

THE CITY OF EASTLAND
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

December 18, 2023

EASTLAND, TEXAS §

EASTLAND, COUNTY §

The City Commission of the City of Eastland, Texas, met in Open Session at Eastland City Hall as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours in advance and prior to the meeting.

CITY COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chairman	Larry Vernon
Commissioner	Richard Rossander
Commissioner	James Doyle
Commissioner	Shirley Stuart

PERSONNEL PRESENT:

City Manager	J.J. Oznick
Finance Director	Leslie Zander
City Secretary	Roma Holley
Police Chief	Tim Pitts
Planning Director	Tony Stubblefield

Guests: Julie Elrod, H. V. O'Brien, Vance O'Brien, Candi Kanady, Jonathan Baum

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Larry Vernon called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Larry Vernon offered the invocation and Commissioner Richard Rossander led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SUBJECT NOT LISTED ON THIS AGENDA (Limited to Five Minutes Per Speaker)

IV. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2023 MEETING

Commissioner Shirley Stuart made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Rossander to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023 Meeting.

Ayes: Commissioners Doyle, Rossander, Stuart
Nays: None
Absent: None

V. Financial Report

Finance Director Leslie Zander stated the sales tax report for December shows a slight decrease for the month but we are still higher than this time last year.

Our auditor has almost completed the 2022 audit and will be presenting it to the Commission in the near future.

No action at this time.

VI. The Board of City Commissioners May Discuss and Take Action on the Following Agenda Items:

- 1. Discussion and Consideration to approve reappointment of Mark Pipkin and Carolyn White for another three-year term on the Eastland Economic Development Board.

City Manager J. J. Oznick stated that the terms for Mark Pipkin and Carolyn White, who serve on the Eastland Economic Development Board, expired on September 30, 2023. They have both agreed to serve another term.

Commissioner Richard Rossander made a motion, seconded by Commissioner James Doyle, to approve the reappointment of Mark Pipkin and Carolyn White for another three-year term on the EEDI board.

Ayes: Commissioners Doyle, Rossander, Stuart
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

- 2. Discussion and Consideration to approve the Depository Contract

City Manager J. J. Oznick stated the Depository Contracts may not exceed five years and the city conducted a Request for Proposal of bids. City Manager J.J. Oznick and Finance Director Leslie Zander, the Designated Officer for the Depository Process, examined the proposals and determined that it is in the best interest of the city to accept the proposal from First Financial Bank.

Commissioner Richard Rossander made a motion, seconded by Commissioner James Doyle, to accept the proposal from First Financial Bank.

Ayes: Commissioners Doyle, Rossander, Stuart
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

- 3. Discussion and Consideration to approve Resolution 2023-13 Extending Grant Resolution USDA 2022/2023 to 2023/2024

City Manager J.J. Oznick advised the commission that this is an extension of the date in order for the process to be completed. All of the paperwork has been submitted but it is taking longer to process it than anticipated.

Commissioner James Doyle made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Richard Rossander, to approve Resolution 2023-13 Extending Grant Resolution USDA 2022/2023 to 2023/2024

Ayes: Commissioners Doyle, Rossander, Stuart
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

- 4. Discussion and Consideration concerning award of a construction contract for the GLO CDBG-MIT Grant #22-082-004-D199 – City of Eastland Phase 1 Dam and Creek Channel Improvements Project.

City Manager J.J. Oznick stated that we received several bids for this project. The bids were opened and examined on November 30, 2023 by eHT Engineer Jonathan Baum. Upon checking all references and data submitted, it is recommended that the Project be awarded to Mann Robinson & Sons, Inc for \$450,242.50.

Commissioner Richard Rossander made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shirley Stuart, to award the construction contract Project for the GLO CDBG-MIT Grant #22-082-004-D199 – City of Eastland Phase 1 Dam and Creek Channel Improvements Project, to Mann Robinson & Sons, Inc for \$450,242.50.

Ayes: Commissioners Doyle, Rossander, Stuart
 Nays: None
 Absent: None

VII. City Manager Report

GLO-CDBG-MIT Project Planning

Home buy-outs are still ongoing with details being finalized. There was some staff turnover in Austin that has brought about some delays.

TXDOT Exit 343 Ramp and Signal Light Projects

Construction has started. Great progress is being made on constructing a turn lane from the north access road all the way to the Old Bankhead Highway.

VIII. Code Compliance Report

Planning and Zoning Director Tony Stubblefield reported the Code Compliance Report for November 2023. There were 75 open cases at the beginning of the month, 12 new cases were opened and 68 cases were closed, which ended the month with 19 cases open. 3 Citations were issued: 1 for Dangerous Building; 2 for Unlawful property nuisance.

IX. Police Chief Report

Chief Tim Pitts stated there were 324 calls for service in November. 9 cases were filed with the District Attorney. There were 37 offense reports generated. He noted 14 arrests. A total of 390 traffic stops were initiated. This resulted in 236 warning citations and 154 citations issued. He also stated that 625 “business checks” were conducted. Our Animal Control Officer continues to be very active with 95 business calls. 18 animals were impounded and 6 were adopted and 2 were quarantined.

Chief Pitts also reported that during the month of November they had DWI-SFST training as well as training on the FN-303: Less lethal Training.

X. Fire Chief Report

Fire Chief Joe Williamson was not available and will give the activity report for the month of November and December 2023 at our next meeting in January.

XI. Adjournment

Commissioner Richard Rossander made a motion, seconded by Commissioner James Doyle, to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED

Larry Vernon, Chairman
Board of City Commissioners

ATTEST

Roma Holley, City Secretary