

The City Council of the City of Taylor met on October 21, 2010, at City Hall, 400 Porter St., Taylor, Texas. In the absence of Mayor Hortenstine, Mayor Pro Tem McDonald declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following present:

Council Member Chris Gonzales
Council Member Don Hill
Council Member Chris Osborn

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

INVOCATION

Jeff Straub led the group in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Deby Lannen, Main Street Manager, invited everyone to attend the initial event known as Third Thursdays in the downtown area. This event encourages downtown merchants to stay open until 8 pm and includes live music at Heritage Square.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 12, 2010.

Council Member Gonzales moved to approve the consent agenda as presented and Council Member Osborn seconded the motion. VOTE: Four voted AYE. Motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA – REVIEW/DISCUSS & CONSIDER/ACTION:

2. PROCLAMATION: RECOGNIZE MUNICIPAL COURTS WEEK NOVEMBER 1-5, 2010.

Mayor Pro Tem McDonald presented a proclamation to Judge Randall Pick and Associate Judge Dolores Chavana recognizing November 1-5 as Municipal Courts Week.

3. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING FOR ANNEXATION OF PROPERTIES LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST SIDE OF TAYLOR ON THE EAST AND WEST SIDE OF CR 101 IN THE VICINITY OF THE FUTURE CHANDLER ROAD RIGHT OF WAY.

John Elsdon, City Planner, presented a request to conduct a public hearing on proposed annexation. Mayor Pro Tem McDonald declared the Public Hearing open and the following individuals spoke in opposition to the annexation: Frank Hammack of 111 Cotton Rows Lane, Mary Slagle of 357 CR 368, Donald Bouchard of 123 Cotton Rows Lane, Larry Gordon of 139 Cotton Rows Lane, and Erin King of 301 CR 368. Hearing no additional comments, the hearing was closed.

Mr. Dunaway responded to specific comments made regarding police, fire, water, wastewater, and garbage services, animal control, hunting regulations, and fireworks. No action was taken at this meeting. A second public hearing is scheduled for November 4 and the ordinance regarding this annexation will be introduced on November 23.

4. CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDER INTRODUCING ORDINANCE 2010-44 TO MODIFY THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW SMALL WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS (SWES-WIND TURBINES FOR ELECTRICAL GENERATION) WITHIN

CERTAIN ZONING DISTRICTS.

Mr. Elsdon presented a request to conduct a public hearing on amending the zoning ordinance to allow small wind energy turbines in specific areas. Using other city regulations as a guideline, Mr. Elsdon presented a draft ordinance that specifies height restrictions, safety regulations, noise and zoning restrictions for this type of apparatus.

Mayor Pro Tem McDonald declared the Public Hearing open; Mr. Bill Ward expressed his appreciation for the efforts made by city staff regarding his request to install a wind turbine at his church property on North Main Street. He assured Council that this will be only for their use, he has no plans to sell energy, and he anticipates it will take 7-8 years to recover the cost of installation. Hearing no additional comments, the hearing was closed and Mr. Hejl introduced the ordinance as presented.

ORDINANCE NO. 2010-44

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 2001-17 ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS ON APRIL 24, 2001 AS HERETOFORE AMENDED, BY AMENDING SECTIONS 3.5.2 AND 3.5.3, ADDING SMALL WIND ENERGY SYSTEMS (WIND TURBINES) AS AN ACCESSORY USE; ADDING SMALL WIND ENERGY SYSTEM AND WIND TURBINE TO SECTION 11, DEFINITIONS; AND ADDING TO TABLE 3.3 PERMITTED USES.

5. CONSIDER APPROVING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE WILLIAMSON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 3 FOR AUTOMATIC AID ASSISTANCE FOR FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES.

Chief Pat Ekiss presented a request for Council to consider approving an agreement for automatic aid with the Williamson County Emergency Services (ESD) Number 3. Chief Scott Kerwood with the ESD No. 3 was present to provide additional information regarding the agreement. Chief Ekiss pointed out the benefits of such an arrangement and the value to having a faster response time and more firefighter personnel available in the event of a fire.

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

6. CONSIDER APPROVING RESOLUTION R10-18 ADOPTING A COUNCIL RELATIONS POLICY.

Mr. Dunaway presented a request for council to continue their discussion and reconsider approving a council relations policy presented at the previous council meeting. Citing the fact that the proposed policy affects all council members, Council Member Gonzales asked to delay this item until Mayor Hortenstine returns and can provide his input. Council Member Hill offered his support for the policy but requested a delay in approval until after the election next May. Mayor Pro Tem McDonald stressed the importance of establishing these guidelines and reminded council that if approved this item can always be reviewed again at any time if necessary.

Without further discussion, Council Member Osborn moved to approve Resolution R10-18 adopting a council relations policy as presented and Council Member Gonzales seconded the motion. VOTE: Three voted AYE; One voted NO (Council Member Hill). Motion passed.

With the approval of this policy, Mr. Dunaway stated that he would proceed with amending

the existing Ethics Ordinance 99-17 to be consistent with any conflict in policies.

7. DISCUSS AND RECEIVE A REPORT REGARDING POSSIBLE REFUNDING
OPTIONS FOR PREVIOUSLY ISSUED DEBT INCLUDING THE 1997 REVENUE
BONDS AND THE 2002 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS.

Rosemarie Dennis, Finance Director, presented information regarding possible options to refund previously issued debt in an effort to save on the long term interest. She pointed out that with lower interest rates the total savings could be as much as \$278,000 over the life of the bond obligation. Staff is currently seeking a new bond rating agency and bond attorney to handle this issuance and Ms. Jennifer Douglas with Specialized Public Financing will present additional details at the November 4th Council meeting when she will be requesting authorization be granted to the City manager and Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem to proceed with the sale of the bonds.

ADJOURN

With no further business; Mayor Pro Tem McDonald adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

John McDonald, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Susan Brock, City Clerk