

M I N U T E S  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 15, 2021  
5:30 PM  
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor King. Council Members Paul Fischer, Rebecca Waller, Jason Baskin, Michael Postma, Oballa Oballa and Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS APPEARING ELECTRONICALLY: Council Member Joyce Poshusta

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert and Police Chief David McKichan

STAFF APPEARING ELECTRONICALLY: Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Park and Rec Director Kevin Nelson, City Attorney Craig Byram, Library Director Julie Clinefelter and City Clerk Ann Kasel

OTHERS APPEARING ELECTRONICALLY: Austin Daily Herald, Honorary Council Member Teresa Lugo, John Garry, Tim Ruzek, Mikela Hout

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, approving the agenda as amended. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Oballa, seconded by Council Member Waller, approving Council minutes from March 1, 2021. Carried.

#### RECOGNITIONS

Police Chief McKichan recognized the promotion of Officer Tischer to Sergeant.

Mayor King read a proclamation declaring April 30, 2021 Arbor Day.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving the consent agenda as follows:

Licenses:

Mobile business: Bummy's BBQ, Kiester

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills.
- b. Investment Report.

Carried.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

A public hearing was held for street improvement assessments for 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE (Oakland Avenue East to 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE) and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SE (South Main Street to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE), Project 21102. The amount to be assessed is \$124,355.24 at 3.5% for 15 years. Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the specific details of each project were presented at the February 16, 2021 improvement hearings and notices were mailed to each property owner with the exact assessment amount and payment options.

There were no public comments.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution declaring the cost of Project 21102. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting resolution adopting the assessment roll for Project 21102. Carried 7-0.

A public hearing was held for street improvement assessments for 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW (Oakland Avenue West to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW) and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NW (18<sup>th</sup> Street NW to 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW), Project 21103. The amount to be assessed is \$210,934.80 at 3.5% for 15 years. Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the specific details of each project were presented at the February 16, 2021 improvement hearings and notices were mailed to each property owner with the exact assessment amount and payment options.

There were no public comments.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution declaring the cost of Project 21103. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting resolution adopting the assessment roll for Project 21103. Carried 7-0.

A public hearing was held for street improvement assessments for 16<sup>th</sup> Street NE (Oakland Avenue East to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE) and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE (Oakland Place NE to 19<sup>th</sup> Street NE),

Project 21104. The amount to be assessed is \$350,449.92 at 3.5% for 15 years.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the specific details of each project were presented at the February 16, 2021 improvement hearings and notices were mailed to each property owner with the exact assessment amount and payment options.

There were no public comments.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution declaring the cost of Project 21104. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting resolution adopting the assessment roll for Project 21104. Carried 7-0.

A public hearing was held for street improvement assessments for 8<sup>th</sup> Street NW (8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW to 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW) and 9<sup>th</sup> Street NW (8<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW to 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW), Project 21101. The amount to be assessed is \$212,699.85 at 3.5% for 15 years Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the specific details of each project were presented at the February 16, 2021 improvement hearings and notices were mailed to each property owner with the exact assessment amount and payment options.

There were no public comments.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution declaring the cost of Project 21101. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, adopting resolution adopting the assessment roll for Project 21101. Carried 7-0.

A public hearing was held for street improvement assessments for 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Place NW (North Main Street to 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW) and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW (27<sup>th</sup> Street to Dead End), Project 21105. The amount to be assessed is \$37,382.36 at 3.5% for 15 years. Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the specific details of each project were presented at the February 16, 2021 improvement hearings and notices were mailed to each property owner with the exact assessment amount and payment options.

There were no additional public comments.

Moved by Council Member Oballa, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution declaring the cost of Project 21105. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, adopting resolution adopting the assessment roll for Project 21105. Carried 7-0.

A public hearing to review a five-year tax abatement for Allen and Barbara McAlister. City Administrator Craig Clark stated the proposed abatement is for a property in Westridge Estates

with a proposed value of \$325,000. He stated the application met the criteria for the abatement.

There were no public comments.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving a five-year tax abatement for Allen and Barbara McAlister. Carried 7-0.

A public hearing was held to adopt a modification to the development program for municipal development district no. 1 and to establish TIF district no. 15 for the Nu-Tek development project. City Administrator Craig Clark stated this is the next step in approving the Nu-Tek Project.

Mikela Hout with Baker Tilly stated the proposed resolution is to facilitate the financing of the improvements to the property for the Nu-Tek property. She stated the tax increment district is defined and located in the area where Nu-Tek is proposed to be constructed and public input is welcome for the proposal.

There were no public comments.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution to adopt a modification to the development program for municipal development district no. 1; and establishing tax increment financing (economic development) district no. 15 and adopting a tax increment financing plan therefor. Carried 7-0.

## PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

City Administrator Craig Clark stated F & F Investments has made an offer to the City to purchase the parking lot adjacent to their building for \$36,000. The lot would be made into a patio and private parking for the business.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Postma, adopting a resolution approving the sale of a City parking lot to F & F Investments, LLC. Carried 7-0.

Mayor King read the 2021 flower donations to the City of Austin.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution accepting 2021 flower donations to the City of Austin. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve City participation in the 2021 electronics recycling event. The event will be held on May 8, 2021 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and will accept household electronics and appliances for a small fee. The City would provide a fork lift for the event and \$500 from the transfer station budget for advertising.

Mr. Lang noted the City needs 10-16 volunteers for the event.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, approving City participation in the 2021 electronic recycling event. Carried.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve a farm lease with Kevin Finley for the Cook Farm site. Mr. Finley has farmed the area since 2012 and would lease 108 productive acres at \$240 per acre and 15.6 non-productive acres at \$50 per acre totaling \$26,700 per year.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, approving a farm lease with Kevin Finley. Carried 7-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace reviewed a sign appeal from Adam Meyer to replace an existing sign with a larger sign at 308 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW. She stated the Planning Commission reviewed the matter at their March 9, 2021 meeting and recommended approval of the appeal.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving a sign appeal petitioned by Adam Meyer. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 807 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Shaw Property. Carried.

## REPORTS

City Administrator Craig Clark stated the American Rescue Plan has been adopted by the Federal Government and the City will receive over \$2 million in the first payment.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter stated the social justice book club will meet Thursday at 6 p.m.

Council Member Postma thanked the City street department staff for cleaning the roads.

Council Member Baskin congratulated the Austin Packer Dance team for their second-place state finish.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adjourning the meeting to April 5, 2021. Carried.

Adjourned: 6:10 p.m.

Approved: April 5, 2021

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

City Recorder: \_\_\_\_\_