

**CITY OF SAGINAW
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE SAGINAW CITY HALL
333 WEST MCLEROY BLVD.
FEBRUARY 7, 2023**

Present at the meeting:

Mayor Pro-Tem	Valerie Junkersfeld
Councilmember	Nicky Lawson
Councilmember	Charles Tucker
Councilmember	Cindy Bighorse
Councilmember	Mary Copeland
City Engineer	Trenton Tidwell, P.E.
City Manager	Gabe Reaume
Asst. City Manager	Lee Howell
Finance Director	Kim Quin
City Secretary	Janice England
Fire Chief	Doug Spears
Asst. Police Chief	Brandon Badovinac
Police Lieutenant	James Crippen
Police Lieutenant	Corey Burnett
Director of Public Works	Randy Newsom
Dir. of Comm. & Eco. Dev.	Keith Rinehart
Director of Human Resources	Melanie McManus
Library Director	Ellen Ritchie
Chief Building Official	Larry Little
Management Analyst	Salvador Gonzalez
Police Officer	David Gonzalez

Absent from the meeting:

Mayor	Todd Flippo
Councilmember	Paul Felegy
City Attorney	Bryn Meredith
Police Chief	Russell Ragsdale
Communications Manager	Pedro Zambrano

Visitors at the meeting:

Brack St. Clair	John Peet
J.D. Peet	Ronnie Mills
Austin Pittman	Jonathan Reames
Ronnie Horton	Andrew Friedman
Matt Hubert	

(1) Call to Order

Mayor Pro-Tem Junkersfeld called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States

Pledge of Allegiance to the State of Texas

(2) Invocation

Pastor Ronnie Mills of Kingdom Chapel gave the invocation.

(3) Audience Participation

This item was covered on the video screen.

(4) Consent Agenda

(a) Action regarding Minutes, January 17, 2023

(b) Action regarding Building Improvement Grant Agreement with Wrecker ASAP (200 S. Blue Mound Rd.)

Summary: On Tuesday, January 17, 2023, the City Council received information in Executive Session pertaining to the specifics of a Building Improvement Grant (BIG) Program application submitted in December 2022 by Wrecker ASAP in regards to their property located at 200 S. Blue Mound Road. The City Council determined in that session to award an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000 in reimbursable and matching dollars for the anticipated improvements as proposed on their application. The proposed agreement is the realization of that intention. Funds are available in Account 01-6142-13, Building Improvement Grants, for this expenditure.

(c) Action regarding Resolution No. 2023-01, Calling for a General Election to be held on May 6, 2023 to elect the Offices of City Council Place 4, and City Council Place 6

Summary: Resolution No. 2023-01 calls the General Election to elect the offices of City Council Place 4, and City Council Place 6 to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Both positions have three year terms. The deadline for candidate applications is Friday, February 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

(d) Action regarding Ordinance No. 2023-06, Calling for a Special Election to be held on May 6, 2023 to determine whether the Voters of the City of Saginaw desire to continue a Sales and Use Tax for Street Maintenance in the City.

Summary: In 2001 the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 445 allowing cities, with voter approval, to dedicate a portion of their local sales tax rate to street maintenance and repairs. The sales tax may be used only to maintain and repair existing municipal streets. Saginaw voters approved the Street Maintenance Sales Tax in May 2007 (1/8 cent). The tax expires four years after it takes effect unless voters reauthorize it. It was reauthorized by voters in 2011, 2015, and 2019. Ordinance No. 2023-06 calls the Special Election to be held on May 6, 2023 for voters to consider the reauthorization of the Sales and Use Tax for Street Maintenance.

(e) Action regarding Interlocal Agreement between the Cities of Azle, Lake Worth, Saginaw, White Settlement, Pelican Bay, and Reno; and My Health My Resources of Tarrant County—Northwest Tarrant County Crisis Intervention Team

Summary: The cities of Azle, Lake Worth, Saginaw, White Settlement, Pelican Bay, Reno; and My Health My Resources of Tarrant County are committed to creating a team to reduce the hazards associated with interactions between law enforcement and people suffering with mental illness as well as proactively engaging mental health individuals who pose a threat to the community. There

will be some training impacts. The department will need to dedicate at least one officer to serve on the NWTC CIT Team who will be certified as a mental health peace officer and will also be training in hostage negotiations. We already send the majority of the staff to the mental health peace officer course, and we have five within the department who are hostage negotiators, so this training will have a minimum impact. Our goal is to proactively engage and build rapport with individuals suffering a mental health crisis who pose a threat to the community and respond to high risk suicidal/homicidal person calls for service with a goal of bringing the call to a peaceful resolution.

(f) Action regarding Salary Adjustments for Police Department (discussed at 1/17/2023 City Council Meeting)

Summary: As discussed at the January 17th City Council Meeting, the Police Department, like other departments, is significantly behind neighboring cities in reference to salaries. At that meeting, the Police Department presented a study involving twenty-four policing agencies, showing salaries to be 13% or more behind the average for those cities. They requested the Council consider moving eleven sworn officers and two non-sworn employees into their proper step based on their tenure. Also the position of the Dispatch/Records Supervisor is more than 35% behind the average of nine area agencies. The Council requested more information including the costs for moving the Dispatch/Records Supervisor to a new grade on the salary plan.

(g) Action regarding Salary Adjustments (discussed at 1/17/2023 City Council Meeting)

Summary: Salary adjustments were discussed at the January 17th City Council Meeting. At that meeting, the Council requested additional information regarding employees that would be affected by the “trickle-down effect” of the proposed salary adjustments.

(h) Action regarding BUS287 Green Ribbon Project Phase II Funding

Summary: In the fall of 2022, the City of Saginaw entered into an agreement with TxDOT (Texas Department of Transportation) for the construction of Phase II of the BUS287 Green Ribbon Project. TxDOT funded \$400,000 towards the project with Saginaw agreeing to cover any costs above that amount with the City's approval. The project was awarded in the amount of \$406,337.70 which was \$6,337.70 above the estimated cost. In addition to this, staff recommended to the contractor to use two existing water meters in the area rather than boring lines under the roadway. This will result in the contractor having to lay 1,700' of 2" PVC with trenching. This will increase the cost by \$14,760.00 but will eliminate any chance for a leak under the road. The total financial impact will be \$21,097.70. The funds to cover the increase will come from the General Fund Balance.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bighorse with a second by Councilmember Tucker to approve Items 4a, 4b, 4c, and 4e of the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0-0-2

For: Mayor Pro-Tem Junkersfeld, Councilmembers
Lawson, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Mayor Flippo and Councilmember Felegy

The Council considered Item 4d. Action regarding Ordinance No. 2023-06, Calling for a Special Election to be held on May 6, 2023 to determine whether the Voters of the City of Saginaw desire to continue a Sales and Use Tax for Street Maintenance in the City.

Mr. John Peet addressed the Council and expressed his concerns regarding the street maintenance tax.

Motion was made by Councilmember Lawson with a second by Councilmember Copeland to approve Item 4d as presented. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0-0-2

For: Mayor Pro-Tem Junkersfeld, Councilmembers
Lawson, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Mayor Flippo and Councilmember Felegy

The Council considered Item 4h. Action regarding BUS287 Green Ribbon Project Phase II Funding

Motion was made by Councilmember Lawson with a second by Councilmember Copeland to approve Item 4h as presented. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0-0-2

For: Mayor Pro-Tem Junkersfeld, Councilmembers
Lawson, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Mayor Flippo and Councilmember Felegy

The Council considered Items 4f and 4g.

Item 4f Action regarding Salary Adjustments for Police Department (discussed at 1/17/2023 City Council Meeting)

The proposed salary adjustments for the Police Department were discussed. They are as follows.

Increase starting pay for Dispatchers to \$21.00 per hour

Increase pay for Dispatchers to \$23.00 when become certified

Increase pay for Dispatchers with 2 years experience & certified to \$25.00 per hour

Adjust salaries of 11 sworn officers and 2 civilian employees

Move Dispatch/Records Supervisor to Grade 26

Total Financial Impact: \$48,281 (General Fund - Police Department)

Item 4g Action regarding Salary Adjustments (discussed at 1/17/2023 City Council Meeting)

The proposed salary adjustments (with the exception of the Police Department positions) were discussed. They are as follows.

Public Works employees at Crew Leader level and below receive a “step” adjustment now (mid-year budget adjustment) (approximately 3%)

Increase minimum full time salaries to \$17.50 per hour (mid-year budget adjustment). This affects 12 positions Citywide (8 filled, 4 vacant).

Additional adjustments (needed due to trickle-down effect)

Total Financial Impact: \$66,646 (General Fund: \$34,759 and Enterprise Fund: \$31,887)

Overall Total for Salary Adjustments: \$114,927 (Items 4f and 4g)

Motion was made by Councilmember Lawson with a second by Councilmember Copeland to approve Items 4f and 4g as presented with the caveat that a workshop be held at the next City Council Meeting to look at possible reductions with the Department Heads. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0-0-2

For: Mayor Pro-Tem Junkersfeld, Councilmembers
Lawson, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Mayor Flipppo and Councilmember Felegy

- (5) Consideration and Action regarding Resolution No. 2023-02, Declaring intention to reimburse an amount not to exceed \$16,950,000 for certain capital expenditures with proceeds from debt; and placing time restrictions on the issuance of tax-exempt obligations

Andrew Friedman of SAMCO Capital Markets addressed the Council and gave a brief presentation.

Motion was made by Councilmember Copeland with a second by Councilmember Lawson to approve Resolution No. 2023-02 as presented. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0-0-2

For: Mayor Pro-Tem Junkersfeld, Councilmembers
Lawson, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Mayor Flipppo and Councilmember Felegy

(6) Executive Session

1 § 551.071. Texas Government Code. Consultation with Attorney. The City Council may convene in executive session to conduct a private consultation with its attorney on any legally posted agenda item, when the City Council seeks the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the provisions of Chapter 551, including the following items:

- a. Any Posted Item
- b. ILT Charter School Traffic

City Attorney Meredith was absent so the City Council did not recess into Executive Session.

(7) Adjournment

Motion was made by Councilmember Bighorse with a second by Councilmember Lawson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. 5-0-0-2

For: Mayor Pro-Tem Junkersfeld, Councilmembers
Lawson, Tucker, Bighorse, and Copeland

Against: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Mayor Flipppo and Councilmember Felegy

Mayor Pro-Tem Junkersfeld declared the City Council Meeting of February 7, 2023 adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Secretary Janice England

Mayor Todd Flipppo