

**STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF WALLER  
CITY OF HEMPSTEAD**

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June A.D., 2023 at 6:00 P.M. the City Council met in a Regular Meeting at the Hempstead City Hall, 1125 Austin Street, Hempstead, Texas, there being present, to-wit:

Erica Gillum, Mayor  
Lonnie Garfield, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Cindy Pearce, Councilmember  
Mildred Jefferson, Councilmember  
Nora Hodges, Councilmember  
Karon E. Neal, Councilmember

Bridgette Begle, City Attorney  
Sabrina Alvarez, City Secretary

**1. Call to order and invocation.**

Mayor Erica Gillum called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield gave the invocation.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

**3. Public Comments.**

In Public Comments Shirley Thompson wished Councilmember Karon Neal a Happy Birthday! Brent Rystreon wanted to introduce himself to council. He bought the old movie theater and the business at 905 Austin Street. He is in the process of collaborating with architects and construction companies. He will use the building for various uses. Dennis VanVegal stated that he recently bought solar panels for this home and did not realize that the city does not have a buyback program. He also stated that stop signs needed to be placed on Calvit and 21<sup>st</sup> Street, people drive very fast, and it is dangerous.

**4. Consideration and action on minutes of May 15, 2023, May 22, 2023, and June 5, 2023, meetings.**

Councilmember Cindy Pearce made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilmember Nora Hodges seconded the motion and carried it unanimously.

**5. Consideration and action on Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hempstead appointing Rosa Delora and Tressey Wilson to the Hempstead Economic 4B Board.**

Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Nora Hodges seconded the motion and carried it unanimously.

**6. Consideration and action on a Budget Amendment – Salary raise given to EDC Administrative Assistant (EDC Board approved June 12, 2023)**

Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment for the Salary Increase. Councilmember Mildred Jefferson seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**7. Consideration and action for purchase and installation of a monument sign to be placed on the grounds of City Hall. (EDC approved May 5, 2023; paid for by HEDC)**

Mayor Erica Gillum stated that the sign will be only used for city business. Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to approve the monument sign. Councilmember Mildred Jefferson seconded the motion and it carried.

**8. Consideration and action of the City Council of the City of the City of Hempstead adopting a City Hall Monument Sign Policy.**

Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to approve the Policy. Councilmember Karon Neal seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**9. Consideration and action on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hempstead establishing July 17, 2023, as the Public Hearing date for Public Hearing for Land Use Assumptions and Capital Improvements.**

Manager of Operation Kollye Kilpatrick stated that the reason for the Resolution is for possible land uses for shopping, housing, and manufacturing. It was advertised in the local paper. This will establish impact fees for future developers. Mayor Erica Gillum stated that it will allow the city to recoup the money to maintain. It will take two years to get and five years to complete construction.

Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Nora Hodges seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

**10. Consideration and action on a recommendation from EDC to purchase historical street signs. (EDC Approved 6-12-23)**

Mayor Erica Gillum got pics of the street signs and the light poles for council to view on the TV. The signs will be in the downtown area. Forty-five total signs, black and white in color to match the light poles. Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to approve the street signs. Councilmember Nora Hodges seconded the motion and carried it unanimously.

**11. Discussion and consideration to authorize a City Townhall meeting for June 29, 2023, at 6 p.m. for discussion of City department updates on previously submitted questions.**

Councilmember Nora Hodges stated that at the Utility Workshop that was held in May, the questions the citizens asked were passed out to the council in the previous city council meeting. Councilmember Nora Hodges would like to have the Townhall on June 29, 2023, for council and city departments heads and supervisors answer the questions. The City Secretary will post the Townhall Meeting as an agenda within 72 hours before the meeting.

Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to approve the Townhall Meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**12. Discussion and action for the approval from Joey & Amy Williams on the facade of the building located at 809 12<sup>th</sup> Street.**

Amy Williams spoke and stated that a picture that was included in the council's packets is what the building will look like from the outside. Manager of Operations Kollye Kilpatrick stated that the drawing meets all the historical specifications as presented. The building will be used to expand her business or for office space rental. Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to approve the façade. Councilmember Nora Hodges seconded the motion and carried it unanimously.

**13. Consideration and action on RFQ's for Municipal Court Prosecutor.**

Mayor Erica Gillum stated that as we go through our city, we must enforce the violations of businesses and citizens alike with citations, letters and code enforcement. They all must follow city ordinances. Tree limbs, boats in alleyways, they all must be cleared from the alleyways. Mayor Erica Gillum had a meeting with Municipal Court Judge Barbara Stafford, and she stated city does have a prosecutor. Mayor stated that the city needs a prosecutor that is aggressive to pursue and hold businesses and citizens accountable for violations. Councilmember Cindy Pearce asked will the current prosecutor be replaced with the one the city is wanting to hire? Councilmember Nora Hodges asked is the prosecutor not aggressive enough or just too busy? Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to approve the RFQ's for Municipal Court Prosecutor. Councilmember Cindy Pearce seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**14. Consideration and action on payment of current bills.**

Councilmember Mildred Jefferson a motion to approve the bills. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**15. Presentations.**

**Mayor-**

**a. Sales Tax** – Sales Tax is up .33% for the month of June 2023.

1. **Councilmembers- Karon Neal-** Thank Mayor Gillum, Mayor Pro-Tem Garfield city council members Jefferson and Hodges and school board

member Albert Garfield for the Tiff's treats hand delivered to all HISD campuses. Thank you to the Hempstead Recreation Center to Mr. James Glover, his staff and student workers... they are doing a great job!

- b. Mildred Jefferson**-We are sending our most heartfelt condolences to the family of Camille Curtis and Joyce Evans. Please keep them in your prayers.

**16. Adjourn City Council Meeting.**

There being no further business, Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 P.M. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfeild seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, A.D., 2023.

**APPROVED:**

**/s/: Erica Gillum, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**/s/: Sabrina Alvarez, City Secretary**