

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

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on the 5<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  
Karon Neal, Councilmember  
Nora Hodges, Councilmember  
Mildred Jefferson, Councilmember

Bridgette Begle, City Attorney  
Sabrina Alvarez, City Secretary

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

Mayor Erica Gillum called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. and Charles Tompkins gave the invocation.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

**3. Public Comments.**

No Public Comments.

**4. Amendment to the Subdivision Ordinance requiring first-floor elevations of all residential dwellings be a minimum of one foot (1') above the adjacent centerline of the street or minimum of one foot (1') above the adjacent street gutter, whichever is greater. From residential dwellings on corner lots, both adjacent streets shall be considered when determining the minimum floor elevation.**

**a. Public Hearing-Opened at 6:01 P.M.**

Jared Engelke with Strand and associates spoke and stated that this had been enforced for a number of years but not written. This will protect the homebuilder and the homeowner. This will not apply to existing homes. The first-floor elevations above the adjacent centerline of the street will help with the gravity of the sewer so it will drain properly. Councilmember Nora Hodges asked how it will be worded in the Ordinance. Attorney Bridgette Begle stated in the Ordinance it specifies all the residential districts. **Public Hearing Closed at 6:02 P.M.**

**a. Consideration and action on an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Hempstead amending the Subdivision Ordinance requiring that the first-floor elevations of all residential dwellings be a minimum of one foot (1') above the adjacent centerline of the street or minimum of one foot (1') above the adjacent street gutter, whichever is greater. From residential dwellings on corner lots,**

**both adjacent streets shall be considered when determining the minimum floor elevation.**

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

- 5. Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance requiring first-floor elevations of all residential dwellings be a minimum of one foot (1') above the adjacent centerline of the street or minimum of one foot (1') above the adjacent street gutter, whichever is greater. From residential dwellings on corner lots, both adjacent streets shall be considered when determining the minimum floor elevation.**
  - a. Public Hearing-Opened at 6:06 P.M.**

The first-floor elevations will also be included in the Zoning Ordinance to have everything coincide with each other. **Public Hearing Closed at 6:06 P.M.**

- b. Consideration and action on an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Hempstead amending the Zoning Ordinance requiring that the first-floor elevations of all residential dwellings be a minimum of one foot (1') above the adjacent centerline of the street or minimum of one foot (1') above the adjacent street gutter, whichever is greater. From residential dwellings on corner lots, both adjacent streets shall be considered when determining the minimum floor elevation.**

Mayor Pro-Tem made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Councilmember Karon Neal seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

- 6. Consideration and action on Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hempstead appointing Rosa Delora, Tressey Wilson, Toi Livingston & Renwick Webster to the Hempstead Economic 4B Board.**

This item was tabled until the following meeting.

- 7. Consideration and action on a recommendation from the HEDC Type A and Type B Boards to hire GLSI as the HEDC Consulting team.**

This item was tabled.

- 8. Discussion and action on Strand Engineering's Development Review Fees pursuant to the on-call engineering services agreement.**

Jared Engelke from Strand and Associates stated that as new developments come in the city needs to charge for viewing plans. The price list is average prices per development. The cost will be billed to the developer and not the city. The prices can be set up for different size developments.

Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to approve the development fees with fees being passed to the developer and not the city. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**9. Consideration and action on a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hempstead updating the credit card limit for Prosperity Bank Credit Card to \$30,000.**

The city has a credit card limit of \$20,000.00. Councilmember Cindy Pearce asked why the city is wanting to raise the limit. Kollye Kilpatrick Managing Director of Projects stated that mostly the credit limit reaches \$15,000.00 monthly and if the mayor is traveling the amount needs to be raised to be able to charge as well as other department heads when they use their cards. Councilmember Cindy Pearce asked about using PO's. Kollye Kilpatrick stated the city does not use PO's. Councilmember Nora Hodges asked if the city has come close to what the credit limit is. Mayor Gillum reintegrated that the \$20,000 limit as a whole for all the city cards. Councilmember Nora Hodges asked whether each department has a budget and the charges come out that departments budget. City Secretary Sabrina Alvarez answered yes.

Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to approve the credit card limit for Prosperity Bank to \$30,000. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield seconded the motion and it carried.

**10. Consideration and action on a Permit for a Walk hosted by St. Katherine Drexel Church to be held on June 11, 2023.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield made a motion to approve the permit. Councilmember Cindy Pearce seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**11. Police Report (Chief Hartley)**

Chief David Hartley presented council with a report of all areas of the city with a weeks' worth of calls. In total there were over 300 calls. West of 10<sup>th</sup> Street North of Austin Street is District 1. East of 10th Street by Dairy Queen that borders Kosse Street is District 2. South end of town District 3. District 4 is Green Manor and Willowchase apartments. Three to five minutes response times.

**12. Municipal Court Report (Jessica Hall)**

Jessica Hall just celebrated twenty years with the city in the municipal court department. They have four-person crew. Justine Kluna does the court docket and pre trials. Mayra Lopez issues warrants. Jessica does the monthly reports, audit reports, conviction reports, collections and trainings.

**13. Street & Grounds Report (Mayor)**

Mayor wasn't able to pull report being that the county had as an internet outage.

**14. Technology – (Charles Tompkins- PD) (Saliens – City Hall)**

Gerald Saliens stated that the outage was county wide. The city is on the verge of getting an updated website and so is EDC. He has implemented some cyber security training; He is working on changes to the Recreation Center. Charles Tompkins is working with the Police Department still working out some kinks but has made significant progress. Website should be up in a month and from there we can make changes.

#### **15. Utility Report – (Brandy Romero)**

Brandy Romero stated that they would be working on ACH drafts, cutoff's, delinquent accounts and weekly extensions. They process all billing in house. The customer portal will be implemented sometime next week.

#### **16. Parks & Recreation – (James Glover & Lanell Parr)**

Parks and Recreation Director James Glover stated he responded to an issue with wasps and rusts in commodes. His crew clean every 15 minutes to ensure the cleanliness of the center. Lanell Parr stated that the Recreation Center has new hours, they have a summer enrichment program for the kids, and they will be bringing back the Bingo for senior citizens. They are working on a plan to get the splashpad working for the summer, Assistant Alvaro Trujillo is offering private softball lessons, the information is on their website.

#### **17. Council will convene in closed session pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Government Code to conduct a private consultation with its attorney on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflict with an open meeting.**

**Executive Session opened at 6:42 P.M.**

**Executive Session closed at 7:20 P.M.**

**No action taken in Executive Session**

#### **18. Consideration and action Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 19-105 to include a provision for delinquent account agreements and/or payment extension for commercial utility accounts.**

Councilmember Cindy Pearce stated the importance to add commercial businesses to the Ordinance, to have all citizens residential and commercial abide by the Ordinance.

Councilmember Cindy Pearce made a motion to amend the Ordinance 19-105 to add commercial businesses into the agreement. Councilmember Nora Hodges seconded the and carried unanimously.

#### **19. Presentations-**

##### **A. Mayor's Reports-**

**1. Congratulations to the Class of 2023-Mayor congratulated the Class of 2023.**

2. Memorial Day Expressions-Mayor thanked Cheryl Hardwick for the putting together the Memorial Day Parade and events following.
3. Zydeco Festival Report-Mayor stated that the festival was a huge hit, and everyone had an awesome time.
4. Employee of the Month – May -Mayor named Leslye Gonzalez for her hard work and determination.
5. Department of the Month – May-Mayor named the Sewer Department for their hard work.
6. Mayor & City Council delivered Tiff Treats cookies to all school campuses as an appreciation gesture to the teachers and staff.

**B. Announcements:**

1. Juneteenth hosted by Greater St. Peter’s Baptist Church-Mayor stated there will be parade and end at the Hempstead City Park.
2. Watermelon Festival- Mayor stated the Queen Application and Parade Entry form can be picked up from Cheryl Hardwick.
3. July 4 Celebration – Mayor stated fireworks held at City Park at dusk.
4. Children Enrichment Program at the Recreation Center- Mayor stated the program started June 5-June 28 at the Recreation Center.

- C. Councilmember’s Report-** Nora Hodges – Utility Workshop Update and Disclosure on Flyer for Public Gatherings. Councilmember Nora Hodges gave an update on the workshop, wanted to thank everyone who contributed and their support. She passed out handouts to council on questions the citizens had written down for the panel. She also mentioned that she will have a disclosure statement added to all future public events, so that council members that would like to attend would be able to do so. The next one will be held June 29, 2023, starting at 5:45 P.M.

**20. Adjourn City Council Meeting.**

Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 P.M. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield seconded the motion and it carried.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, A.D., 2023.

**APPROVED:**

**/s/ Erica Gillum, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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