

*LONE STAR CITY COUNCIL
FIRE HALL – 201 WEST INDUSTRIAL
January 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.*

*We reserve the right to enter into Executive Session on any Agenda item pertaining to
TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. Sections 551.071-551.078, 551.087-551.089*

In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code, the City of Lone Star issues this public notice. If, during the course of the meeting, any discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in executive or closed session, the board will convene in such executive or closed session in accordance with Section 551 of the Texas Government Code, Et Seq. The City Council will consider and act on the following items:

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on the meeting notice.

Members of the public who wish to submit their written comments on a listed agenda item must submit their comments by emailing citysecretary@lonestartx.net or by calling 903-656-2311 for staff assistance. Comments must be received before 3:00 p.m., January 20, 2022.

MINUTES

Present were Mayor Randy Hodges, Mayor Pro-Tem Jerri Chism, Aldermen Mona Brown, Rudy Dudley, Lynn Cox, and City Secretary Tina Love. Absent was Alderman Jeremy Livingston.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Randy Hodges at 6:11 P.M.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation – Mayor Randy Hodges

Pledge of Allegiance – All in unison

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS: *At this time, anyone will be allowed to speak on any matter other than personnel matters or matters under litigation, for length of time not to exceed three minutes. No Council/Board discussion or action may take place on a matter until such matter has been placed on an agenda and posted in accordance with law.]*

No citizens comments.

4. CONSENT ITEMS:

Minutes of Regular Meeting on December 16, 2021

A motion to accept minutes of December 16, 2021, was made by Mona Brown, with a second from Jerri Chism. All present voted Aye.

5. REPORTS:

- 5-1: Judge/Court Report
- 5-2: Police Department Report
- 5-3: Fire Chief Report
- 5-4: Public Works Report
- 5-5: Water District Report
- 5-6: Financial Reports
 - a. Water and Sewer Fund

b. General Fund

After review of the departmental reports, Mayor Randy Hodges expressed his appreciation to the police department for their efforts to maintain a low crime rate in Lone Star, the Public Works, and Water & Sewer departments for continuously providing water services without interruption during challenging weather conditions, and to our Fire department for answering numerous callouts during the month. The Mayor asked Shane Townson, Public Works Supervisor, to provide additional details of the Comprehensive Water Inspection recently performed by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) as reported in 5-4. Mr. Townson summarized the purpose of the inspection and answered questions accordingly.

A motion to accept reports 5-1 thru 5-6B, was made by Jerri Chism, with a second from Mona Brown. All present voted Aye.

6. ACTION ITEMS

6-1: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to re-discuss the land parcels for consideration in the sale of the Lone Star Elementary school, survey cost, and estimated property appraisal.

Additional graphics of Lone Star Elementary school were provided to the council for review. These graphics identified the land parcels by the legal property description for traceability and comparison to the Morris County appraisal district records. Parcels #9876, 9888, 9890, 9884, 9885, 9886 were also discussed for consideration of sale to prevent these properties from being landlocked.

The estimated cost to survey the school and the additional parcels is \$7,000. To minimize the survey cost, the adjoining property, considered for the future Edgemont Park will be surveyed at the same time as the school and identified parcels. The estimated cost for this survey is \$1,500. The estimated time for the survey is between 30-60 days.

A motion to allow the EDC to proceed with the survey of the identified properties was made by Lynn Cox, with a second from Jerri Chism. All present voted Aye.

6-2. Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to evaluate updates to Ordinance No. 252 – Drought Contingency Plan for the City of Lone Star.

The Drought Contingency Plan, Ordinance No. 252 was updated to change the agency name from Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). There were no additional changes made to the ordinance; however, the TCEQ suggests the Drought Contingency Plan be reviewed every five years, or more frequently, as needed.

A motion to accept the Drought Contingency Plan, as submitted, was made by Mona Brown, with a second from Jerri Chism. All present voted Aye.

6-3: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to discuss the engineering study and survey at the City Park and the survey at Edgemont Park.

As referenced in item 6-1, the estimated cost to survey land parcels considered for the Edgemont Park is \$1,500. The estimated cost to complete an Engineering Study for the drainage problem and survey of the City Park is \$8,000.

A motion to proceed with the Engineering Study and survey of the City Park and the survey at Edgemont Park was made by Mona Brown, with a second from Jerri Chism. All present voted Aye.

6-4: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to re-visit the Hotel occupancy tax previously proposed in June 2021 and development of an ordinance if implemented.

In June 2021, the Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) was postponed and scheduled for re-evaluation in January 2022. Information from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts summarizing HOT guidelines, was provided to Council members for review and discussion. Types of establishments considered as a “hotel” were identified to include, but not limited to bed & breakfasts, cabins, cottages, manufactured homes, condominiums, skid mounted bunk houses, Airbnb’s, etc. that cost \$2.00 or more each day, and are ordinarily used for sleeping.

The Council discussed the need to create a new ordinance if the HOT is implemented, a way to notify and communicate with the citizens about the HOT, the identification of the properties that qualify as a “hotel”, and the need for these establishments to register with the city.

A motion to proceed and move forward with the implementation of the Hotel Occupancy Tax at a rate of 7%, was made by Mona Brown, with a second from Lynn Cox. All present voted Aye.

6-5: Review, Discussion, and Possible Action by the Council to re-visit the creation of a city logo or motto to be used for all city affiliates (EDC, Public Works, City Council).

The Design Factory had previously created designs for signage entering the City of Lone Star and a city logo/letterhead. Lynn Cox provided copies of the design and three logos, identified as “A”, “B”, or “C”, for the Council to review and discuss. The City can purchase the logo for \$460.00 which includes color and black/white computer files in the desired format or the cost of \$35.00 for their services if the logo is not purchased.

A motion to approve the sample “A” logo for the city letterhead and the signage as a business card graphic, was made by Mona Brown, with a second from Jerri Chism. All presented voted Aye.

6-6: Review, Discussion and Possible Action by the Council to call the City General Election on May 7, 2022, by adoption of an Order of Election to elect three aldermen to fill the expiring terms of Jerri Chism, Lynn Cox, and Jeremy Livingston.

A motion to call the City General Election and adopt the Order of Election was made by Mona Brown, with a second by Jerri Chism. All present voted aye.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: City Council to convene into executive session for the following issues:

7-1: To consider for hire Associate Municipal Court Judge Monica Sampson and Jami Smith as part-time Municipal Court Clerk (TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. § 551.074). The council will then re-convene in open session for review, discussion, and possible action on this matter.

8.0 ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Jerri Chism with a second from Mona Brown. All present voted Aye.

/s/ Randy Hodges
Randy Hodges, Mayor

/s/ Tina Love
Tina Love, City Secretary