

**MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 27, 2016**

Mayor Tim Barker declared a Regular Meeting duly open for the transaction of business at 7:00 P.M at City Hall 120 E. Caney Street Wharton, TX. Pastor Mickey Reynolds of Caney Creek Church led the opening devotion and Mayor Barker led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmember's present were: Mayor Tim Barker and Councilmembers Al Bryant, Vincent Huerta, Don Mueller, Russell Machann and Steven Schneider.

Councilmember absent was: None.

Staff members present were: City Manager Andres Garza, Jr., Finance Director Joan Andel, City Secretary Paula Favors, TRMC, Assistant to the City Manager Brandi Jimenez, Public Works Director Wade Wendt, Police Chief Terry David Lynch, Police Lieutenant Ben Guanajuato, Detective Jared Cullar, Detective Sergeant Ben Evans, Corporal James Watson, Patrol Sergeant Ariel Soltura, EMS Director John Kowalik, Facilities Maintenance Director Bob Baker, Building Official Ronnie Bollom, Airport Manager David Allen, Fire Captain Hector Hernandez, Emergency Management Coordinator Steve Johnson, Customer Service Worker Stanley Konvicka and City Attorney Paul Webb.

Visitors present were: Hazel Hurd, Wayne Allen, Curtis W. Evans, Garrolyn Evans, Cynthia Ward, Gary Ward, Charicia Winfield, Jessica Barker, Heikki Mustonen, Ennis Humphreys, Thelma L. Turner, Rodrick Temple, Stella Sanders, Stephanie Sanders, Russell Johns, Lawrence Armour, Marchette Marks, Ellis Herd, Thelma Allen, Lee Allen, LaDonna Jones, Marquita Perkins, Herman Perkins, Alice Bell, Sandra Curtis, Charlotte A. Bess, Jacob Hughes, Ruby Ephran, Lawrence Ephran, Cynthia Hearse, David Schroeder, Executive Director with Wharton Economic Development Corporation (WEDCo), Nova Robbins, project manager with the Fort Worth District of the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers, Andrew Eckert, P.E. with Half and

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Associates, Inc., Wes Birdwell, P.E. with Halff and Associates, Inc., Carlos Cotton, P.E. with Jones and Carter, Inc., Levi Hein, P.E. with Halff and Associates, Inc. and Evelyn Carriere with the Wharton Journal Spectator.

The second item on the agenda was Roll Call and Excuses Absences. All members were present.

The third item on the agenda was Public Comments. The Public Comments were as follows:

1. Charlotte A. Bess stated she wanted to know when the levee would be built.
2. Mary Barnes stated that she wanted to know why the City closed flood gates along the railroad. Ms. Barnes wanted to know why a flood gate was install on the East side of Wharton but not the West Side.
3. Wayne Allen stated that he wanted to know what he could do to help.
4. Lawrence Armour stated one option would be a total buyout of the West side of Wharton which he said would be 1/3 the cost of the levee. He also suggested to raise all structures on the West side of Wharton instead of building the levee.
5. Rodrick Temple stated he wanted to know what couldn't the City dig the river deeper.
6. Sandra Curtis stated that she wanted to know what factor lead to shutting off flood gates at FM 120. Ms. Curtis also asked why the City could not get funds or raise funds for the Levee Project.

The fourth item on the agenda was the Wharton Moment. No comments were given.

The fifth item discussed on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council approving the application for the 2016 Homeland Security Federal Grant and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said application. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a memo from Chief Terry Lynch regarding the 2016 Homeland Security Federal Grant. Chief Lynch stated that the grant was for \$60,445.95 with no matching funds from the City required. After some discussion, Councilmember Don Mueller moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2016-40, which read as follows:

**CITY OF WHARTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-40**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE APPLICATION
FOR THE 2016 HOMELAND SECURITY FEDERAL GRANT AND**

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AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WHARTON TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID APPLICATION.

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Wharton, that the Emergency Response Team Gear be operated for 2016; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton agrees to provide applicable matching funds for the said project as required by the Homeland Security Grant Application grant application; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Office of the Governor funds, The City of Wharton assures that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton designates Mayor Tim Barker as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS hereby:

Section I. The Wharton City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to the 2016 Homeland Security Grant.

Section II. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 27th day of June 2016.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____
TIM BARKER
Mayor

ATTEST:

PAULA FAVORS
City Secretary

Councilmember Al Bryant seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

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The sixth item discussed on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council approving the application for the Justice Assistance Grant and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said application. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a memo from Chief Terry Lynch regarding the Justice Assistance Grant. After some discussion, Councilmember Don Mueller moved to approve City of Wharton Resolution No. 2016-41, which read as follows:

**CITY OF WHARTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-41**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR THE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WHARTON TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO SAID APPLICATION.

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton finds it in the best interest of the citizens of Wharton, that the In Car Video System be operated for 2016; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton agrees to provide applicable matching funds for the said project as required by the Homeland Security Grant Application grant application; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton agrees that in the event of loss or misuse of the Office of the Governor funds, The City of Wharton assures that the funds will be returned to the Office of the Governor in full; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Wharton designates Mayor Tim Barker as the grantee's authorized official. The authorized official is given the power to apply for, accept, reject, alter or terminate the grant on behalf of the applicant agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS hereby:

Section I. The Wharton City Council hereby authorizes the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to the Justice Assistance Grant.

Section II. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 27th day of June 2016.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____

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TIM BARKER
Mayor

ATTEST:

PAULA FAVORS
City Secretary

Councilmember Al Bryant seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The seventh item discussed on the agenda was to review and consider the Wharton Flood Reduction Project (Levee Project) Presentation by U.S. Corp of Engineers and Halff & Associates. The U.S. Corp of Engineers and Halff and Associates representatives gave a presentation regarding the Wharton Flood Reduction Project (Levee Project). Halff and Associates presented findings on the City Council commissioned study for the two drainage areas and the funding for the project was discussed. Several questions and comments were received from the audience and responded to by Halff and Associates, Inc.

The eighth item on the agenda was adjournment. There being no further discussion, Councilmember Don Mueller moved to adjourn. Councilmember Vincent Huerta seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____
Tim Barker
Mayor

ATTEST:

Paula Favors
City Secretary