

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HULL MAYOR AND COUNCIL

March 24, 2022

Meeting Held in Person at Jackson EMC

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Paul Walton. Those in attendance in addition to the Mayor and the Clerk were council members, Donna Gantt, Mike McElroy and John Barber. Council member Brian Koepnick attended via telephone due to illness

The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer was observed prior to the start of the meeting.

Broderick Flanigan was recognized as a guest and welcomed to the meeting along with former council member, Marilyn Walton. Mr Flanigan is the visual artist that Council member Gantt had been speaking with about the proposed Mural project at the Chevron.

The minutes of the February meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by John Barber and a second by Mike McElroy. The Financial Reports were unanimously approved after a motion by John Barber and a second by Mike McElroy.

Under old business council member Donna Gantt advised that she and Mayor Walton had met with Mr. Flanigan at the Chevron and that he felt that it was a suitable site for the mural project the city was considering. Mr. Flanigan gave Mayor and Council an overview of his previous experience and the various projects he had worked on in the past. He also went over the procedures used to come up with ideas for the mural utilizing public input, input from Mayor and Council, local schools, etc. he would then come up with an initial digital rendering of the mural for review by Mayor and Council which could be revised as necessary to come up with the final product. Mayor and Council expressed their desire that this be a collaborative project and incorporate all cultures. The consensus of Mayor and Council was that Mr. Flanigan's previous work experience made him a good candidate as project manager for this project. After a questions by former council member, Marilyn Walton, about the durability of the mural and life expectancy Mr. Flanigan advised that he would put a coating of Polyurethane over the finished mural which would help extend the life of the mural in addition to making clean up easier in the event someone put graffiti on the mural. He did not include this in his original quote but since this was oversight on his part he would include this at no charge.

With respect to funding for the mural Mayor Walton thanked council member Gantt for her efforts in trying to find grant funding to help with the costs of the mural but advised that funding opportunities would not be available until later this year and early next year. However, Mayor Walton expressed his desire that the City not wait on this funding but instead take funds from the miscellaneous budget to cover the costs and then replenish those funds when grant funding became available. The Clerk advised that there were sufficient funds in the budget to proceed. Mayor Walton also advised that the City would be able to receive reimbursement from ARPA funds for attorney fees paid related to Covid 19 which would go back into the general fund.. Mr. Flanigan was asked if there was a way to decrease the costs and he indicated that he could use scaffolding instead of the lift but this would create more work for him and make it harder to complete the project. He did indicate that there was a possibility that the final costs could exceed the \$8,757.24 quote if rental of the lift increased or materials used increased. At this time council member Gantt made a motion that the City proceed with the project with Mr. Flanigan as the project manager at a cost of \$8,757.24. The motion was seconded by Mike McElroy and

unanimously approved.

Council member Brian Koepnick advised that the 2022 lawn maintenance contract has been executed by the contractor Mr. Chandler Austin and the City. Mr. Austin has done one cutting and is working on the initial clean-up although the weather has caused some delay. Brian has also met with Mr. Austin at the flower beds and work will begin on that shortly. There was a question about whether or not new mulch would be needed and Brian advised that this should not be needed until next year. Brian also advised that he had talked with GDOT about the possibility of placing wild flowers in the medians and was advised that most of the medians were too narrow but it might be possible to do something at the lower end heading toward Colbert.

Mayor Walton advised that he had been speaking with Sheriff Moore and Josh Chandler from the IDA about renewing the Intergovernmental Agreements. It is necessary for the City to maintain at least 3 services to maintain the Charter. With these two plus the Fire Department which the City already has a contract with this will make the City in compliance.

Mayor Walton also reminded Council that it will be necessary in the near future for the City to decide if they want to continue with the NEGRC in preparation of its Comprehensive Plan or go with the County Consulting Firm. There is a special called meeting with the Commissioners and the Consulting Firm on Friday the 25th at 10:30 for anyone interested in attending.

Mayor Walton advised that council needed to vote on the approval of the zoning ordinances presented after the public hearing back in October, 2021. Motion was made by John Barber and seconded by Brian Koepnick and unanimously approved to adopt the zoning ordinances as presented.

In respect to a question about the status of the proposed new City Hall Mayor Walton advised that the three required reports had been presented to USDA and we were just waiting on their approval and then we would secure an underwriter to fund the construction of the building. Mayor Walton also advised that he had been working with various property owners requesting that they clean up their property to help beautify the City.

Mayor Walton then presented his State of the City address. He thanked the Council and the Clerk for their perseverance during the past couple of years with the challenges of Covid 19. Mayor Walton indicated that it considers it an honor and a privilege to serve as Mayor and while it is not always easy it is always rewarding to attend to the needs of the citizens of the City. Although you can't always satisfy everyone you strive to do the best you can for everyone. Mayor Walton hopes that whoever succeeds him as Mayor will keep the City moving forward.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned after a motion by John Barber and a second by Mike McElroy.

Sandra Pou
Hull City Clerk