

City Council
June 10, 2024

A Work Session of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie, was held at the Waxahachie Police Department, Community Room, 630 Farley Street, Waxahachie, TX on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: Billie Wallace, Mayor, Council Member Place 4
Chris Wright, Mayor Pro Tem, Council Member Place 3
Tres Atkins, Council Member Place 1
Travis Smith, Council Member Place 5

Council Member Absent: Patrick Souter, Council Member Place 2

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager
Albert Lawrence, Deputy City Manager
Terry Welch, City Attorney
Amber Villarreal, City Secretary

1. Call to Order

Mayor Billie Wallace called the meeting to order. City Manager Michael Scott announced Council Member Patrick Souter was not in attendance due to a teaching commitment in Waco at Baylor Law School from 4:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m. this afternoon.

2. Discuss the Hightower Development

Senior Director of Planning explained staff members met with Chad Adams and his team on May 29th. Two options were provided by Mr. Adams to address neighborhood concerns of access to Lake Shore Drive and water drainage.

It was the general consensus of City Council to consider Option K at the June 17th meeting.

3. Hear update on revised alignment of the new road to serve future high school

Senior Director of Public Works and Engineering Justin Stoker requested recommendations on naming the new aligned road to serve the future high school. He explained the name will be needed once the design process begins for the revised alignment.

Council Member Travis Smith requested consideration to rename Lions Park Road as Brigman Road.

It was the general consensus of City Council to begin devising potential street names.

4. Hear update on installation of panhandler signs

Executive Director of Public Works and Utilities James Gaertner explained staff is continuously working with TxDOT to install panhandler signs. He noted staff has provided examples of signs used in Dallas and Ft. Worth.

5. Discuss City Council meeting availability

City Secretary Amber Villarreal requested City Council provide staff with their meeting availability through September to aid in scheduling unforeseen special meetings or Work Sessions.

Council Member Smith suggested scheduling quarterly Work Sessions for City Council.

6. Discuss committee for recreation assessment process

Executive Director of Parks and Leisure Services Gumaro Martinez requested direction on creating a committee for the recreation assessment process. The consultant would like to tentatively meet the week of July 8-12.

It was the general consensus of City Council to establish a subcommittee of two council members, staff, stakeholders, and post a Notice of Potential Quorum in the event other members of council attend a meeting. City Council will work on identifying potential subcommittee members.

7. Discuss process for appointing Boards and Commissions

Ms. Villarreal reviewed the current process for appointing Board and Commission members. She requested direction from City Council on how they would like to move forward with this year's review process for annual appointments of Boards and Commissions.

It was the general consensus of City Council to have a Work Session to review Board and Commission applications to determine a slate of nominations to be considered at the first council meeting in September. City Council will also review the current ordinance for potential revisions.

8. Discuss committee for selection of proposals for former Police Department Building

Mr. Martinez explained the City is actively marking the property at 216 N. College and proposals are due June 14th. He requested Council's direction on how to review proposals and who they would like to serve on the committee.

Council Member Smith requested a more thorough review of proposals this time and asked for more than one option be presented to City Council.

Council Member Wright asked if the general public has been notified of the current proposal process and Mr. Martinez explained there is information on the City's website and those who have shown interest have been notified.

Council Member Tres Atkins asked why the City is seeking a lease partner rather than selling the property. City Manager Michael Scott explained the property is being incentivized to get a preferred use in that space that will enhance downtown.

Deputy City Manager Albert Lawrence explained a 380 Agreement allows for an economic development incentive to make improvements to the building before deeding over the building.

Council Member Wright is agreeable to the current process but concurs with Council Member Smith to expand the search for a higher quality development, if needed.

Council Member Smith also requested to put the train depot back on the tax roll and move away from the City being a landlord.

It was the general consensus of City Council to have more than one option presented to them for final selection of the potential development of 216 N. College and to have council representatives participate on the review committee.

9. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amber Villarreal
City Secretary