The City Council of the City of Taylor met on April 25, 2013, at City Hall, 400 Porter St., Taylor, Texas. Noting the absence of Jesse Ancira, Mayor Donald Hill declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor Pro Tem Chris Gonzales
Council Member Chris Osborn
Council Member Brandt Rydell

Jim Dunaway, City Manager
Jeff Straub, Assistant City Manager
Ted Hejl, City Attorney
Susan Brock, City Clerk

INVOCATION
Danny Thomas led the group in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION
Ms. Nancy Tyson, 1220 West Lake Drive, voiced concern regarding the issue of awarding a contract to Sledge Engineering in agenda item number 6.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. APPROVE MINUTES FOR APRIL 11, 2013.
2. CONSIDER APPROVING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR MAIN STREET RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.
3. CONCUR WITH PRELIMINARY FINANCIALS FOR MARCH, 2013.
   Council Member Rydell asked to remove item number 2 for further consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales moved to approve the consent agenda items number 1 and 3 as presented and Council Member Osborn seconded the motion. VOTE: Four voted AYE. Motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA – REVIEW/DISCUSS & CONSIDER/ACTION:

2. CONSIDER APPROVING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR MAIN STREET RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.
   In Ms. Lannen's absence Mr. Straub presented details on the rental assistance program. He stressed the need for additional funding as a result of the success of the program itself.

   Council Member Rydell moved to approve this item as presented and Council Member Osborn seconded the motion. VOTE: Four voted AYE. Motion passed.

4. RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON WILLIAMSON COUNTY VOTE CENTERS FOR THE MAY 11, 2013 ELECTIONS.
   Ms. Connie Watson, Public Information Officer of Williamson County presented information on behalf of Commissioner Ron Morrison and Mr. Jose Orta regarding the use of centralized vote centers in Williamson County. No formal action was taken on this item.

5. DISCUSS AND APPROVE PROJECTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY BOND ELECTION.
Mr. Dunaway and Mr. Casey Sledge, City Consulting Engineer, presented a list of projects to be reviewed with regard to the Williamson County Bond Election. The proposed list includes improvements to CR 101, CR 366, CR 367, and the trails in Bull Branch Park. If included in the bond election and all voter approved the local match would be estimated to be approximately $1,972,664.

(Council Member Ancira joined the meeting at 6:35 pm during this discussion.) Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales moved to approve the list of projects as presented and Council Member Osborn seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

6. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $3 MILLION IN CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION FOR PHASE I OF THE STREET RENOVATION PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH SLEDGE ENGINEERING FOR DESIGN AND OVERSIGHT OF PHASE I.
Mr. Dunaway presented a proposal to bring all streets categorized as “fair” up to “good” with funds obtained through certificates of obligation. Mr. Casey Sledge, consulting City Engineer, provided background on how this initial phase would ultimately impact the entire street maintenance project. He provided a plan that would also incorporate the funds previously redirected from the recreation center for a total of $5.4 million available at this stage of the program. The plan presented would include 15.75 miles of streets for a total of $4.9 million. Mayor Hill made a request to add one more block of 1st Street to complete the downtown street plan as presented.

Staff addressed public concerns about not using a bid or request for proposal process in awarding engineering professional service agreements. It was noted that under the Professional Services Procurement Act, Chapter 2254 of the Texas Government Code, professional service agreements are not subject to the competitive bid process. The City entered into an agreement in 2005 to hire Mr. Sledge as a consultant to the city for engineering services. Since that time he has provided engineering expertise and/or oversight to numerous city projects. Operating in this capacity, he has also recommended that the city hire outside engineers when suited to the project and beneficial to the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales moved to authorize the issuance of $3 million in Certificates of Obligation for the Phase I of the Street Renovation Program as presented and to approve the contract with Sledge Engineering. Council Member Rydell seconded the motion and requested an amendment to the motion to accept staff recommendations, authorize the $3 million in C.O.’s, approve the contract with Sledge and to authorize the entire $5.4 to be used for the Phase I project. Mayor Gonzales agreed to the amended motion. Prior to the vote, Council Member Osborn requested an amendment and directive to include an evaluation of hiring an in-house engineer after Phase I is completed and Council Member Rydell seconded this motion. Mayor Hill proceeded to take the last amendment first. He asked for a vote on the second amendment made by Council Member Osborn: VOTE: Four voted AYE; One vote NO (Gonzales). Motion on second amendment passed. First amendment and motion: VOTE: Four voted AYE; One NO (Ancira). Motion passed.

7. RECEIVE MONTHLY REPORT ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.
Mr. Sledge presented an update on capital improvement projects for the month of March.

ADJOURN

With no further business; Mayor Hill adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Don Hill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan Brock, City Clerk