

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

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 9th day of December, A.D., 2021 at 10:00 A.M. the City Council met in a Workshop at the Hempstead Recreation Center, 635 Business Highway 290 E, Second Floor, Hempstead, Texas, there being present, to-wit:

Dave Shelburne, Mayor
Lonnie Garfield, Mayor Pro-Tem
Erica Gillum, Councilmember
Cindy Pearce, Councilmember

Raul Villarreal, Councilmember
Chase Murray, Councilmember
Art Pertile, City Attorney
Barbara Haffelfinger, City Secretary

Others present at the meeting included Sabrina Alvarez, Rooster Smith, David Hartley, Kollye Kilpatrick, Pat Coleman, Katherine Ragston, Alvaro Trujillo, and Bridgette Begle – City Attorney.

Mayor Shelburne called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and Mayor Pro-Tem Garfield gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The following items were discussed at the workshop:

- A. Recreation Center – Only grossed \$18,000 for the 20-21 Budget year. Discussion was held on the problems with weekend parties with the trash not being cleaned up. An increased refundable deposit needs to be made to cover the cost of clean up and damages. Discussion was held that a full-time, licensed peace officer needs to be on duty for any parties that alcoholic beverages will be served. The officer needs to be approved by the Chief of Police or his designee, and the fee for the officer will be set by City Council. If alcoholic beverages will be served, a catering permit will be necessary. When events are scheduled a seating arrangement will need to be provided in order to determine the capacity for the event, which will be determined by the Fire Marshall. No additional reservations will be made until the policy has been revised. Discussion was also held to only allow City Hall staff to accept reservation payments.
- B. Inspections – Discussion was held about the large amount of growth that is anticipated in the near future. Meetings have been held with Bureau Veritas and SafeBuilt, along with a building inspector with 20 plus years of experience. Inspections fees will need to be adjusted to be in line with the inspection company fees which are approximately 10% higher than currently being charged. Both companies will be able to have between 10 – 12 inspectors in the area that would be available as needed. Updated Building Codes will be presented for adoption at the next Council meeting.
- C. Cemeteries – Discussion was held on charging \$200.00 for weekend services to help cover the cost of employee overtime, which usually entails 6 – 8 hours when there is a weekend

service. Mayor Pro-Tem Garfield requested additional time for Council to think about this, with no action until possibly the next budget.

- D. Electricity Buy Back – Attorney Pertile advised that although solar panels cannot be prohibited, he would discourage any buy back program, because in effect the tax rate is subsidized by the sale of electricity by the City.
- E. Historic District Ordinance – Discussion was held on backlit signs in the Historic District which are currently prohibited. Council recommended that the current Ordinance be amended to allow three dimensional backlit signs, along with increasing the allowed size of lettering from 12 inches to 18 inches on first floor signs, and second floor signs from 18 inches to 24 inches.
- F. Additional items that may have an impact on the 2021-2022 City Budget – Discussion was held on price points of the Subdivision Ordinance which is in the process of being reviewed in order to be updated.

There being no further business, Mayor Pro-Tem Garfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:03 P.M.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 20th day of December, A.D., 2021.

APPROVED:

/s/ Dave Shelburne, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Barbara Haffelfinger, City Secretary