

WOODWAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 8, 2024

The Woodway City Council met in a regular meeting in the Donald J. Baker Council Chambers at Woodway City Hall, 922 Estates Drive, Woodway, Texas, on Monday, April 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. The following individuals were in attendance:

Mayor:	Amine Qourzal
Mayor Pro Tem:	John W. Williams
Councilmembers:	David Russell, Storey Cook, Gayle Avant, Janell Gilman and David Keyston
Interim City Manager:	Adam Niolet
City Secretary:	Donna Barkley
City Staff:	Brenda Hernandez, Khalil El-Halabi, Todd Gill, Jason Graves and Taylor Groves
Contract Staff:	David Shaw, City Attorney

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Qourzal called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

1. INVOCATION

Councilmember Avant provided the invocation.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag was recited in unity

PUBLIC COMMENT

3. THE CITY COUNCIL INVITES CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL ON ANY MATTER, INCLUDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA, EXCEPT PUBLIC HEARINGS THAT ARE INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA. COMMENTS RELATED TO PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HEARD WHEN THE SPECIFIC HEARING STARTS. PLEASE LIMIT YOUR COMMENTS TO THREE (3) MINUTES PER RESOLUTION R-87-11. THE COUNCIL IS NOT PERMITTED TO TAKE ANY ACTION OR DISCUSS ANY ITEM NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA. WHEN CALLED TO SPEAK, PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, AND IF SPEAKING ON A SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM, STATE THE ITEM BEFORE BEGINNING YOUR COMMENTS

- Millie Woods, resident – Concerns regarding the new Family Center. Would also like the old Family Center to remain and used as a senior center.
- Richard Hess, resident – Asked questions regarding the sidewalk item from the last council meeting. He doesn't disagree that sidewalks are needed.
- Betsey Daniel, resident – Supportive of the sidewalk funding. She also stated that she had the support of over 160 Woodway residents who have given their permission or signed their form for support.

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- Richard Hutyra, resident – Not against the sidewalk but wanted to know if other areas are being considered for street lighting?
- Emily McKeever, resident – Supportive of the sidewalks near Woodway Elementary
- Kevin Stone, resident – Supportive of the TxDOT Advanced Funding Agreement for pedestrian improvements at and around Woodway Elementary.
- Jillian Guberman, resident – Supportive of the grant for sidewalks
- Donna Dill, (Mobilize Waco) – They promote access disability and leadership. Access is key and without access, you can't have inclusion. They want all communities to be inclusive.
- Nancy Goebel, resident – Spoke on the need for lighting in her neighborhood. Also asked why the upcoming agenda item on the TxDOT grant for sidewalks was back on the agenda? Spoke on the need for both the new Family Center and the old one.
- Meg Wallace, resident and also with Mobilize Waco – Spoke on the power of sidewalks for people who do not drive. She is supportive of this grant.
- Dawn Hall – resident – She agrees that the streets are dark and it would be great to have lighting. However, that is not what the State gave the money for. The grant was for these sidewalks specifically and shouldn't be turned down. Safety should be a top priority, whether it be lighting or sidewalks.
- Holly Oxhandler, resident – Thank you to the Councilmembers first. Her occupation is in research and works within the grant world. You don't turn down grants. She also spoke on the new Woodway Family Center grand opening.
- Callie Oxhandler, resident – She stated that she loved the new Family Center and the old one. But she really likes the new one better. She also spoke in favor of the sidewalks.
- Dr. Phillip Reeder, resident – Spoke against Resolution R-24-09 to be funded by Woodway's city tax payors money of \$262,058.00 which could be used to provide lighting all over the City and sidewalks elsewhere, sewer lift stations, water main break repairs, staff salaries, street repairs for every Woodway citizen.
- Kevin Tankersley, resident (Chair of Woodway Parks & Recreation Commission) – Thank you to the City staff for putting on an excellent Eclipse Event today. He also commented on a story going about that Councilmember Cook has proposed spending \$200,000.00 of City money on playground equipment for Woodway Elementary School. He stated that this is 100% false. The topic has never come up at a Parks & Recreation Commission meeting.
- Jean Sury, resident – Spoke regarding Agenda Item 5. She was disappointed that City Council voted down a grant project that would greatly improve the safety and accessibility along that stretch of Estates Drive. She sincerely hopes this grant can be acquired and begs the Council to reconsider their vote. She stated that she would hope the councilmembers would be more respectful of one another and place the needs of the City above politics.
- Mike Holman, resident – Spoke on the following: the need for street lighting; waiting on the feasibility study of the old Family Center before making a decision; and he was really disappointed at the last meeting when the sidewalk grant was rejected. Also, stated his disappointment that a councilmember wanted Councilmember Cook to recuse herself from the vote.
- Scott Giddings, resident (previous councilmember) – Spoke on the history of past councils discussing sidewalks for years. The biggest issue was cost. Citizens are not happy that we gave this money back to the state. It was politics. The sidewalks will improve part of the City.

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PRESENTATIONS

4. QUARTERLY PRESENTATION – PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT’S REPORT REGARDING CRIME STATISTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2024

Chief El-Halabi introduced Captain Taylor Groves who presented the quarterly report. This is the quarterly comparison statistics for January 1 – March 31, 2023 and January 1 – March 31, 2024.

ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION

5. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION ON RESOLUTION R-24-09 AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO AN ADVANCE FUNDING AGREEMENT (AFA) WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD & ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SIDEWALK PROJECT FUNDED THROUGH THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES SET-ASIDE (TASA) PROGRAM GRANT IN AN AMOUNT OF \$1,048,233.00 AND PROVIDING FOR A TWENTY PERCENT (20%) MATCH OF AT LEAST \$262,058.00 BY THE CITY OF WOODWAY, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Mayor Qourzal provided that he was contacted by Councilmember Avant for reconsideration of the vote. It was at his request that the item be brought back for reconsideration on the agenda.

Mr. Niolet asked Solomon Thomas with MRB Group and Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Director of the Waco Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to provide information and answer any questions as this was in the works before his tenure.

Councilmember Gilman moved to adopt Resolution R-24-09 authorizing entering into an Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) with the Texas Department of Transportation for the Neighborhood & Elementary School Sidewalk Project funded through the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) program grant in an amount of \$1,048,233.00 and providing for a twenty percent (20%) match of at least \$262,058.00 by the City of Woodway, and authorizing the City manager to execute any documents in connection therewith. Councilmember Cook seconded and the motion passed with a five to two vote. In favor: Qourzal, Williams, Cook, Avant and Gilman; Opposed: Russell and Keyston.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consists of non-controversial, routine and budgeted items which require no public hearing. The Consent Agenda is subject to being approved with one single motion; however, the Mayor or any City Councilmember may remove any item from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and consideration.

6. A. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION ON MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 25, 2024 AT 5:30 P.M.

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- B. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION TO AWARD A CONTRACT IN RESPONSE TO BID #24-03, FOR BOSQUE AND US 84 GROUND STORAGE TANK REHABILITATION TO N.G. PAINTING, LLC, THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,278,870.00, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH
- C. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION ON ADOPTING RESOLUTION R-24-10 DECLARING THREE RETIRED POLICE TAHOES AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND DONATING THESE VEHICLES IN AS-IS CONDITION TO THE NEWLY FORMING MIDWAY ISD POLICE DEPARTMENT TO BE USED TO PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.
- D. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH MIDWAY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (“MISD”) CONCERNING COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN MISD POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY OF WOODWAY PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

7. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Niolet provided comments on Items B through D. Councilmember Russell pulled Items B-D for separate discussion. Councilmember Russell moved to approve Item A on the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A. Approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting held March 25, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Councilmember Avant seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- 6. B. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION TO AWARD A CONTRACT IN RESPONSE TO BID #24-03, FOR BOSQUE AND US 84 GROUND STORAGE TANK REHABILITATION TO N.G. PAINTING, LLC, THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,278,870.00, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Kyle Dunlap with Walker Partners provided additional information on this project.

Councilmember Gilman stepped away briefly during discussion at 7:13 p.m. and returned at 7:14 p.m.

Councilmember Russell moved to award Bid #24-03, Bosque and US 84 Ground Storage Tank Rehabilitation, to N.G. Painting, LLC., in the amount not to exceed \$1,278,870.00, and authorizing the City Manager to execute any documents in connection therewith. Councilmember Cook seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- C. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION ON ADOPTING RESOLUTION R-24-10 DECLARING THREE RETIRED POLICE TAHOES AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND

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DONATING THESE VEHICLES IN AS-IS CONDITION TO THE NEWLY FORMING MIDWAY ISD POLICE DEPARTMENT TO BE USED TO PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Chief El-Halabi provided additional information on this item.

Councilmember Russell moved to adopt Resolution R-24-10 declaring the three retired Tahoes as surplus property and donating these vehicles as-is condition to the newly forming Midway ISD Police Department to be used to promote public health, safety, and welfare and authorizing the City Manager to execute any documents in connection therewith. Councilmember Keyston seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- D. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDER ACTION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH MIDWAY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (“MISD”) CONCERNING COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN MISD POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE CITY OF WOODWAY PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Mr. Niolet provided addition information on this item. Chief El-Halabi answered questions.

Councilmember Russell moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Midway Independent School District (“MISD”) concerning communication and coordination between MISD Police Department and the City of Woodway Public Safety Department, and authorizing the Public Safety Director to execute any documents in connection therewith. Councilmember Keyston seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CITY MANAGER AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

8. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT (BRIEFINGS OR UPDATES MAY BE PROVIDED REGARDING CITY SERVICES, ADMINISTRATIVE/PERSONNEL MATTERS, REAL ESTATE/DEVELOPMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE, EVENTS, REGULATIONS, COMMUNITY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS ISSUES)

Mr. Niolet reported the following:

- Still in negotiations with KSA – He provided a handout of his email with John Selmer at KSA
- Since the Planning & Zoning meeting, Kimley Horn has completed what we originally agreed upon with them which was to develop a comprehensive plan. As an additional service, Kimley Horn has agreed to workshops with Councilmembers and Planning and Zoning members. The Council was provided a handout detailing the scope of finishing out the project and associated costs to discuss at a later date.

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Keyston reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission will have a meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 5 p.m.

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Mayor Qourzal praised staff for a great job on the Eclipse Event and the Woodway Family Center Grand Opening.

CLOSING ITEMS

10. CONSIDER ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Gilman moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Russell seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Donna Barkley, City Secretary

Amine Qourzal, Mayor