

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

March 23, 2021

The City Council met on this date at 6:11 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, Director of Public Utilities Randy Boyd, Director of Finance Karen Arnall and HR Specialist and Leadership Assistant Hillary Falkner, Communications Coordinator Phedra Johnson, Parks and Recreational Director Kirk Kimbrell, Community Development Manager Billy Hughes and HEDCO Director John Clary. Joining the meeting virtually, Fire Chief Rusty Chote, Public Services Director Davis Brown, and Animal Center Director Charissa Pool.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pastor Bruce Wike with the Metro Church gave the Invocation and Mayor Fullen led the Pledges.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

There were none.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS:

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Historical Landmark Preservation update from Art Rousseau.

Mr. Rousseau updated the Mayor and Council on the activities of the Preservation Committee. He also gave the history on the establishment and guidelines the Board follow for decisions on façade and sign applications.

Annual Audit presentation by Gollob Morgan Peddy, PC

Kevin Cashner with Gollob Morgan Peddy, PC went through the 2019-2020 audit giving a synopsis of the results stating the city had a very clean audit in his opinion. He also stated the city had a very good year considering the extreme challenges every entity faced during the 2020 pandemic.

Gene Keenon with Republic Services was present for the city's first meeting opening back up to the public.

City Manager Jay Abercrombie introduced the new Communications and Marketing Coordinator Phedra Johnson.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consideration and possible action upon the following minutes **(Jimerson)**
February 16, 2021 – Regular Council Meeting
2. Consideration and possible action on HEDCO financials from February 2021. **(Clary)**
3. Consideration and possible action for a proclamation declaring the Month of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). **(Jimerson)**
4. Consideration and possible action upon the City's Discrimination Policy **(Faulkner)**
5. Consideration and possible action upon the City's Antifraud Policy **(Arnall)**

Council Member Steve Higginbotham made a motion to approve the consent agenda; duly seconded by Council Member Melissa Morton; vote was unanimous.

COUNCIL BUSINESS – REGULAR SESSION:

6. Consideration and possible action upon a donation of 3.793 acres dedicated to use as green space, park, bird sanctuary etc. Property is located on the corner of Standish and Ragley Streets. **(Abercrombie)**

City Manager Jay Abercrombie stated the timing is not right for this item and asked for it to be dropped from the agenda.

7. Consideration and possible action upon an agreement from Conterra Ultra Broadband, LLC to service the city with fiber driven internet service. **(Abercrombie)**
 City Manager Jay Abercrombie stated this quote includes placing the fiber infrastructure for \$60,000 annually, currently the internet service is at \$30,000 annually. Jay turned the floor over to Council Member Michael Searcy. Michael explained how high the cyber-criminal activity is today, making the City of Henderson at a higher risk with 8 or 9 hubs at different locations throughout the city. Michael stated if there was only one hub to protect, the city would be much easier to protect. HEDCO is working with Conterra trying to get fiber out to the new East Texas Industrial Park. Mayor Fullen stated at the TML meeting statistics showed there are 13 cities every week being attacked though cyber-criminal activity.
 Council Member Michael Searcy made a motion to approve the agreement with Conterra, duly seconded by Council Member Melissa Morton; vote was unanimous.

8. Consideration and possible action upon a recommendation of an appointment of two new members and the reappointment of other members for the Henderson Landmark Preservation Committee. **(Jimerson)**
 City Manager Jay Abercrombie stated Council could make this item a two-part motion. They could go ahead with the re-appointment of the members and wait on the new appointments. Forming a committee to interview the citizens that have submitted applications.
 Council Member Steve Higginbotham made a motion to table the entire item, duly seconded by Council Member Michael Searcy; vote was unanimous.

9. Consideration and possible action upon the history and future plan for the National Registered Historic District Façade/Sign guidelines and the Landmark Preservation Committee. **(By request of Council)**
 City Secretary Cheryl Jimerson stated Art Rousseau explained the history and guidelines of the Preservation Committee very well and asked if there were any direction Council wanted to go with this item.
 Council Member Michael Searcy stated he would like the Ordinance to be studied and updated with the current code and Historical guidelines, duly seconded by Council Member Steve Higginbotham; vote was unanimous.

10. Consideration and possible action upon a request to subdivide the un-improved property adjoining a property in the 1400 block of East Main Street in Council District 2. **(Hughes)**
 Community Development Manager Billy Hughes stated staff recommends Council approve a minor plat subdividing an unimproved lot. Lot 1 would be 18.90 acres and Lot 2 would be 35.89 acres. The lots would have enough property to remain as a Residential Estate Zone.
 Council Member Michael Searcy made a motion to approve the minor plat, duly seconded by Council Member Melissa Morton; vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

11. The City Council may deliberate and make inquiry into any item listed in the Departmental Reports.
 - A. City Manager – Putting a template together for monthly reports
 - B. Fire Department
 - C. Police Department – Steve asked about the monthly report excel file being on one page
 - D. Animal Center
 - E. Community Development – Steve asked about an address being classified as residential and commercial
 - F. Public Services Department
 - G. Parks and Recreation Department
 - H. Public Utilities – Steve asked about the monthly report excel file being on one page
 - I. Finance Department
 - J. City Secretary
 - K. Communications and Marketing
 - L. HEDCO – John added to his report verbally stating HEDCO had moved into their new location and invited everyone to the open house and ribbon cutting April 7 at 10 a.m. He also stated HEDCO was working on a reimbursement Grant for \$198,000.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Board of Adjustments
 Planning and Zoning

Cemetery Board
Main Street- Minutes of January 26, 2021 meeting
Preservation Board – minutes of March 1, 2021

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

12. Executive Session to Consult with City Attorney discussing litigations, real property located on W. Fordall, W. Main, Frisco, 113 E. Main, Katherine Streets and Henderson Sports Complex; in accordance with Vernon’s Texas Government Code Annotated, Chapter 551, Sections 071, 072 and 073.
Mayor Fullen convened to executive session at 7:18 p.m.

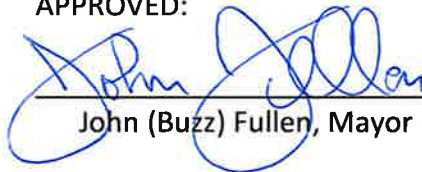
REGULAR SESSION:

13. Mayor Fullen Reconvene into Regular Session at 8:20 p.m. stating there was no action to take from executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

14. Adjourn.
There being no further business to come before Council at this time, upon a motion by Council Member Melissa Morton, duly seconded by Council Member Michael Searcy; with a unanimous vote of the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

APPROVED:



John (Buzz) Fullen, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cheryl Jimerson, City Secretary