

MINUTES
HALTOM CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL, 5024 BROADWAY AVENUE
March 9, 2015

A Regular Meeting was held by the City Council of the City of Haltom City, Texas, on March 9, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 5024 Broadway Avenue, Haltom City, Texas, with the following members present, to-wit:

Mayor Richard Hutchison	Mayor Pro Tem Bob Watkins
Council Place 1 Marian Hilliard	Council Place 2 Jeff Western
Council Place 3 David Averitt	Council Place 4 Trae Fowler
Council Member 6 Stephanie Davenport	Council Place 7 Dr. An Truong

Staff Present: Tom Muir, City Manager; Chuck Barnett, Assistant City Manager; Wayne Olson, City Attorney; Art Camacho, City Secretary; Donna Pliska, Deputy City Secretary, Susan White, Business Development Coordinator, Jennifer Fung, Finance Director, and Greg Van Nieuwenhuize, Public Works Director.

WORKSESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hutchison called the Worksession to order at 6:00 p.m. and the Regular Agenda was reviewed. A discussion was held regarding appointing a Council Liaison to the Parks and Recreation Board. In addition, the development of a 3-4 member Budget Committee to work with the City Manager on the FY2015-2016 Budget was discussed, along with the scheduling and agenda posting for a monthly round-table Council meeting. Mayor Hutchison called for an Executive Session at 6:20 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Section 551.071

As authorized by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, the City Council reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to seek legal advice from the City Attorney about any matters listed on the agenda, in addition to the following matters:

Consultation with the City Attorney pertaining to any matter in which the duty of the City Attorney under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct which may conflict with the Open Meetings Act; including discussion of any item posted on the Agenda; to seek legal advice on: open meetings, open records, contracts, expenditures and oversight of the Haltom City Economic Development Corporation, litigation, and settlement offers and/or claims for the following cases:

- Donald Anthony Hains v. City of Haltom City
- Phillip Payne v. City of Haltom City
- Burkett v. City of Haltom City, et al.
- Flynn v. Haltom City EDC

Section 551.072 – Deliberations about Real Property

Deliberation regarding the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property owned or leased by the City and the Economic Development Corporation.

Section 551.074 - Personnel

Deliberation regarding the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, resignation, duties, discipline or dismissal of the City Manager.

Section 551.087 – Deliberations about Economic Development Incentives

Discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information the City has received from business prospects the City seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in the

City and with which the City is conducting economic development negotiations; deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect.

Mayor Hutchison closed the Executive Session at 6:55 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hutchison called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member David Averitt gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Flag Pledge.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

Assistant City Manager Chuck Barnett announced the following:

Library

AARP Income Tax Preparation Help – Each Thursday through April 9, tax assistance will be available at the Library. Tax assistance is free, but reservations are required due to limited seating. For additional information, call 817-222-7786.

Adult Craft Classes – An easy-to-make-craft class will take place on Saturday, February 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and a \$5.00 fee is required.

Annual Book Sale – The annual book sale will be held April 23-26 and additional information will be available on the city website.

Photo Contest – "Images of Haltom City" photo contest deadline is March 17, 2015.

Special Announcements

Haltom City Car Show and Springfest – Both events will be held at the Haltom High School from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 28. Classic cars, trucks and motorcycles will be displayed, along with the Easter Bunny, goody bags, petting zoo, bounce houses, bike safety rodeo, live music and concessions. There is no admission charge and a 5k "Buff Run" benefitting the Haltom High students will start at 8:30 a.m.

Spring Gallery Night – Saturday, March 28 from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. – The Spring Gallery Night at the HC Northeast Center will feature 17 local artists and entertainment will be provided by the Jazz Monsters. Admission and refreshments are free.

Mayor Pro Tem Bob Watkins commented on the passing of Art Geistman, who had served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment for several years and his funeral will be at Ridgecrest Baptist Church. He also mentioned that the NEED organization will have a breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's at 6645 NE Loop 820 on Saturday, March 21, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and tickets are available for \$10.

PRESENTATIONS

TMCA Recertification – Deputy City Secretary Donna Pliska. Mayor Hutchison presented Ms. Pliska with her TMCA Recertification Certificate and she commented on the Texas Municipal Clerks Association training program and the importance of her continued recertification for the city's welfare.

REPORTS

1. **Monthly Financial Report** – Consideration and/or action regarding approval of the preliminary monthly Financial Report for the month of January 2015. Finance Director Jennifer Fung presented the financial report for the month of January 2015 and particular revenues showed to be gained at a pace slower than the budget indicated. A discussion was held regarding several funds indicating a "loss" balance. Council Member Jeff Western moved, seconded by Council Member Dr. An Truong, to approve the financial report for January 2015. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.**

2. **Quarterly Investment Report** – Consideration and/or action regarding approval of the December 2014 Quarterly Investment Report. Finance Director Jennifer Fung presented the report which included the different investments and their amounts. A question was asked about the unemployment rate and the comparison sources. Council Member Marian Hilliard moved, seconded by Council Member Trae Fowler, to approve the quarterly investment report for December 2014. *The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.*

REGULAR AGENDA

3. **Minutes** – Consideration and/or action regarding approval of the Minutes of the meetings of February 26, 2015 (Regular) and March 3, 2015 (Joint with Parks). Council Member Trae Fowler stated his reason for voting on the February 26th agenda item regarding the 2014 Parks Improvement Project, citing that he was expecting a meeting with the Parks and Recreation Board previously before voting on this issue so he could make a better-informed decision. He also inquired about his substitute motion and whether the item could be put on the agenda again. Mayor Hutchison stated a substitute motion is generally handled first, which was not done, but because the original motion was made, seconded, voted on and passed, he saw no need to engage the substitute motion. City Attorney Wayne Olson stated the item could be placed again on the agenda, but the action taken for passing the item was a valid vote. Mayor Pro Tem Bob Watkins also commented his reason for voting was the same as Council Member Fowler's and he would like to see the agenda packets given to the Council by Wednesday so time could be spent reviewing the packet and any changes to the agenda could be made before the posting deadline. Council Member Fowler moved, seconded by Council Member Dr. An Truong, to approve the Minutes for February 26, 2015 Regular Meeting and March 3, 2015 Joint Meeting with the Parks and Recreation Board. *The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.*
4. **HOME Program** – Consideration and/or action regarding the approval of Resolution No. R-2015-005-01 committing to provide matching funds of up to \$60,000 for the HOME Investment Partnership Block Grant program. Susan White, Business Development Coordinator and Patricia Ward, of Tarrant County Community Development, presented the resolution along with a PowerPoint program that illustrated the home repairs completed on residential houses in the previous HOME program. A discussion was held regarding the funding and the selection criteria for program applicants. Council Member Stephanie Davenport moved, seconded by Council Member Jeff Western, to approve Resolution No. R-2015-005-01 - provide matching funds of up to \$60,000 for the HOME Investment Partnership Block Grant program. *The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.*
5. **Investment Policy** – Consideration and/or action regarding Resolution No. R-2015-006-03 approving the Investment Policy. Finance Director Jennifer Fung presented the policy, which was presented in September, but had not been voted on yet. A discussion was held regarding the individuals who make the investment decisions and the quality of the policy. Council Member Dr. An Truong moved, seconded by Council Member Stephanie Davenport, to approve Resolution No. R -2015-006-03 approving the Investment Policy. *The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.*

VISITORS/CITIZENS FORUM

The following citizens came forward:

1. Tom Hall/Ryan Murphy – Mr. Hall thanked the Council for the park improvement project approval and for the productivity exemplified in their meeting with the Parks and Recreation Board. Mr. Murphy also stated the Unite South Haltom will be meeting tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. at the Haltom City Housing Authority.
2. Mark Williams – Stated that an unforeseen threat is possibly present in many communities concerning the health and welfare of citizens.

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

6. **Resignations of Board Members** – Consider approval of the resignations of Board/Commission Members. There were no resignations.
7. **Appointment/Reappointment to Boards and Commissions** – Consider approval regarding appointments to Boards/Commissions. There were no appointments or reappointments. A discussion was held regarding the appointing of Council "contacts" to board and commission groups to help provide better communication. Council Member Trae Fowler moved, seconded by Council Member David Averitt, to approve the Council appointing a Council contact. The Animal Control Board was omitted because a Council member is a part of that board. The Council determined the Civil Service Commission should have a Council contact. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.** Council Member Fowler moved, seconded by Council Member Truong, to appoint Council Member Stephanie Davenport as a Council contact to the Parks and Recreation Board. **The vote was unanimous, with Council Member Davenport abstaining. Motion carried.**
8. **Board/Commission Reports** – Receive reports from Council liaisons.
 1. Council Member Hilliard reported the Planning and Zoning will be meeting tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. and will be discussing the fence ordinance again. Council Member Trae Fowler requested the Council consider developing an ad hoc committee to work with the City Manager on the FY2015-2016 budget to help eliminate the amount of budget meetings with the Council. It was determined that Council Members who are not in the position of running for office be selected to this committee to serve possibly until January 2016. Council Member Truong moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Watkins to appoint Council Members Fowler, Davenport, and himself to this committee. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.** Council Member Fowler requested the Council consider scheduling a round-table discussion outside of the scheduled meetings to discuss specific subjects in order for Council members to be better informed in making their decisions. A discussion was held regarding the date, location and agenda posting. Council Member Fowler moved, seconded by Council Member Davenport, to schedule a round-table discussion meeting on Thursday nights. **The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.**

EXCUSED ABSENCE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

9. **Attendance Requirements** – Consideration regarding excused absences of Council Members according to Article III, Sec. 3.07 (a). Attendance Requirements of the Haltom City Charter. There were no absences.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council went into Executive Session at 8:42p.m.

RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

- 10. Take any action deemed necessary as a result of the Executive Session.
The Council reconvened at 9:55 p.m. and no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hutchison adjourned the meeting on March 9, 2015 at 9:55 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

Art Camacho
Art Camacho, City Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Richard Hutchison
Richard Hutchison, Mayor

