The City Council of the City of Taylor met on March 25, 2008 at City Hall, 400 Porter St., Taylor, Texas. Mayor Bernabe Gonzales declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor Pro Tem Donald Hill	Frank Salvato, City Manager
Council Member Rod Hortenstine	Assistant City Manager, Jim Dunaway
Council Member John McDonald	City Attorney, Ted Hejl
	City Clerk, Susan Brock

INVOCATION
Chief Straub led the group in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION
No citizens came forward.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. MINUTES FROM MARCH 13, 2008.
2. ORDINANCE 2008-7 BUDGET AMENDMENT.
3. CONCUR WITH FINANCIALS FOR FEBRUARY, 2008.
   Mayor Pro Tem Hill moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Council Member Hortenstine seconded the motion. VOTE: Four voted AYE. Motion passed.

ORDINANCE 2008-7

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2007-24 ADOPTED ON SEPTEMBER 6, 2007, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CITY FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2007 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2008; BY AMENDING THE AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL FUND AS WELL AS OTHER FUNDS THAT PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF OPERATING EXPENSES AND CAPITAL OUTLAY AND BY CHANGING THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY.

REGULAR AGENDA – REVIEW/DISCUSS & CONSIDER/ACTION:

4. PROCLAMATION: IN RECOGNITION OF MARGERY PEARSON DAY, MARCH 31.
   Mayor Gonzales presented a proclamation to Ms. Margery Pearson in honor of her years of employment with the Taylor Public Library and to declare March 31st as Margery Pearson Day. On March 31st, the Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation are hosting a birthday celebration and unveiling of a portrait of Ms. Pearson and invited the community to attend.

5. PROCLAMATION: IN RECOGNITION OF TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC DECATHLON ACHIEVEMENTS.
   Mayor Gonzales presented a proclamation to the Taylor High School Academic Decathlon

team.

6. RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW SCOTT SOLBACH FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENT AS EAGLE SCOUT WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA.
   Mayor Gonzales presented a Certificate of Recognition to Matthew Scott Solbach for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America.

7. RECOGNITION OF MICHELLE SMITH FOR HER ACHIEVEMENT OF GOLD AWARD WITH THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA.
   Mayor Gonzales presented a Certificate of Recognition to Ms. Michelle Smith for her Gold Award achievement with the Girl Scouts of America.

8. CONSIDER ANNUAL RACIAL PROFILING REPORT.
   Chief Jeff Straub presented a detailed report on the most recent statistics collected as required by the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 2.133. Chief Straub reported one complaint of racial profiling during the past reporting year. After a thorough review and analysis of stops, cases and searches, it was determined that racial profiling was not occurring in the Taylor Police Department.

   Council Member Hortenstine moved to accept the report as presented and Council Member McDonald seconded the motion. VOTE: Four voted AYE. Motion passed.

(Council Member Jez joined the meeting at 6:25 p.m.)

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MOTOROLA LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR RADIO SYSTEM COMPONENTS TO ALLOW PUBLIC SAFETY TO PARTICIPATE IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY RADIO SYSTEM.
   Chief Straub provided a presentation regarding the radio systems currently available for use by the police department. Two options are available to upgrade the equipment including the purchase or lease of a stand alone radio system, or to participate in the County's digital radio system. He noted that Mr. Patrick Cobb with the Williamson County Department of Emergency Communications was present to respond to questions if necessary. Based on costs and compatibility issues Chief Straub recommends that the City join the County system and contract with Motorola to purchase the equipment. Terms of the contract are an annual payment of $63,053.78 for 7 years with the total cost of the project at $385,545.11. Approximately $21,000 will be paid to the County annually in radio subscription fees.

   Mayor Pro Tem Hill moved to approve the lease purchase agreement as presented and Council Member McDonald seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

10. CONSIDER REQUEST TO "OVERHIRE" ONE POLICE OFFICER LEVEL POSITION DUE TO SERGEANT VACANCY.

Chief Straub presented a request to consider allowing the department to hire one additional officer from the current pool of applicants in the likely event that one of his officers gets promoted to fill the sergeant vacancy. This would allow him to promptly fill the vacancy that will occur when a corporal is promoted to sergeant and a police officer is promoted to corporal. In the unlikely event that the promotion does not happen, the sergeant position would be removed.

Council Member Jez moved to approve the request to over hire one police officer level position and Council Member McDonald seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

11. CONSIDER ACCEPTING GRANT DONATIONS FROM WAL-MART TO FIRE DEPARTMENT AND MAIN STREET PROGRAM.

Mr. Dunaway presented a request to formally accept two donations from Wal-Mart in the amount of $1,000 to the Main Street façade grant program and $1,500 to the Fire Department.

Council Member Hortenstine moved to accept the donations from Wal-Mart and Mayor Pro Tem Hill seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

12. CONSIDER ACCEPTING DONATION OF EQUIPMENT FROM TAYLOR PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTER ASSOCIATION LOCAL 4194 TO CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Chief Bruce Watson presented a request to Council to consider accepting a donation of equipment from the Taylor Professional Firefighter Association. Recognizing the need for this equipment, the Association purchased two reciprocating saws at a value of $728.86 for the Taylor Fire Department.

Council Member Jez moved to accept the donation of equipment from the Taylor Professional Firefighter Association and Mayor Pro Tem Hill seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

13. CONSIDER APPROVING 2008 STRATEGIC PLAN.

Mr. Salvato presented a request to Council to consider approving the final draft of the 2008 Strategic Plan. Council met with Amy Holloway of Avalanche Consulting in January to update the 2007 Strategic Plan and staff reviewed the goals and objectives established by Council to formulate actions steps to meet those objectives.

Council Member Hortenstine moved to approve the 2008 Strategic Plan as presented and Council Member McDonald seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

14. CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION.

Mr. Bob vanTil, Director of Community Development, presented a request to Council to consider making appointments to the Commission. Three of the members' terms have expired. He stated that the Commission met and reviewed the new applicants but did not have a recommendation. Council reviewed the attendance records and expressed concern over possible reasons for Mr. Taylor not attending the meetings. Council Member Jez requested staff contact him and determine if the day and/or times of the meetings may be a problem and that perhaps some accommodations might be made. Mayor Pro Tem Hill would like to know if he would like another opportunity to serve on the Commission at some later date.

Mr. Salvato requested Council to consider making all appointments expire on the 31st of January every year in order to better facilitate the appointment process.

Council Member McDonald moved to reappoint Travis Wilkes and David Scott Green and to appoint Todd Osborn as a new member to replace John Taylor with terms to expire on January 31st. Council Member Hortenstine seconded the motion. VOTE: Three voted AYE; two voted NO (Jez and Hill). Motion Passed.

15. CONSIDER REAPPOINTMENT OF NORMA SHORTS TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD.
Mr. Danny Thomas, Director of Public Works, presented a request to Council to consider reappointing Ms. Norma Shorts to the Parks and Recreation Board. Mr. Thomas said that six applications have been received and he hopes to be bringing back additional recommendations for appointments that expire in May.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill moved to reappoint Norma Shorts with a term to expire January 31, 2010 and Council Member Jez seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion Passed.

16. CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION R08-5 CANCELING THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION FOR MAY 10, 2008 AND DECLARING RODNEY HORTENSTINE, COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE, ELECTED TO OFFICE.
Ms. Susan Brock, City Clerk, presented a request to Council to approve Resolution R08-5 canceling the election on May 10 and declaring Rodney Hortenstine elected to the At Large position. According to the Texas Election Code, if a candidate is unopposed and there is no other propositions on the ballot, the election may be canceled. However, elected officials cannot be sworn in until after the election date. This action will also cancel the Joint Agreement with Williamson County for Election Services.

Council Member Jez moved to adopt Resolution R08-5 canceling the May 10, 2008 election and declared Rodney Hortenstine elected to office. Council Member McDonald seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION. The Taylor City Council will hold a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, Chapter 551, Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in Section 551.087 to discuss or deliberate regarding commercial and/or financial information on a business prospect that the City of Taylor, Texas seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the city of Taylor, Texas and with which the City of Taylor, Texas is conducting economic development negotiations and/or to deliberate the offer of financial or other incentives to the business prospect.

Mayor Gonzales adjourned the meeting into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

18. ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION.
Mayor Gonzales reconvened the meeting into Open Session at 8:26 p.m. and stated that no action was taken during Executive Session.

(The next item was taken out of order and presented prior to the Executive Session.)

19. CONSIDER APPROVING MATCHING FUNDS FOR A $400,000 CDBG GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE DICKEY STREET PROJECT.
Mr. Dunaway presented a request to Council to consider approving matching funds for a grant application for the next phase in the Dickey Street drainage project. To date, the City has received three grants from the Williamson County CDBG program for this project totaling $1 million. This grant application is for an additional $400,000 and requires a matching amount of $100,000 from the City to extend the project further north and west.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill moved to approve the grant application with a four to one match for $100,000 in matching funds for the Dickey Street Project and Council Member Hortenstine seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

ADJOURN

With no further business; Mayor Gonzales adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

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Bernabe Gonzales, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Susan Brock, City Clerk