



Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 6:30 PM
8301 Westview Drive, Houston, Texas 77055

This meeting was held in person at City Hall with remote attendees present.

1. CALL TO ORDER Mayor Pro Tem Maddock called to order the Regular Council Meeting at 6:33 P.M.

- 1.A. The **invocation** was given by Council Member Carey.
- 1.B. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 1.C. **PRESENT**
Mayor Russell Herron*
Council Member Mike Gordy
Council Member Robert Byrne
Council Member Andy Carey
Mayor Pro Tem Paul Maddock
Council Member David Schwarz*

Also present: City Engineer Him*, City Engineer Vasquez*, City Attorney Bounds*, State Representative Lacy Hull*, District Director Angel Fierro*, City Administrator Blevins and Assistant City Secretary Stephens.

*Present and visible remotely.

2. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

State Representative Hull said that due to re-districting, Hilshire Village is now in District 138. She stated that the City of Spring Valley is also in her District and now the Villages have two representatives, one on each side of I-10. Representative Hull said she grew up in Spring Branch and attended Valley Oaks Elementary as well as Memorial High School and is happy to act on behalf of the Villages.

The Council thanked Representative Hull for her attendance and introduction, and promised not to be shy.

3. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

- 3.A. **Police Report:** There were no outstanding items to discuss.
- 3.B. **Building Official's Report:** There were no outstanding items to discuss.
- 3.C. **Engineer's Report:** Engineer Vasquez said drainage plan reviews are underway.

Mayor Herron said the City of Houston seems to be dragging their feet with the **Wirt Road Safety Project**. Engineer Him said he will follow up with Mr. Nguyen at the City of Houston to get a status of the Interlocal Agreement. Engineer Him said he is preparing a three-tiered proposal prioritizing first the sidewalk, then the expansion of

left turn holding lanes, and finally a traffic signal on Wirt Road. Council Member Gordy said there is no dedicated funding for a traffic signal. Mayor Herron said that is correct, the sidewalk funded by Harris County, and the turning lanes by City of Houston via Council Member Pech, but no one is currently lined up to pay for a traffic light. Administrator Blevins said METRO funds can be used, or request METRO help with a grant.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- 4.A. **Discussion and possible approval of the City of Hilshire Village Ordinance Number 816-2021 providing for the holding of a General Election on May 7, 2022 for the purpose of electing one (1) Mayor and two (2) Council Members, Position one (1) and two (2) for a term of two (2) years and providing details relating to the holding of such elections**

Motion made by Council Member Gordy, Seconded by Council Member Byrne.

**Voting Yea: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Byrne, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock and Council Member Schwarz
The motion passed unanimously.**

- 4.B. **Discussion and possible authorization to purchase and install Storz adapters on fire hydrants throughout the city**

Motion made by Council Member Byrne, Seconded by Council Member Gordy.

Council Member Byrne said that there are two (2) sizes of fire hydrants in the City. He stated that the installation by Inframark was unable to be completed because of this, and they subsequently provided an updated quote. Council Member Byrne said there are multiple brands of adapters that can be installed with varying qualities. Council Member Byrne said all of the hydrants need to be stripped of multiple paint layers and re-painted. He stated that there are three (3) hydrants on private property, two (2) at Terrace United Methodist Church, 1203 Wirt Road, and one (1) at Mennonite Church, 1231 Wirt Road. Council Member Byrne asked the attorney to look into whose right-of-way the hydrants were in and if Hilshire Village should pay for the installation. Council Member Gordy said, and City Engineer Him confirmed, the hydrant at the Mennonite Church is in Hilshire Village's easement. Council Member Byrne said he was able to offset the installation cost by utilizing the Village Fire Department staff. If the department is too busy then Council Member Byrne said he would install the adapters and ask for inspections afterwards.

**Voting Yea: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Byrne, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock and Council Member Schwarz
The motion passed unanimously.**

5. **CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Council did not convene into executive session.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

7. REPORTS TO COUNCIL

- 7.A. **Fire Commissioner's Report:** Commissioner Byrne said the fire hydrants are in rough shape. He said Inframark greased the threads but the outside is pretty rough and has several layers of paint. Administrator Blevins said that Inframark has a contractor who will sandblast and paint. Commissioner Byrne said he had a meeting with the Fire Marshall who said that painting the hydrants with colors that blend in is not recommended. He stated that he presented shades of grey to the Fire Marshal that match the new Storz adapters. Engineer Him said if the hydrants are going to change colors and the adapters let him know so the specifications for the City can be updated.

Commissioner Byrne stated that the response times have gotten better, aided by the occupancy of the newly renovated living quarters.

Commissioner Byrne said there were three (3) fires in the City, one caused by a generator that had a gas leak, another in a garage where a battery-operated hand tool was left plugged in. Commissioner Byrne said the third fire was in a residential kitchen.

Commissioner Byrne said the turnaround time for an ambulance has increased dramatically. He stated that the normal time waiting for a patient to be admitted at the hospital is 45 minutes, but they are currently at 85 to 100 minutes. He stated that the Commission decided to use overtime hours to staff the ladder truck in case two ambulances are in use and another call comes in. Commissioner Byrne said if the extra fire medics aren't available then they can't do anything until an ambulance is free. He said the department will probably be over budget due to these overtime hours and next year's budget will likely increase to hire additional fire medics.

- 7.B. **Mayor Herron's Report:** Mayor Herron said this being the last meeting of the year he would like to thank the council members and city staff for all their work throughout the year.
- 7.C. **City Administrator's Report:** Administrator Blevins stated that the contractor working at **1226 Glourie Drive** is preparing for demolition.

Administrator Blevins said that CenterPoint's contractor has been in the City trimming trees away from the power lines and that she would wait until they are done to schedule the tree trimming by the City.

Administrator Blevins said the ditch cleaning project is coming up including repairs to the ditch at **1306 Pine Chase Drive**.

- 7.D. **City Treasurer's Report:** There was nothing outstanding to discuss and the Council did not have any questions.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion made by Council Member Byrne, Seconded by Council Member Carey.

- 8.A. Disbursements

8.B. Minutes from the Regular Council Meeting of November 16, 2021

8.C. Check Registers

Voting Yea: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Byrne, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock and Council Member Schwarz
The motion passed unanimously.

9. ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENTS: Mayor Pro Tem Maddock asked for a street lighting update. Mayor Herron said he does not have an update but will employ the services of the lighting designer as previously discussed.

10. FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS: None

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Council Member Byrne, Seconded by Council Member Gordy.

Voting Yea: Council Member Gordy, Council Member Byrne, Council Member Carey, Mayor Pro Tem Maddock and Council Member Schwarz
The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 P.M.

Paul Maddock, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Susan Blevins, City Secretary