

**MINUTES OF THE
HENDERSON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

May 14, 2019

The City Council met on this date at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor John (Buzz) Fullen presiding. Council Members present included Tommy Goode, Michael Searcy, Henry Pace, Melissa Morton and Steve Higginbotham.

Staff members present included City Manager Jay Abercrombie, City Secretary Cheryl Jimerson, City Attorney Joe Shumate, Police Chief Chad Taylor, Fire Chief Rusty Chote, Public Services Director Davis Brown, Public Utilities Director Randy Boyd, Community Development Manager Billy Hughes, Finance Director Karen Vaughn, HEDCO Director John Clary, Civic Center Manager Laura Wilkerson, Tourism Coordinator Suzanne Cross, Main Street Coordinator Judy Lewis, and Chaplin Stacy Horne.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Tommy Goode gave the Invocation and Mayor Buzz Fullen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

There were no comments.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA: *Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine in nature and may be acted upon in one motion. Any item requiring additional discussion may be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda by the Mayor, Councilmember or City Manager, and acted upon separately.*

1. **Consideration and possible action on the following Minutes:**
 - ❖ **April 9, 2019 – Regular Meeting**
2. **Consideration and possible action upon HEDCO financials for March 2019.**
3. **Consideration and possible action on re-appointment of five Main Street Advisory Board members, Darla Cloutier, Gabriel Gearheart, Leon Harris, Leigh A. Morris and Carol Young whose terms expire June 1, 2019.**
4. **Consideration and possible action on approval of street closures for Juneteenth Parade and Celebration at Yates Park June 15, 2019.**
5. **Consideration and possible action regarding approving the current contract with the City of Henderson and the Rusk County Emergency Service District "RCESD" No. 1.**

Mayor Fullen introduced the Consent Agenda. Council Member Steve Higginbotham made a motion to approve the consent agenda, duly seconded by Council Member Melissa Morton; the motion passed unanimously.

COUNCIL BUSINESS – REGULAR SESSION:

Mayor Fullen moved item 10 up

10. **Presentation and update from the City Manager and Rusk County Pets Alive (RCPA) regarding the Henderson Animal Center.**

City Manager Jay Abercrombie and Kellie Ballenger with RCPA started taking corrective action immediately with meetings between RCPA! And the City of Henderson to gather facts, concerns and any other information that is vital to the change and success of the HAC. Our first meeting was on March 24th to simply listen and gather information. Our second meeting was on April 15th to begin to talk about how we can move forward. At that meeting, Jay tasked Kelli and RCPA! with gathering the details and coming back with desired policies and procedures to help with the vision of a "No Kill" Animal Center. RCPA! eagerly took that challenge and that lead to

a third meeting on May 3rd. RCPA!, with Kelli Ballenger and Lisa Waugh did a great job of presenting information through examples and many other resources. Police Chief Chad Taylor and City Manager Jay Abercrombie attended this meeting.

After many meetings, discussions and hours of research, we believe a true desired outcome for the community's vision is near, but we still have work to do to make a true recommendation to the Mayor and City Council for proper action. A recommendation will not be made lightly and it should come with full support from our City's staff and also volunteer based organizations such as RCPA!

Most importantly, we need everyone involved to have positive attitudes and behavior as we move forward. There is no need to dwell on the past as we will only be stressed with negativity. This vision will only be successful if we ALL work together as a community. The City of Henderson is an outstanding place to live and work for a plethora of reasons, but the most important is its people. We are blessed with generous hearted people in Henderson, Texas and that is why this NO KILL Vision will be a success very soon!

Council Member Melissa Morton asked what defines a no kill shelter? Kellie answered a 90% plus adoption rating.

6. Consideration and possible action on a Resolution 19-05-06 for a cross walk at the Hospital crossing Wilson Street.

Public Services Director Davis Brown recommended Council Members approve Resolution 19-05-06 adding a crosswalk for UT Health Center from the employee parking lot to the ambulance bay entrance on Wilson Street; Council Member Tommy Goode made a motion to approve the crosswalk Resolution. The motion was seconded by Council Member Michael Searcy; Council Member Melissa Morton abstained from voting; the vote passed 4-0.

7. Consideration and possible action upon a minor plat application from Emma Ruth Hughes to subdivide the Serenity Hill Estates adding lots 2 and 4 of Block 347, of the J. Smith Survey, being located at 1025 HWY 259 S.

Community Development Manager Billy Hughes made a presentation to Council on the behalf of Emma Ruth Hughes. Staff is recommending Council approve a request to subdivide the unimproved property adjoining a property known as 1025 HWY 259 South, legal description Lot 2 of Block 347.

Council Member Michael Searcy made a motion to approve said replat and property to be known as Lots 3 and 4 of Block 347, duly seconded by Council Member Henry Pace; vote was unanimous.

8. Consideration and possible action on an agreement to rehabilitate the raw water pump station shared by the City of Henderson and City of Kilgore.

Public Utilities Director Randy Boyd recommended Council approve the agreement between the City of Kilgore and City of Henderson on the rehabilitation water pump station shared by both entities at Sabine River. Randy also made them aware of the bid coming in under budget. City Attorney Joe Shumate reassured Council the agreement was in order.

Council Member Tommy Goode made a motion to approve and authorized the Mayor to sign off on said agreement, duly seconded by Council Member Michael Searcy; vote was unanimous.

9. Consideration and possible action upon amendment No. 5 for the 2018-2019 budget.

Finance Director Karen Vaughn recommended Council approve budget amendment No. 5 for the 2018-2019 budget. Amendment is to the General Fund for the Police Department vehicle that was in an accident while responding to a call. TML covered the totaled vehicle less the deductible. Karen needs approval to move the \$14,000 into the miscellaneous revenue line for the vehicle to be replaced.

Council Member Steve Higginbotham made a motion to approve said resolution, duly seconded by Melissa Morton; vote was unanimous.

10. Presentation and update from the City Manager and Rusk County Pets Alive (RCPA) regarding the Henderson Animal Center. Moved up before item 6.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

11. The City Council may deliberate and make inquiry into any item listed in the Departmental Reports.

- A. City Manager
- B. Fire Department
- C. Police Department

- D. Community Development
- E. Public Services Department
- F. Public Utilities
- G. Finance Department
- H. Court, Main Street, Tourism/Civic Center
- I. HEDCO
- J. City Attorney

All departmental reports were submitted to Council and addressed individually as needed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There were no items to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT:

12. Adjourn.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, upon motion by Council Member Melissa Morton, duly seconded by Council Member Henry Pace; with a unanimous vote of the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

APPROVED:



Buzz Fullen, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cheryl Jimerson, City Secretary

