

**SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE CITY OF BLANCO**

**Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2024**

A special meeting of the City Council, City of Blanco, Texas was held on March 20, 2024, at 3:00 pm at the Byars Building, 308 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas.

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Mayor Arnold, followed by roll call announcing a quorum was present. The Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Smith. Council members present: Mayor Arnold, and Council Members Smith, Swinson, and Moses. Council Members absent were Mayor Pro-Tem Thrailkill and Council Member McClellan (excused due to medical reasons).

City staff present: Warren Escovy, City Administrator, Laurie Cassidy, City Secretary, Sasha Ricks, Finance Director, and Lt. Jerry Thornhill.

Mayor's Announcements:

- TxDot roadway at US Highway 281 is being repaired beginning tonight and repairs should be completed by Friday.
- Founders Day is this coming Saturday, March 23, 2024.

Public Comments:

- Retta Martin, City of Blanco Resident spoke regarding the Comprehensive Master Plan, she asked that the residents be involved in the updates to the new/revised plan.

PRESENTATION:

1. Annual Financial Audit Report and Single Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023, were presented by Darla Dear, Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP. She discussed the three most important pages in the report. Page 1, the Opinions Page, the City received an Unmodified Opinion (this is the highest level of assurance you can receive) no material misstatements and all disclosures have been made to generally accept accounting principles, great job, Page 25, Statement of Revenues and Expenditures, and Page 63, Budget and Actuals.

NEW BUSINESS: Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action on Approval of Annual Financial Audit Report and Single Audit Report for Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2023, by Belt Harris Pechacek, LLLP. **A motion was made by Council Member Smith to accept the Annual Financial Audit and Single Audit Reports as presented, seconded by Council Member Swinson, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
2. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on Award of Grant Administrator for the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT), Resilient Communities Program (RCP). Warren Escovy, City Administrator said the City received four proposals (Traylor, Public Management, Grant Works, and Langford Community Management).

The Review committee consisted of Bobby Mack-McClung of the CMP Committee, Kenneth Welch of the Transportation Committee, and Brandon Carlson of Planning & Zoning Commission. The Review Committee recommends Langford Community Management. Council Member Swinson suggested the Council combine the Comprehensive Master Plan and updates to the current UDC. **A motion was made by Council Member Smith to Award Langford Community Services as the Grant Administrator for the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery-Mitigation (CDBG-MIT), Resilient Communities Program (RCP), seconded by Council Member Swinson, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

3. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on Authorization of City Administrator to Create Police Department Incentive Program. The Council discussed possible Police Department Retention Program ideas. **A motion was made by Council Member Smith to approve the incentive paid portion of the retention program, seconded by Council Member Swinson, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
4. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on the lift station to include payment and possible damages for delay of project. JD Merritt with Langford Community Services spoke regarding the closeout of the 2020 TDA Lift Station grant. Keeping the 125 watt generator grant open until 2025. A Resolution will be presented to the Council in April, pending TDA final payment issued. Funding agreed to, finalizing administrative documents. Phase this project into two phases. Amending construction contract and need authorization for Warren to sign. Final Lift Station walk through next week. Retainage from Phase I will be released (estimated at \$10,000), warranties will be kept with Phase II. **No Action Taken.**

OLD BUSINESS: Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action on the following:

1. Consideration, Discussion and Take Possible Action on Authority and Structure of Comprehensive Master Plan Committee. Mayor shared, not discussing the plan, only funding options to be discussed in executive session. **No Action Taken, Mayor moved item to Executive Session.**
2. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Possible Action on Approval of Extension of City Services or Disannexation of 4.99 Acre Property at 1917 N. US Hwy 281 located in the H. Eggleston Survey No. 24, Abstract No. 0001, Blanco County, Texas. **Item Tabled to April.**

Closed regular meeting and convened into executive session at 3:33 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION in accordance with Texas Government Code: in accordance with the authority contained in the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071, 551.072, and 551.074.

1. Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct. Confer with City Attorney regarding the lift station to include payment and possible damages for delay of project.
2. Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct. Confer with City Attorney regarding the Authority and Structure of Comprehensive Master Plan Committee.

3. Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct. Confer with City Attorney regarding Approval of Extension of City Services or Disannexation of 4.99 Acre Property at 1917 N. US Hwy 281 located in the H. Eggleston Survey No. 24, Abstract No. 0001, Blanco County, Texas.
4. Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and 551.074 (Personnel Matters) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of the Chief of Police.
5. Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and 551.074 (Personnel Matters) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a Police Officer.
6. Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and Section 1.05, Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct. Confer with City Attorney regarding Pending Legal Matters.

Closed executive session at 4:46 pm and convened into regular meeting.

Executive Session Item 4: Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with City Attorney) and 551.074 (Personnel Matters) to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of the Chief of Police.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, subject to legal review, the City authorizes an interim search and a long term search through Public Safety Solutions, LLC for a Police Chief, seconded by Council Member Swinson, all in favor, motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Council Member Smith to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Swinson, all in favor.


The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



 Mike Arnold, Mayor

ATTEST:



 Laurie A. Cassidy, City Secretary



These minutes were approved on the 9 day of April, 2024.

