

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

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 5th day of September 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 6:01 P.M. and Public Works Fredrick Alexander gave the invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

3. Public Comments.

In Public Comments Mayor Erica Gillum stated that the Outlaw Relief from Prairie View is asking for donations to Hawaii and Florida, donations can be dropped off at city hall by September 8, 2023. Mayor Erica Gillum presented Annette Baker with a Proclamation for her late husband Doc Baker.

4. Consideration and action on a Parade Permit for the Hempstead High School Homecoming Parade to be held September 13, 2023.

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

5. Consideration and action on a Parade Permit for the HCCA for the Festival of Lights to be held December 9, 2023.

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

6. Consideration and action on a Trail Ride Permit, for Caleb Pete for the PV Homecoming Parade to be held November 5, 2023.

Councilmember Cindy Pearce stated that she contacted the school district, and they had no knowledge of the trail ride and would not grant their permission at this time. Mayor Erica Gillum asked Mr. Pete to contact the school. Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to approve the trail ride permit pending an answer from the school. Mayor Pro-Tem seconded the motion and carried.

7. Consideration and action on a Chronic Condition and Critical Care Policy applicable to residential customers of City of Hempstead Utilities pursuant to Section 17.005(b) of the Texas Utilities Code.

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

8. Consideration and action on City of Hempstead's Personnel Travel Policy.

Councilmember Nora Hodges stated that the policy needed to state the elected city officials and all employees needed to be held to the same accountability. Mayor Erica Gillum stated that we have two policies to choose from Option A that Manager of Operations Kollye Kilpatrick drafted and Option B that Councilmember Nora Hodges drafted. Option A excluded elected officials Option B includes elected officials and all employees. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield made a motion to approve option A. Councilmember Mildred Jefferson second the motion. AYES- Councilmember Mildred Jefferson, Councilmember Karon Neal and Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield for Option A. NO-Councilmember Nora Hodges and Councilmember Cindy Pearce. Motion carried.

9. Consideration and action on a Resolution of the City Council authorizing the mayor to execute an agreement with Rutledge Property to allow an aerobic system in lieu of the use

Building Inspector Frank Rodriguez met with the county, the city has an Interlocal Agreement with the county. County will not approve, there is a mandatory one acre that is needed for an aerobic system. The council will not act on this, the city will get with the Rutledge family on alternatives.

10. Presentations.

A. Mayor's Reports-

- a. Next City Council Agenda we will have Dan Jackson from Willdan do a presentation on a Rate Study and Financial Forecast.
- b. Next City Council Agenda we will also have the Utility Audit Findings.

B. Councilmember's Report-

- a. Lonnie Garfield- Update on Hempstead ISD Long Range Facility Planning Committee. The school has goals set, there is a lot of work to do.
- b. Karon Neal- A huge thank you to the Street Department for the afterhours and demanding work they have been putting in.

c. Mildred Jefferson- Judge Stafford, we are all wishing you well on your retirement, now that you have worked so hard and so long it is your time to enjoy the fruits that has come from all your labor; God bless you and enjoy your retirement.

d. Nora Hodges- September is Commute Solutions Month. H-GAC features Four Commute Solutions Partner Programs.

Thank you to the Prairie View Volunteer Fire Fighting Associate for the “Unsung Hero Award” presented to me at their Annual Banquet on August 26, 2023, at Prairie View A & M University.

The City Council convened in Executive Session at 7:19 P.M.

Executive Session closed at 7:39 P.M.

No action was taken in the Executive Session.

11. Consideration and action on appointing Morris L. Overstreet as Municipal Court Judge.

Councilmember Cindy Pearce stated that she would like to see this position posted.

Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to appoint Morris L. Overstreet as Municipal Court Judge. Councilmember Mildred Jefferson seconded the motion and carried unanimously. **AYES**-Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield, Councilmember Karon Neal, Councilmember Nora Hodges, Councilmember Mildred Jefferson. **NO**-Councilmember Cindy Pearce. Motion carried.

12. Adjourn City Council Meeting.

Councilmember Mildred Jefferson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P.M. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield seconded the motion and carried unanimously.