

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

**BE IT REMEMBERED** that on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July A.D., 2024 at 6:00 P.M. the City Council met in a Regular Meeting at the Hempstead Recreation Center, 635 Business Highway 290 E, Hempstead, Texas, there being present, to-wit:

Katherine Ragston Ward, Mayor  
Lonnie Garfield, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Veronica Klausmeyer, Councilmember  
Dave Shelburne, Councilmember  
Nora Hodges, Councilmember  
Karon E. Neal, Councilmember

Charles Williams, City Attorney  
Sabrina Alvarez, City Secretary

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

Mayor Katherine Ragston Ward 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.**

Chery Hardwick wanted to congratulate the newly elected officials on their win. She also wanted to invite everyone to the Hempstead Watermelon Festival, taking place on the third Saturday in July. She spoke about the parade, all the entertainment that will be there starting Friday night and into Saturday night. Also, the different festivities planned for the event.

Richard Johns spoke to council and stated that he has an unpleasant experience with the Hempstead Police Department, he has tried on numerous occasions to cook a meal for them and has gotten no response from them. He urged council to listen to the citizens and take note of his frustrations.

**4. Administer the Oath of Office to Elected Officials.**

City Secretary Sabrina Alvarez administered the Oath of Office to City Councilmember Position 1 to Dave Shelburne and City Councilmember Position 2 to Veronica Klausmeyer.

**5. Discussion and action on the City of Hempstead Reutilization Program.**

Street and Grounds Supervisor Scott Duncan talked to council about the program. He stated that there are several items at the landfill that can be reutilized to bring revenue to the city. He stated that there are light poles that can be cut in twelve-foot sections and be sold for fence posts, tree and limbs that can be mulched and sold. Also, this will free up more room at the landfill. Compost and culverts as well that can be reutilize. Councilmember Dave Shelburne asked will the city load up the material? Street/Grounds Supervisor Scott Duncan stated a date will be set when they can come to pick up the materials once the payment is received at city hall, and the city will load the materials.

Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to approve the reutilization program. Councilmember Veronica Klausmeyer seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

## **6. Consideration and action on Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Interlocal Agreement with Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool.**

City Secretary Sabrina Alvarez stated to council that the city does have Cyber Security Coverage and its through Beasley and TML is trying to have coverage in house. The cyber coverage will be going down from two million to one million on the limit of liability coverage. The tower two and tower three coverage will remain the same. The cost will remain the same at \$247.24.

Councilmember Dave Shelburne made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement and continue with the Core+ coverage for the City of Hempstead. Councilmember Nora Hodges seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

## **7. Consideration and action on Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hempstead approving as a project of the Hempstead Economic Development Corporation Type B, the Hempstead Flock Safety Project for the Installation of License Plate Readers. (LPR) (First Reading)**

Economic Development Director Ramiro Bautista stated council EDC Type B board had approved the project in a previous meeting, to put notice in the paper. The first year EDC will cover the cost and after that the police department will have to budget the cost. He stated that if a crime is committed in another county jurisdiction the license plate will be read and it will send an alert to the local authorities. It a tool to cut down on crime. It works with Amber Alerts and Silver alerts. There will be seven cameras east of 290 by Walmart, FM 1488, FM 159, FM 1887 and Blasingame. Neighboring cities who have this are City of Waller, and City of Brookshire are looking into this. EDC Director Ramiro Bautista stated the cost of the cameras plus installation is \$28,500. The second year will be taken over by the police department and budgeted, the cost would be \$21, 000. It is not just a license plate reader, it is a tool that takes the description of the car, make and model which leads the authorities to the suspects. Councilmember Dave

Shelburne stated that he was not looking forward to approving the stationary license readers and also that the police cars have license readers on them now. He stated that this will only be used two times a year and doesn't see where the cost is beneficial. EDC Director Ramiro Bautista stated that it will create a geofence around the city limits. The company is responsible for maintenance on the TXDOT right of ways. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield made a motion to table this item. Councilmember Dave Shelburne seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**8. Consideration and action on an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Hempstead pursuant to the authority of Chapter 504, Subchapter D, Section 504.171 authorizing the Hempstead Economic Development Corporation, a Type A Corporation, to undertake a Type B Project (Hempstead Flock Safety License Plate Readers) under the provisions of Chapter 505 of the Local Government Code; making certain findings and containing provisions related to the subject.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield made a motion to table this item. Councilmember Dave Shelburne seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**9. Consideration and action on an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Hempstead, Texas amending Chapter 12 Article 02 entitled "Rates, Charges, and Service Policies"; amending provisions related to the disconnection procedures for customers; and making other provisions related to the subject; repealing all ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict herewith; providing for severability; and providing for notice.**

Councilmember Dave Shelburne made a motion to table this item. Councilmember Veronica Klausmeyer seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**10. Consideration and action on a final replat of Block 583, Lots 1-3.**

Building Inspector Frank Rodriguez stated this plat was for a home that is going to be built to combine lots into one, so it needed to be replatted. He has no issue with the replat. Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to approve the final replat. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**A. Councilmembers Reports-**

**1. Nora Hodges- She did not know if they were still there in operation, but The Disaster Recovery Center for Waller County constituents is located at Pine Island Baptist Church, 36573 Brumlow Rd, Hempstead, TX .The hours**

are 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

2. Veronica Klausmeyer-a request to the citizens of Hempstead to be more involved in the community. It will take everyone to work together as a village to see Hempstead grow and move forward.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

The City Council of the City of Hempstead reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed below authorized by Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), 551.087 (Economic Development), and 551.086 (Certain Public Power Utilities: Competitive Matters). Council may act in Open Session on any item listed for Executive Session.

**Specifically, Council will convene in Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.087 of the Government Code Economic Development, and Section 551.071 Consultation with Attorney.**

#### **12. Discussion of Hempstead Economic Development Corporations.**

**City Council opened Executive Session at 6:27 P.M.**

**Executive Session ended at 6:38 P.M.**

**No action in Executive Session**

#### **10. Adjourn City Council Meeting.**

Mayor Pro-Tem Lonie Garfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 P.M. Councilmember Dave Shelburne seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, A.D., 2024.

**APPROVED:**

**/s/: Katherine Ragston Ward, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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