on approximately 51.341 acres located at 849 Elm Grove Spur, at the southeast intersection of Elm Grove Spur and Capitol Way.** (Audio 41:22)

Planner Tina Moore presented the item.

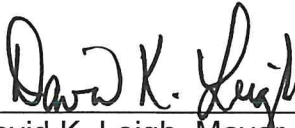
Public Hearing: no one spoke for or against the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Holmes made a motion to postpone this item to the June 27, 2023, Council meeting. Councilmember O'Banion seconded the motion which passed upon a vote of 6-0-1 with Councilmember Pearson abstaining.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2023-13 \*\*POSTPONED\*\***

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELTON BY CHANGING THE DESCRIBED DISTRICT FROM AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT AND SINGLE FAMILY-1 DISTRICT TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL ON APPROXIMATELY 51.341 ACRES LOCATED 849 ELM GROVE SPUR**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

  
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David K. Leigh, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Amy M. Casey, City Clerk