

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE CITY OF LAMPASAS, TEXAS
CALVERT MUNICIPAL BUILDING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
302 E THIRD STREET
Monday, March 25, 2024
5:30 pm Workshop Session
6:00 pm Regular Session**

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

Council Members Present:

Chuck Williamson
Eric Hernandez
Davis Keele
Zachary Morris
Charlie Pratus
Cathy Kuehne-arrived at 6:57pm

City Staff Present:

Finley deGraffenried, City Manager
Becky Sims, City Secretary
Monica Wright, IT Director
Jody Cummings, Police Chief
Charlie Boswell, Asst Police Chief
Ryan Ward, ACM
Joe Adams, Interim Fire Chief
Timothy Davis, Deputy Fire Chief
Tim Ryan, Sergeant Investigator
Chris Eicher, Parks and Recreation Director

Council Members Absent:

N/A

**WORKSHOP SESSION
5:30 p.m.**

1. Call to order Workshop Session

Mayor Pearce called the workshop session to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Discussion regarding status of Lampasas Municipal Airport during the Solar Eclipse Event.

Chris Eicher, Parks Director advised that while he has confirmed with numerous TxDOT and FAA representatives over the past year that closing the airport, due to safety concerns, would be acceptable; recent notification has stated otherwise. They did advise that the airport can be closed once max capacity has been reached; however, with no staff manning the airport it would be difficult to make that determination. NOTAM's have been issued and the County will issue an Emergency Declaration. With there being no available staff to man the airport and no fuel, Staff still feels closing the airport is in the best interest of the community. The only adverse effect of closing the airport is the ability to receive grant funding for TxDOT Aviation Projects.

Interim Fire Chief Adams advised that anticipated traffic during that weekend will impede personnel from getting to the airport in case on an emergency.

3. Discussion regarding maintenance and improvements to the City of Lampasas Rodeo Arena.

Chris Harrison reviewed expenditures and improvements that were done in 2017. The announcer booth needs to be updated for more predominant, well-known rodeos that will bring a large crowd. The announcer booth is where the business takes place. In the packet there is an architectural set of plans for Council consideration. While the Riding Club has done well in promoting and hosting events each year, there is more that can be done. The other area that needs regular maintenance is the riding arena itself; it has been maintained by volunteers but needs regular maintenance. The arena needs a minimum of 6-8 inches of compacted sand to support the horses and to ensure they will not get hurt; on average it is 3 ½ inches thick; which puts the horses at risk. Locals who have a passion for rodeo and who have been a part of the rodeo circuit for many years

have formed an association. There was one in Lampasas years ago but since has disbanded. The new County of Lampasas Rodeo Association has been created and formed a 501c-3. The estimated bids for the announcer booth have come in around \$42,500.00; with labor and sand the project is estimated at \$61,500.00. The newly formed association and the Lampasas Riding Club would like to partner with the City of Lampasas. With the association and the improvements to the arena this will open up more opportunities for the Rodeo Arena. The association is asking for Council consideration to use Hot Funds to finance the improvements, with the understanding that there are no solid numbers regarding heads in beds from rodeo spectators there will be from the production crew and all will use local resources for gas, shopping and dining.

4. Discussion regarding renewal of the Access and Use Agreement between the City of Lampasas and the Lampasas Riding Club.

The County of Lampasas Rodeo Association would like to enter into an agreement with the City of Lampasas and have the Lampasas Riding Club fall under the new association purview. The association would oversee the arena, market and schedule rodeo events at the 580 Rodeo Arena. They would like to propose an initial one-year agreement and at the end of that year to review results of marketing efforts and improvements to the arena.

Staff will prepare an Access and Use Agreement between the City of Lampasas and the County of Lampasas Rodeo Association and bring back for Council consideration and approval at the next meeting.

5. Discussion regarding Fire Department staffing updates and surplus apparatus.

Interim Fire Chief Adams and Deputy Chief Davis explained to Council that they would like to move back to a four-person crew, by eliminating the Administrative Deputy Chief position and by alleviating the Deputy Chief title from the Fire Marshal position. The Chief and Deputy Chief can maintain administrative duties; which will allow more boots on the ground to keep with the "Two in/Two out Rule." Three-man staffing model is not as safe as a four-man as it relates to firefighting, mental health and exhaustion. By alleviating the Deputy Chief positions, the savings can go into hiring three additional firefighters, with minimal burden to the City and increased benefit of having 4 firefighters on each shift, instead of 3. The impact to the annual budget is estimated at \$98,696.00.

Staff will scrub budget numbers prior to next meeting to identify funding source.

Council agreed with Staff's recommendation regarding keeping the current Engine in the Fire Department fleet.

6. Discussion and recap from Solar Eclipse Town Hall held on March 20, 2024.

Mr. deGraffenried advised that the final Solar Eclipse Town Hall took place on March 20, 2024. City Staff, Council, Public Safety, EMS and representatives from the Chamber of Commerce and Lampasas County reviewed planning efforts, operations manual, resources, deployment, traffic control plan, NASA and public communication. Approximately 80 citizens were present during the meeting, the information was well received with minimal questions and no notable outstanding items to be finalized.

Council had no directives or additional areas of focus for planning efforts over the next week.

7. Discussion regarding any item on the regular agenda

There was no discussion regarding any item on the regular agenda.

8. Adjourn Workshop Session

The workshop session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.; without objection Council took a 10-minute break.

REGULAR SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Call to Order

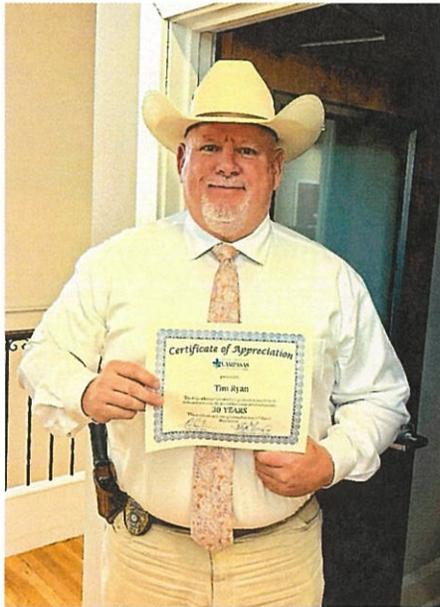
Mayor Pearce called the Regular Session to order at 6:40 p.m.

B. 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

C. Presentations and Proclamations

Service Recognition- Tim Ryan- 30 years



**PROCLAMATION
FAIR HOUSING MONTH
APRIL 2024**

WHEREAS, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination in housing and declares it a national policy to provide, within constitutional limits, for fair housing in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the principle of Fair Housing is not only national law and national policy, but a fundamental human concept and entitlement for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the anniversary of this National Fair Housing Law provides an opportunity for all Americans to recognize that complete success in the goal of equal housing opportunity can only be accomplished with the help and cooperation of all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE I Herb Pearce Mayor of the City of Lampasas, Texas on behalf of the Lampasas City Council, proclaim April as Fair Housing Month

BY MY HAND, this 25th day of March 2024.

D. Recognition of the Misti Talbert Community Champions

I am nominating Courtney Carnley, because she works hard for her community and for the schools. Courtney has been the Hanna Springs elementary PTSO president for the last two terms. She runs all the meetings and helps organize fundraisers. She also is one of the chairs of the committee for the LHS class of 2030. In addition, Courtney donates her time as a member of the lion's club, and helps to set up for fundraising events in the community. During the holidays, she collects and helps distribute items to nursing homes and the Lampasas mission. She also runs the monthly grief seminars for her family funeral home. Courtney is an integral part of the community, and you will see her out and about in many places giving of her time freely.



As the Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center executive director, Melissa has led many volunteers in events that better our community. She has contributed not only work hours but selflessly contributed personal and family time. She has even involved her whole family in the process. She has taken the role of Executive Director to the next level and helped Lampasas to shine for visitors and community members, not only through promotions and events but also in the everyday knowledge and branding.

Melissa has outstanding leadership through the Lampasas Chamber. She works hard to do so many things for the com along with taking care of her in family. She is an amazing leader and I am so thankful and blessed to get to know her and work alongside her.

She truly has a servant's heart. From the moment I met her she has always talked about the community and is always willing to go the extra mile to make new to the area people feel welcomed. I have work with her in many community projects and she is always a gem.

After being a member of the Chamber of Commerce for 3 years and helping with many events. I have witnessed the compassion and heart and carelessness that Melissa has for this community.

This kind, resourceful, positive person brings energy and creativity to the Lampasas Chamber. She has made a real impact on our community by hosting events, promoting business opportunities, and participating in many/most city and county events. Melissa has made Lampasas more than just a "drive through" spot - she has turned Lampasas into a Texas destination.



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.

There were no citizens comments

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

1.3	Public hearing to receive citizen comments to amend Appendix A (Fee Schedule), Chapter 62 (Solid Waste), Article III, Billing, Rates and Fees related to the collection of Solid Waste
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Mayor Pearce opened the Public Hearing. Yvonne Moreno, Finance Director advised of the following:

According to the contract, Waste Connections will receive an annual increase that follows the CPI index. This year the request is for an increase of 3.66%.

With no additional comments, the public hearing was closed.

1.4	Public hearing to receive citizen comments regarding the approval of a Golf Cart fee increase at Hancock Park Golf Course
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Mayor Pearce opened the Public Hearing. Becky Sims, City Secretary advised of the following:

At the February 26, 2024 Council approved the lease agreement with Club Car Golf Carts for forty (40) golf carts and two (2) utility work carts. At that time, Council was advised of Staff recommendation to increase golf cart fees to offset increase in rental fees. It is Staff's recommendation to increase fees by \$5.00, proposed fee schedule is included. The Golf Course Advisory Board did meet and approve the recommended fee increase at their March 14, 2024 meeting.

With no additional comments, the public hearing was closed.

2.0	MINUTES
2.1	Discussion and possible action concerning the approval of minutes of the Joint Council Meeting with Kempner Water Supply Corporation (KWSC) on March 4, 2024

Council member Williamson moved to approve the minutes of the Joint Council Meeting with Kempner Water Supply Corporation (KWSC) on March 4, 2024, the motion was seconded by Council member Hernandez, with Council member Pratus and Council member Keele abstaining, the motion carried.

2.2	Discussion and possible action concerning the approval of minutes of the Special Called Meeting held on March 8, 2024
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Council member Williamson moved to approve of minutes of the Special Called Meeting held on March 8, 2024, the motion was seconded by Council member Pratus and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

3.0	CONSENT AGENDA
3.1	Discussion and possible action to approve the second reading of an Ordinance for a Specific Use Permit to allow for a daycare in an area zoned Retail, described as Lot 8, Block 31, LSC 1 st Addition, commonly known as 107 W 5 th Street. Lampasas, Texas Lampasas County.

Mayor Pro-Tem Morris moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, the motion was seconded by Council member Hernandez and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

4.0	BOARDS/DEPARTMENT REPORTS
4.1	Municipal Court Annual Report

Judge Gradel will present his annual report at the next City Council Meeting.

5.0	ROUTINE MATTERS
5.1	City Manager’s Operational Report

City Manager deGraffenried reviewed his report:

NextLink At the recent LEDC meeting, Chris Huffman, NextLink, reported that the fiber deployment in Lampasas had been slowed, however; the extension of service was still planned. The timeframe has not been determined, based on other deployment and interest rates, but Chris indicated the saturation of customers was at an acceptable level. The attached report also indicates additional redundancy in the Lampasas Network, and the level of build out in the defined neighborhoods. Mr. Huffman plans to update the LEDC at a future meeting.

Hostess House The Pre-bid conference for the Hostess House was conducted on March 13, 2024 with approximately 12 General and sub-contractors in attendance. As of March 18th the plan set had been distributed to 56 Plan Rooms, 13 General Contractors, and 11 Sub-Contractors. The City has received one comment from a General Contractor stating that his particular labor costs would push the project bid well above budgeted amounts. City staff is hopeful additional interest will result in more competitive bids. Bid opening is scheduled for April 11, 2024.

Builders’ Meeting Staff attended a meeting of local builders/developers on March 21st to discuss the development landscape, market and infrastructure needs. The meeting was open and informal, and included discussion on market needs, zoning density and flexibility, nuisance abatement, utilities, and water, sewer and electric capacities. Aligning with comments received during the Comprehensive Planning process, the group echoed the need to update zoning and sub-division regulations to meet current trends and market realities. Staff thanks Council Member Hernandez for initiating this effort.

CIP The Capital Improvement Program Committee (“CIP”) met on March 21st and continued discussion regarding Funding and Priority Statements, Public Facilities and possible implementation of project scoring. The Committee was also pleased to welcome new member, Council Member Davis Keele. The Committee agreed to the FY 2023 Funding Statement and Priority Definitions, and reviewed the Public Facilities Schedule without amendment. The next meeting of the CIP Committee will be held on April 4th.

Audit The City received and reviewed the FY 2023 Audit on March 21st. Nathan White, Singleton, Clark, presented the Audit to the Audit Committee, and highlighted the Summary of Auditor’s Results, and Financial Statement Findings; and the Auditor’s Opinion, which was classified as Unmodified. Additionally, the Committee discussed the status of Fund Reserves, and statistical information collected and compared for the previous 10 years. Although the Audit is final, Council will be given the opportunity to review findings, and accept the Audit at a future meeting. Nathan did characterize the Audit as boring with no significant matters to address. Staff thanks and acknowledges Yvonne Moreno and her staff for keeping the ship even keeled.

Airport Planning *The next meeting of the Airport Planning Committee is tentatively scheduled for April 10, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. The Consultants will review inventory and findings, as well as possible layout plans for future needs and facilities. This planning project was identified through a joint Airport Advisory Committee and City Council meeting, and has been programmed through the CIP Committee, and identified as a goal in the Comprehensive Plan.*

5.2	MAYOR'S COMMENTS
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The Mayor had no comments this evening.

6.0	UNFINISHED BUSINESS
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There was no unfinished business.

7.0	NEW BUSINESS
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7.1	Discussion and possible action regarding the Lampasas Municipal Airport during the Solar Eclipse Event.
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Council member Pratus directed staff to implement procedures within parameters for safety and to follow up with TxDOT, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Morris and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.2	Discussion and selection of the website photo contest
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Council member Pratus moved to approve the photo entry, the motion was seconded by Council member Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.3	Discussion and possible action regarding maintenance and improvements to the City of Lampasas Rodeo Arena in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00
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Mayor Pro-Tem Morris moved to approve HOT funding in the amount of \$45,000.00 for improvements to the 580 Rodeo Arena, the motion was seconded by Council member Hernandez and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.4	Discussion and possible action regarding renewal of Access and Use Agreement between the City of Lampasas and the Lampasas Riding Club.
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Mayor Pro-Tem Morris moved to direct staff to draft an Access and Use Agreement between the City of Lampasas and the County of Lampasas Rodeo Association and present to Council at the next meeting, the motion was seconded by Council member Pratus and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.5	Discussion and acknowledgement of the 2024 Annual City Events.
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Council member Keele moved to acknowledge the 2024 annual city events, the motion was seconded by Council member Hernandez and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.6	Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of HOT funds for the annual Spring Ho 10K hosted by the Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center.
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Council member Kuehne moved to approve HOT funds in the amount of \$1,175.00 for the annual Spring Ho 10K hosted by the Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center, the motion was seconded by Council member Keele and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.7	Discussion and possible action to reschedule or cancel the April 8, 2024 Council Meeting.
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Mayor Pro Tem Morris moved to cancel the April 8, 2024 City Council meeting, the motion was seconded by Council member Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.8	Discussion and possible action to consider appointment to the Airport Zoning Board of Adjustment (AZBOA).
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Mayor Pro Tem Morris moved to appoint Mr. Randy McGuire to the Airport Zoning Board of Adjustment to fill the vacancy, the motion was seconded by Council member Hernandez and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.9	Discussion and possible action to approve the first reading of an Ordinance declaring unopposed candidates in the May 4, 2024 General City Election, elected to office; canceling the Election; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.
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Council member Pratus moved to approve the first reading of an Ordinance declaring unopposed candidates in the May 4, 2024 General City Election, elected to office; canceling the Election; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Morris and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.10	Discussion and possible action regarding the 2024 Consumer Price Index (CPI), adjustment to Municipal Telecommunications Right-of-Way access line rates.
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Council member Hernandez moved to take no action regarding the 2024 Consumer Price Index (CPI), adjustment to Municipal Telecommunications Right-of-Way access line rates, the motion was seconded by Council member Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.11	Discussion and possible action to extend the Emergency Water Supply Agreement between the City of Lampasas and Kempner Water Supply Corporation.
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Mayor Pro Tem Morris moved to extend the Emergency Water Supply Agreement between the City of Lampasas and Kempner Water Supply Corporation, the motion was seconded by Council member Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.12	Discussion and possible action regarding approval to utilize joint use funds between the City of Lampasas and Kempner Water Supply Corporation for injection site at the Ivy Mountain Tank.
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Council member Williamson moved to approve the utilization of the joint use funds between the City of Lampasas and Kempner Water Supply Corporation for injection site at the Ivy Mountain Tank, the motion was seconded by Council member Hernandez and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.13	Discussion and possible action to consider amendment to the 2006 Wholesale Water Supply Contract between the City of Lampasas and Kempner Water Supply Corporation.
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Council took no action to consider amendment to the 2006 Wholesale Water Supply Contract between the City of Lampasas and Kempner Water Supply Corporation.

7.14	Discussion and possible action regarding the first reading of an Ordinance to approve proposed garbage rates.
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Mayor Pro Tem Morris moved to approve the first reading of an Ordinance to amend Appendix A Fee Schedule, Chapter 62, Solid Waste, Article III, Billing Rates and Fees related to the Collection of Solid Waste, the motion was seconded by Council member Hernandez and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.15	Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of a Golf Cart fee increase at Hancock Park Golf Course.
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Council member Pratus moved to approve the first reading of an Ordinance amending Appendix A Fee Schedule, Chapter 54, Parks and Recreation, Article I, Golf, Golf Course Fees, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Morris and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

7.16	Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of a new logo for the Hancock Springs Golf Course.
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Council member Hernandez moved to approve the new logo for the Lampasas Golf Course, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Morris, with Council member Keele in opposition, the motion carried.

Adjourn into Executive Session- Council member Pratus moved to adjourn at 7:41 pm, the motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Morris and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

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:

8.0	
8.1	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.
8.2	Section 551.086 (Relating to the authority of public power utility governing bodies to deliberate regarding competitive matters) – Utilities
8.3	Adjourn executive session and reconvene Regular Session

Assistant City Manager Ryan Ward left the Executive Session at 8:30 pm

Council and CM deGraffenried adjourned Executive Session at 8:45 pm and reconvened Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

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 discussed during Executive Session

Adjourn- Council member Pratus moved to adjourn at 8:45, the motion was seconded by Council member Williamson and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Herb Pearce, Mayor

ATTEST

Becky Sims, City Secretary