

**Belton City Council Meeting
November 14, 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 David K. Leigh, Mayor Pro Tem John R. Holmes, Sr., Councilmembers Wayne Carpenter, Craig Pearson, Daniel Bucher, Stephanie O'Banion and Dave Covington. Staff present included Sam Listi, John Messer, Amy Casey, Gene Ellis, Mike Rodgers, Chris Brown, Jon Fontenot, Matt Bates, Larry Berg, Paul Romer, Charlotte Walker, Bob van Til, Tina Moore, Judy Garrett, Jo-Ell Guzman, Kim Kroll, Cynthia Hernandez and Megan Odiorne.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag was led by Councilmember Stephanie O'Banion, and the Pledge to the Texas Flag was led by Director of Communications Paul Romer. The Invocation was given by Mayor David K. Leigh.

1. **Call to order.** Mayor Leigh called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.
2. **Public Comments.** *(Audio 2:11)*

There were no public comments.

Councilmember Covington thanked the Belton Police and Public Works Departments for their help in clearing a large oak tree that had fallen in the road in his neighborhood.

Consent Agenda

Items 3-7 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 4:06)*

3. **Consider the minutes of the October 24, 2023, City Council Meeting.**
4. **Consider an ordinance adopting Budget Amendment #2 to the City of Belton FY2023 Annual Budget.**
5. **Consider an ordinance adopting Budget Amendment #1 to the City of Belton FY2024 Annual Budget.**
6. **Consider authorizing the City Manager to extend an agreement for Visitor Center support with the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce for FY2024.**
7. **Consider authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement for Transit Services with Hill Country Transit District for FY2024.**

Councilmember Daniel Bucher requested that Item 5 be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

Upon a motion for approval by Mayor Pro Tem Holmes, and a second by Councilmember Covington, Consent Agenda Items 3-4 and 6-7, including the following captioned ordinance, were unanimously approved upon a vote of 7-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-42

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELTON, TEXAS, ADOPTING AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE ANNUAL 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

Director of Finance Mike Rodgers made the presentation for Consent Agenda Item 5.

Upon a motion for approval by Mayor Pro Tem Holmes, and a second by Councilmember Stephanie O'Banion, Consent Agenda Item 5, including the following captioned ordinance, was approved upon a vote of 6-0-1 with Councilmember Covington abstaining.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-43

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BELTON, TEXAS, ADOPTING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF BELTON, TEXAS, FOR ITS FISCAL YEAR 2024; 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

Regular Agenda

8. **P-23-24 – Consider a final plat for Cedar Crest Amending Plat, comprised of 38.25 acres, located at 3500 S. IH 35. (Audio 8:31)**

City Manager Sam Listi presented this item.

Upon a motion by Councilmember Bucher and a second by Councilmember O'Banion, the final plat for Cedar Crest Amending Plat was approved upon a unanimous vote of 7-0. This approval acknowledges the previously approved variance for Mesquite Road improvements, the 40' ROW dedication for Capitol Way, and the contribution of \$187,506.14 for Capitol Way perimeter street improvements.

Work Session

9. **Receive a presentation on the utility rate setting process and consider various policy issues in the development of a utility rate structure for FY2024-FY2028.**
(Audio 17:17)

Director of Finance Mike Rodgers introduced Nelisa Heddin, the Consultant who was contracted to prepare a utility rate study. Ms. Heddin presented options for rate structure and policies to the Council. No action other than discussion was required of the Council at this time.

10. **Receive a presentation on the recommendations of the City's Beautification Committee.** (Audio 1:07:58)

City Manager Sam Listi presented this item. No action other than discussion was required of the Council at this time.

At 7:02 p.m., the Mayor announced the Council would go into Executive Session for the following items:

Executive Session

11. **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 551.074, Personnel Matters.**

- A. **Municipal Court.**
- B. **City Clerk's performance evaluation.**
- C. **City Manager's performance evaluation.**

12. **Executive Session pursuant to the provisions 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.**

The Mayor reopened the meeting, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



David K. Leigh, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amy M. Casey, City Clerk