The City Council of the City of Taylor met on February 8, 2018, at City Hall, 400 Porter St., Taylor, Texas. Mayor Brandt Rydell declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following present:

Council Member Dwayne Ariola
Council Member Robert Garcia
Council Member Chris Gonzales
Mayor Pro Tem Christine Lopez

Isaac Turner, City Manager
Ted Hejl, City Attorney
Susan Brock, City Clerk

INVOCATION

Fire Chief Pat Ekiss led the group in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Mayor Rydell invited those who signed up in advance to come forward during this time. Ms. Patricia Romero, 1304 Thompson, expressed concern regarding adequate water pressure needs when fighting fires. Others who had submitted forms opted to speak during the time when their agenda item was presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. APPROVE ORDINANCE 2018-01 AMENDING FEE ORDINANCE
2. APPROVE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 25 AND JANUARY 29, 2018.

Council Member Gonzales requested agenda item number one be removed for additional comments. He reminded council and the citizens that his vote is not against recycling but against adding another fee on to the citizens utility bill. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez moved to approve Agenda Item 1 and Council Member Ariola seconded the motion. VOTE: Three voted AYE; Two voted NO (Gonzales and Garcia). Motion passed.

Council Member Garcia moved to approve agenda item number 2 as presented and Mayor Pro Tem Lopez seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

3. CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO THE AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD.

Ms. Brock presented a request to consider filling a vacancy on the Airport Advisory Board. While board appointments are generally made by Council in January and July special consideration is allowed if a board needs to fill a vacancy to gain a quorum for meetings. Mr. James Coggeshall's application was received after the deadline for the January 25, 2018 council meeting and was brought before council at this meeting for special consideration to fill a vacancy.

Council Member Garcia moved to appoint James Coggeshall to the Airport Advisory Board and Council Member Gonzales seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

4. CONSIDER DISCUSSION ON DESIGN ELEMENTS FOR HERITAGE SQUARE PARK IMPROVEMENTS.
Ms. Jennifer Black, Sledge Engineering, presented an update on the Heritage Square Park plan. She pointed out the elements included in the base bid as well as what elements were included in each of the Alternates. Mayor Rydell invited speakers to come forward at this time.

Ms. Tammy Keyes, 2302 Meadow Lane, and Ms. Irene Michna, 1301 Davis, expressed concern for keeping the bandstand at the current location. Ms. Nancci Burgess added her concerns about the concrete seating walls as well as the amphitheater design. Mr. Gary Gola questioned the funding source(s) and Mr. Michael Prillaman, 1502 Sherry, provided alternative designs for the amphitheater. Ms. Judy Blundell, 112 W. 2nd St, expressed her concern for some of choices of materials and the overall look of the park plan. Ms. Annette Maruska, 308 Cherrywood Circle, wanted to be sure the lampposts were not lost in the redesign.

Mr. Casey Sledge, Sledge Engineering and consulting city engineer, responded to the citizen concerns and provided a summary of the process as well as council actions up to this point. Council Member Ariola provided a historic review of the discussions at previous meetings and all council members commented on various design elements prior to the vote.

Council Member Ariola moved to approve the base bid of $3,413,154 plus $351,088 for the Alternates 1,2, 3, and 4. Council Member Gonzales requested an additional $35,000 be added to change the amphitheater column design. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez seconded the motion to approve a total of $386,088 plus the base bid as presented. VOTE: Four voted AYE. One vote NO (Garcia). Motion passed.

5. RECEIVE UPDATE ON RECYCLING PROGRAM FROM PROGRESSIVE WASTE SOLUTIONS.
Mr. Steve Shannon presented an update on the curbside recycling program scheduled to begin February 26. At the request of council, Mr. Shannon agreed to look at extending the program to multifamily residential units after the program is underway and agreed to provide an update to council within the next few months.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez moved to accept the report as presented and Council Member Ariola seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

6. CONSIDER ACCEPTING THE COMBINED STRATEGIC FACILITIES MASTER PLAN.
Mr. Sledge provided an overview of the master plan and reminded council that this item was only to approve the plan not funding at this time.

Council Member Gonzales moved to approve the plan as presented and Council Member Garcia seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

Mayor Rydell requested Council enter into closed session at 8:27 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION. The Taylor City Council will hold a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, Chapter 551, Texas Local Government Code, in accordance with the authority contained in Section 551.074 to discuss personnel matters including to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee.
   - Evaluation of City Manager, Isaac Turner

8. CONSIDER ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION.
   Council members returned from closed session at 10:50 p.m. and Mayor Rydell stated that no action was taken during the closed session. He expressed his appreciation for the work Mr. Turner has done and is encouraged about the progress being made in the community.

ADJOURN

With no further action Mayor Rydell declared the meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

Brandt Rydell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan Brock

Susan Brock, City Clerk