

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE CITY OF LAMPASAS, TEXAS
CALVERT MUNICIPAL BUILDING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
302 E THIRD STREET
Monday, January 23, 2023
5:30 p.m. Workshop Session
6:00 p.m. Regular Session**

(regular session will begin immediately following workshop and may be called to order prior to 6:00 pm)

The City Council of the City of Lampasas met in Regular Session on the above date and time with Mayor Monroe presiding.

Council Members Present:

Zach Morris
Chuck Williamson
Herb Pearce
Cathy Kuehne
Chuck Williamson

City Staff Present:

Finley deGraffenried, City Manager
Becky Sims, City Secretary
Jeff Smith, Fire Chief
Ryan Ward, ACM
Jody Cummings, Police Chief
Stacey Ybarra, EDC Director

Council Members Absent:

Randy Clark
Davis Keele

WORKSHOP SESSION

1. Call to order Workshop Session

Mayor Monroe called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Discussion regarding TxDOT Relief Route Feasibility Study

Finley deGraffenried, City Manager presented the following:

On October 10, 2019, the City received correspondence from Elias Rmelli, TxDOT Brownwood District Engineer Requesting a resolution in support of a Feasibility Study for managing future traffic demands along US 183, US 190, and US 281 corridors in Lampasas. The letter further explained that the proposed study would include investigating the need for a relief route around Lampasas and the conversion of US 190 from Lampasas to Copperas Cove into freeway facility.

This type of study does not mean there is going to be a relief route, this determines the viability of alternative routes to alleviate congestion and improve mobility and safety of the traveling public. The study itself will take approximately 2 years and be comprised of various public involvement to inform and include the public in TxDOT's decision-making process.

The City Comprehensive Plan, which also included extensive public engagement, has several citations to traffic congestion and safety:

- Objective 5.2 reduce conflicts between highway and local traffic*
- Action 5.2.1 Coordinate with TxDOT to explore options for bypass that removed truck traffic from local streets where possible.*
- Action 5.2.2 Work with TxDOT to identify potential routes for the planned I-14 Forts to Ports highway corridor.*

It is staff's understanding, TxDOT is continuing to take public comment, and the next Public Open House on the study is tentatively scheduled for March.

Mayor Monroe introduced the new Brownwood District Engineer, Greg Cedillo



Mr. Cedillo advised of the following:

- *Route is not pre-determined*
- *Community decides if Study continues*
 - *Lack of support, study will go on shelf*
- *Requires Funding/Tax Dollars to continue Study*
- *Held two public hearings*
 - *Encourage public comments*
- *Recommend viewing videos and presentations on TxDOT website*
- *Relief Route Purpose*
 - *Alleviate congestion*
 - *Re-Route through traffic*
 - *Opportunity to determine where route should go vs. future alternatives*

Mayor Monroe opened the floor for community comments regarding Relief Route Feasibility Study

The following members of the community provided testimony regarding the study.

- *Warren Bluntzer*
- *Wes Chancey*
- *Barbara Hagle*
- *Clydell Wallace*
- *Julie Williams*
- *Daryl Hurst*
- *Len Grasso*
- *Judith Ann McGhee*



- *United in belief that relief route will have negative impact to Lampasas*
- *Opposition to bypass*
- *1200 names on petition*
- *Asking Council to adopt Resolution to oppose bypass*
- *Affect the vitality of town*
- *Overwhelming Community Support*
- *Active Volunteer in Community*
- *Negatively impact habitation-wildlife*
- *Imminent Domain*
- *Invested in community/homestead*
- *Proposed Relief Route affects home appraisals*
- *Possible financial impact to businesses*
- *Lampasas past vs. future*
 - *where we were vs where we are now*
- *Spending habits of citizens*
- *Reduce services/raise taxes*
- *Impact to businesses on Key Avenue*
- *Preservation Lampasas*
- *Potential route may disrupt Historical Markers/ not all are marked*
- *Congestion on Key Avenue not proven*
 - *3 minute route from Highway 281 at City Limits to Lometa*
 - *6:24 minute route from East FM 580 to 183 (4 miles)*
- *Problem has not been identified*
- *Examine all options*
 - *Identify Congestion*
 - *Traffic Light necessity on Key Ave*
 - *Stop Lights vs. Stop Signs*
 - *Not a safety issue*
 - *Take a vote/let people decide*

- *How will I-14 affect Relief Route*
 - *Table relief route study until I-14 has been finalized.*

Jason Scantling, TxDOT Director of Planning & Development advised the study was delayed due to COVID-19; the study began in June 2022. The study will take about 2 years to complete. The study is a planning tool. The actual project, once funded will take 10 years to complete. The I-14 project is underway by the TxDOT Austin Branch

3. Discussion regarding any item on the regular agenda

There was no discussion.

Adjourn Workshop Session

Mayor Pro-Tem Williamson moved to adjourn the workshop session at 6:04 p.m., the motion was seconded by Council member Morris and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

Without objection, Council took a 10-min break.

REGULAR SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Call to Order**

Mayor Monroe called the Regular Session to order at 6:12 p.m.

- **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Jody Cummings, Police Chief, gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags were recited.

- **Presentations and Proclamations**

- City Council recognized the following employees for their tenure.
 - John Wilks- 5 years (not pictured)
 - Emily Stone- 10 years



Van Berry- 35 years



- Community Champion
Beth & Dennis James- St. Mary's Church Food Pantry



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| | PUBLIC HEARINGS/CITIZEN COMMENT |
| 1.1 | Citizen comments – Any citizen who desires to address the City Council on a matter not included on the Agenda may do so at this time. The City Council may not deliberate on items presented under this Agenda Item. |

As a member of the Lampasas County Museum Board and Lampasas Historical Commission, Sherry Boultinghouse voiced her support for the Hostess House Rehabilitation. She asked that Council do what they can to fund the project. As a Historical Marker, this venue has hosted many family events and holds many memories for the Lampasas Community.

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| 1.2 | Citizen comments- Any citizen who desires to address the City Council on a matter that is included on the Agenda may do so at this time. |
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There were no citizen comments

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| 2.0 | MINUTES |
| 2.1 | Discussion and possible action concerning the approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting held on held on January 9, 2023. |

Mayor Pro-Tem Williamson moved to approve the minutes as presented; the motion was seconded by Council member Kuehne and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

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| 3.0 | CONSENT AGENDA |
| 3.1 | Discussion and possible action regarding the second reading of an Ordinance to modify Appendix A- Fee Schedule, Public Works, Electric Security Light Installation Fee. |
| 3.2 | Discussion and possible action regarding the second reading of an Ordinance to modify the City of Lampasas Personnel Policy, Employee Responsibilities; Uniform Allowances, Meal Allowances, Stand by Duty Hourly Pay and Public Service Hours. |
| 3.3 | Discussion and possible action regarding the second reading of an Ordinance to consider approval, denial or approval with modifications to the proposed amendments to the Lampasas Zoning Ordinance, Chapter III Zoning Districts, Height and Area Regulations; specific to Non-Single-Family Residential Districts; such as Multi-Family-2 (Apartments), Office, Retail, Light and Heavy Industrial. |

Council member Kuehne moved to approve the consent agenda as presented; the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

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| 4.0 | BOARDS/DEPARTMENT REPORTS |
| 5.0 | ROUTINE MATTERS |
| 5.1 | City Manager's Operational Report |

City Manager deGraffenried reviewed his report:

- Skate Park** The crew from SPA Skate Parks arrived on site January 18th to begin construction on the Campbell Park Skate Park. Their team, of approximately 6 workers, has started shaving final elevations and setting forms. The City is monitoring the project through the Park Department, Building Official, and using a third-party concrete testing firm. Anticipated completion is 5 weeks.
- LEDC** The Lampasas Economic Development Corporation (“LEDC”) met on January 18th for their regular monthly meeting. A major portion of the meeting was dedicated to discussion of the Relief Route Feasibility Study with TxDOT staff including the new District Engineer, Greg Cedillo. TxDOT staff discussed the timing of the Study, potential outcomes, and their desire to get as much public input as possible. Much of the remaining agenda for the meeting was spent in discussion on property covenants, exterior finishes, and finances.
- Hostess House** The Pre-Bid meeting for Hostess House renovation and upgrade was conducted on January 17 with approximately 26 subcontractors and general contractors attending. Members of the Reliance Architecture team indicated that an addendum would be issued in approximately two weeks to clarify some language in the plan set, and asked that any Requests for Information (“RFI”) from contractors be forwarded by January 26th for inclusion in the addendum if applicable. Plan sets have been propagated to 58 additional Plan Rooms; and Plan Holders include 15 General Contractors, and 11 Sub-Contractors currently. Bids are due February 14th and will be packaged for Council consideration at the February 27th meeting.
- LCRA ROW Work** The City has been notified that LCRA will be working within their transmission Right of Way (“ROW”) to clear vegetation and repair or replace gates as needed from the Naruna Substation to the Lampasas substation off North US 281. The path will generally include areas of west Lampasas, then west to east to US 281. Work by LCRA or their contractors will be done in the next few months according to their staff. The attached, draft letter will be provided to affected property owners.
- Park Board** The Park Board met on January 20th and reviewed progress on a number of projects currently in construction and planning stages. The Board was briefed on the progress of Skate Park construction, referenced earlier, as well as projects in development stage such as multi-use trails, Disc Golf, and functional exercise equipment installation, all at the 580 Sports Complex. Ryan Ward also reported on the recent Transportation Alternatives preliminary application the City had submitted to TxDOT that could be used to address trail, bike and pedestrian modal improvements if selected.
- Airport** The City has received the draft Scope of Work for the Airport Layout Plan update and Narrative Report, attached for your reference. The Scope will be used to finalize the

contract between the selected consultant, Parkhill, and TxDOT, who will administer the project. The initial kick-off meeting will be used to also define community and stakeholder involvement, which was emphasized during the consultant selection process.

Staff

Staff is pleased to recognize the following employees who began their City of Lampasas careers in January: Emily Stone, 10 years; Ryan Ward, 1 year; John Wilks, 5 years; John Resa, 1 year; Jameson Varnado, 1 year; Ricky Haynie, 7 years; Van Berry, 35 years; Frank Ellet, 4 years; Chad Curtis, 1 year.

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| 5.2 | MAYOR'S COMMENTS |
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Mayor Monroe thanked the community for their interest in the Lampasas Relief Route and being present during the Workshop Session this evening.

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| 6.0 | UNFINISHED BUSINESS |
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There was no unfinished business.

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| 7.0 | NEW BUSINESS |
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| 7.1 | Discussion and possible action concerning approval of the Contract for Election Services between Lampasas County, Texas and the City of Lampasas, Texas, for the May 6, 2023 General Election. |
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Council member Kuehne moved to approve the Contract for Election Services between Lampasas County, Texas and the City of Lampasas, Texas, for the May 6, 2023 General Election, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

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| 7.2 | Discussion and possible action regarding City of Lampasas Library Long Range Goals |
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Council member Morris moved to approve the City of Lampasas Library Long Range Goals, the motion was seconded by Council member Kuehne and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

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| 7.3 | Discussion and possible action regarding proposed 35 miles per hour speed zone for Lampasas High School on Highway 281 from mile point 28.649 to mile point 29.938, totaling 0.289 miles. |
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Council member Morris moved to approve the proposed 35 miles per hour speed zone for Lampasas High School on Highway 281 from mile point 28.649 to mile point 29.938, totaling 0.289 miles, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

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| 7.4 | Discussion and possible action regarding the first reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 54 Parks and Recreation, City of Lampasas Code of Ordinances adding Skate Park Rules and creating appropriate signage for safety and well-being of the Community. |
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Council member Morris moved to approve the first reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 54 Parks and Recreation, City of Lampasas Code of Ordinances adding Skate Park Rules and creating appropriate signage for safety and well-being of the Community, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

Adjourn into Executive Session

Council member Morris moved to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:37 p.m, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council of the City of Lampasas, Texas will meet in closed Executive Session pursuant to the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, as follows:

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| 8.0 | EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS |
| 8.1 | Section 551.074 (personnel matters), to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties of City Secretary; and other personnel matters as allowed by Texas Government Code, Chapter 551 |
| 8.2 | Section 551.087 (economic development)- (1) to receive and evaluate financial information received from a business prospect, to discuss same, and/or to deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the City has received from a business prospect that the City seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the city, with which the City is conducting economic development negotiations; and/or (2) to deliberate an offer of any financial or other incentives to any business prospect described above |
| 8.3 | Section 551.086 (Relating to the authority of public power utility governing bodies to deliberate regarding competitive matters) – Utilities |
| 8.4 | Adjourn executive session and reconvene Regular Session |

Council reconvened into regular session at 7:30 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

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| 9.0 | ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION |
| 9.1 | Discussion and possible action concerning items posted and discussed by Council in Executive Session |

There was no action taken on items in executive session

Adjourn- Council member Morris moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m., the motion was seconded by Council member Kuehne and with a unanimous vote the motion carried. (Clark and Keele absent)

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2023.

TJ Monroe, Mayor

ATTEST:

Becky Sims, City Secretary