

Wylie City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2023 – 6:00 PM

Council Chambers - 300 Country Club Road, Building #100, Wylie, Texas 75098



CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Matthew Porter called the regular meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The following City Council members were present: Councilman David R. Duke, Councilman Dave Strang (6:34), Mayor *pro tem* Jeff Forrester, Councilman Scott Williams, Councilman Timothy T. Wallis (6:09), and Councilman Garrett Mize.

Deputy City Manager Renae Ollie; Assistant City Manager Lety Yanez; Police Chief Anthony Henderson; Finance Director Melissa Brown; Public Information Officer Craig Kelly; City Secretary Stephanie Storm; Public Works Director Tommy Weir; Purchasing Manager Glenna Hayes; City Engineer Tim Porter; Engineering Project Manager Jenneen Elkhaid; Parks and Recreation Director Carmen Powlen; Wylie Economic Development Executive Director Jason Greiner; and various support staff.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor *pro tem* Forrester led the invocation and Councilman Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

PR1. Recognition of Wylie Police Department Officers Andrew Abbott, Christopher McKiddy, and Xavier Mason for their heroic actions.

Mr. Kevin Finnell, representing Modern Woodmen Fraternal Benefit Society, was present to recognize officers Andrew Abbott, Christopher McKiddy, and Xavier Mason for their heroic actions on December 18, 2022.

Councilman Wallis took his seat at the dais at 6:09 p.m.

PR2. Wylie Way Students 3rd Term: Grades 7th - 12th.

Mayor Porter and WISD School Board President Stacie Smith presented medallions to students demonstrating “Shining the Wylie Way.” Every nine weeks one student from each WISD campus is chosen as the “Wylie Way Student.”

PR3. Wylie High School Jazz Band.

Steve Lisko, with Wylie High School Jazz Band, spoke about an upcoming Swing Dance 2023 event that will take place on April 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Wylie High School Cafeteria.

PR4. Public Procurement Month.

Mayor Porter proclaimed March 2023, as Public Procurement Month in Wylie, Texas. Purchasing Manager Glenna Hayes, Senior Buyer Chris Rodriguez, and Buyer Helen Barton was present to accept the proclamation.

PR5. Women's History Month.

Mayor Porter proclaimed March 2023, as Women's History Month in Wylie, Texas. City staff members including Assistant City Manager Lety Yanez, Deputy City Manager Renae Ollie, Digital Media Specialist Kristina Kelly, Finance Director Melissa Brown, Engineering Project Manager Jenneen Elkhaid, City Secretary Stephanie Storm,

Parks and Recreation Director Carmen Powlen, Purchasing Manager Glenna Hayes, and Buyer Helen Barton were present to accept the proclamation.

Councilman Strang took his seat at the dais at 6:34 p.m.

COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Any member of the public may address Council regarding an item that is not listed on the Agenda. Members of the public must fill out a form prior to the meeting in order to speak. Council requests that comments be limited to three minutes for an individual, six minutes for a group. In addition, Council is not allowed to converse, deliberate or take action on any matter presented during citizen participation.

No citizens were present wishing to address Council on non-agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- A. Consider, and act upon, approval of the February 28, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting minutes.**
- B. Consider, and act upon, Resolution No. 2023-04(R) authorizing the City Manager to execute a Joint General and Special Election Services Contract between the City of Wylie and the Collin County Elections Administrator to be administered by the Collin County Elections Administrator for the May 6, 2023 Wylie General Election.**
- C. Consider, and act upon, Ordinance No. 2023-11 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Wylie, Texas, declaring unopposed candidates in the May 6, 2023 General City Election, elected to office; canceling the election; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.**
- D. Consider, and act upon, a Final Plat for Emerald Vista Phase 2, establishing 76 single-family residential lots and three open space lots on 24.3 acres, generally located at the northeast corner of S. Ballard Avenue and Pleasant Valley Road.**

Mayor Porter requested Item C be pulled from Consent Agenda and considered individually.

Council Action

A motion was made by Councilman Duke, seconded by Councilman Williams, to approve the Consent Agenda, except for Item C as presented. A vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

- C. Consider, and act upon, Ordinance No. 2023-11 an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Wylie, Texas, declaring unopposed candidates in the May 6, 2023 General City Election, elected to office; canceling the election; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.**

Council Comments

Mayor Porter requested City Secretary Storm give a brief overview of the process for the cancellation of the May 6, 2023 election.

Staff Comments

City Secretary Storm stated during the filing dates set by state law, one candidate filed for the open positions consisting of Mayor, Place 5, and Place 6. In accordance with state law, an order is being brought before the City Council for action to cancel the election as there are no opposed candidates.

Council Comments

Councilman Williams asked what the financial savings are for canceling the May election. Storm replied roughly \$40,000.

Council Action

A motion was made by Councilman Strang, seconded by Councilman Williams, to approve Item C as presented. A vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

1. Tabled from 01-24-2023

Remove from table and consider

Council Action

A motion was made by Mayor *pro tem* Forrester, seconded by Councilman Williams, to remove Item 1 from the table and consider. A vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

Interview applicants and consider, and act upon, the appointment of a new board member to the City of Wylie Economic Development Corporation to fill the term of March 2023 to June 30, 2023.

Council Comments

Mayor Porter stated there is a vacancy on the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) as a result of a resignation and the City has solicited for applications to fill the vacancy. Porter requested the staff liaison of the EDC board to give an overview of what the EDC does and the required qualifications.

Staff Comments

EDC Executive Director Greiner addressed Council giving an overview of the EDC including the time commitment for serving, the mission, and its purpose. Greiner added the EDC board works with City staff and Council on projects and the budget process and attends meetings, trade shows, and trips. Greiner added due to the length of projects it does help to have board members with longevity and knowledge of the projects. Greiner stated they do target primary employers, retail and recruitment, and business retention expansion services.

Council Comments

Mayor *pro tem* Forrester asked Greiner to elaborate on the function of the board members. Greiner replied that annual goals and objectives are set forth each year by the board, which staff manages throughout the year. The board is an advisory board and staff requests feedback and direction from the board.

Mayor Porter requested if any of the EDC board members would like to address Council regarding the position, that they come forward. Demond Dawkins, president of the EDC board, addressed Council requesting Council and the candidates consider the “why” someone wants to serve on the board and assess that “why” to see if it fits with the overview that Greiner provided. Dawkins added it is a willingness to serve and a sacrifice; board members must make strategic decisions, and be team players with the board and City Council. Gino Mulliqi, an EDC board member, addressed Council clarifying that the EDC cannot control all of the restaurants that come into Wylie as they cannot tell property owners what to bring to their properties. Mulliqi added the board looks to bring high-paying jobs to Wylie, the board is both a non-working and working board, board members are sometimes invited to attend meetings with prospective businesses, it is a time commitment, board members need to attend board meetings and show support, there are sometimes out of town meetings, and the projects are months to years long. Blake Brininstool, EDC board member, addressed Council stating service on the board is a big time commitment, it is a working board, if applicants cannot commit then this board may not be the best fit, and applicants should be able to work as a team as each member brings a lot to the table and work together to find the best solution. Porter added that the regularly scheduled monthly meetings roughly last three to four hours in length, meetings with developers can be at any time throughout the day, there are some trips throughout the year to recruit businesses, and required sales tax training sessions, and requested that all applicants understand the time commitment required for service on this board.

Forrester confirmed with City Secretary Storm that all seven of the applicants want to be considered even if they are not in attendance for an interview this evening. Storm confirmed that all seven applicants expressed interest in serving and wanted to be considered.

Applicants not in attendance for the interview included Jal Dennis, Gerald Dyson, Harold Smith, John Straube Jr., and Navin Kumar Thirukottiyur Vijayakumar.

Council interviewed Aaron Jameson and Dallas Jones.

Council Action

A motion was made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Mayor *pro tem* Forrester, to appoint Aaron Jameson as a new board member to the City of Wylie Economic Development Corporation to fill the term of March 2023 to June 30, 2023. A vote was taken and the motion passed 5-2 with Councilmen Duke and Strang voting against.

Mayor Porter convened the Council into a break at 7:20 p.m.

Mayor Porter reconvened the Council in Regular Session at 7:27 p.m.

- 2. Consider, and act upon, authorizing the Mayor and the City Manager to negotiate with ESFNA and authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract not to exceed \$100,000 to support ESFNA for a sporting event to be held July 2, 2023 – July 8, 2023.**

Council Comments

Mayor Porter announced the Ethiopian Sports Federation of North America (ESFNA), a nonprofit organization, is looking to host their 40th annual tournament and cultural festival in Wylie from July 2-8, 2023. This event is expected to bring in about 1,000 players, coaches, and staff, with an additional 30,000-40,000 fans. Porter requested Deputy City Manager Ollie further explain where the funding for this would come from, and the restrictions on that funding. Ollie replied the funding would come from the occupancy tax, in which seven percent of the sales tax collected from local hotels goes back to the City. The City can use the seven percent for very specific expenditures per state law, and it includes a two-part process; does it bring heads to beds and people to your City, and does it meet at least one of the nine criteria per state law. The City currently has about \$500,000 in the account in which some of the monies have already been designated for the Public Art program.

Mayor Porter requested that the representative from the ESFNA board, Zewge Kagnew, come forward to provide additional information about the event and answer any questions Council may have. Kagnew addressed Council giving a brief background about the ESFNA, the benefits of hosting it in Wylie, and the expectations for attendance.

Mayor *pro tem* Forrester stated he saw this tournament will be hosted in Wylie during the United States Independence Day and Ethiopian Day and thought that was awesome as it shows diversity in our community and allows for cultural exchange, and thanked Mr. Kagnew for considering Wylie to host the event. Councilman Williams asked if Wylie residents will be able to purchase tickets, and added, the funds being requested do not even cover half of the cost of the event and the City will get more funds back for hosting this event. Kagnew replied anyone can purchase tickets and added Wylie will show them things they have never seen in other cities before and they will keep coming. Forrester asked for an economic impact estimation based on historical data. Kagnew replied an analysis has not been completed but an estimation from other cities and states is expecting millions. Porter added when he spoke with the ESFNA board president he said the economic impact from previous events has been anywhere from five to ten million, and up to 15 million. Kagnew replied they are excited to have a lot of restaurants in the area as some locations do not offer that. Porter replied the goal would be to gather other partners throughout the City and come together to show what we have to offer.

Council Action

A motion was made by Councilman Strang, seconded by Mayor *pro tem* Forrester, to approve Item 2 as presented. A vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

WORK SESSION

Mayor Porter convened the Council into Work Session at 7:42 p.m.

WS1. Discuss moving the regularly scheduled May 23, 2023 City Council meeting date.

Council Comments

Mayor Porter stated multiple members of City staff, the City Council, and the Economic Development Corporation will be attending an annual economic development conference in Las Vegas during the regularly scheduled meeting date on May 23, 2023; therefore, staff is seeking Council direction to move the meeting to May 30, 2023. Council gave direction to move the May 23, 2023 meeting to May 30, 2023.

RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Porter reconvened the Council into Regular Session at 7:44 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Porter convened the Council into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

Sec. 551.072. DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY; CLOSED MEETING.

A governmental body may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on its negotiating position.

ES1. Discuss property located near the intersection of Brown Street and Ballard Avenue.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

Take any action as a result from Executive Session.

Mayor Porter reconvened the Council into Open Session at 8:34 p.m.

READING OF ORDINANCES

Title and caption approved by Council as required by Wylie City Charter, Article III, Section 13-D.

City Secretary Storm read the caption to Ordinance No. 2023-11 into the official record.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Strang, seconded by Councilman Duke, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. A vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

Matthew Porter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stephanie Storm, City Secretary