

The City Council of the City of Taylor met on July 15, 2014 at City Hall, 400 Porter St., Taylor, Texas. Mayor Jesse Ancira, Jr. declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following present:

Mayor Pro Tem Chris Gonzales (arrived at 6:06)
Council Member Scott Green
Council Member Donald Hill
Council Member Brandt Rydell

Jeff Straub, Interim City Manager
Ted Hejl, City Attorney
Susan Brock, City Clerk

INVOCATION

Mr. Danny Thomas led the group in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION

1. PROCLAMATION: IN HONOR OF THE TAYLOR RODEO ASSOCIATION 65TH ANNIVERSARY.
Mayor Ancira presented a proclamation to members of the Taylor Rodeo Association recognizing their 65th anniversary.
2. PROCLAMATION: IN HONOR OF THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAYLOR BOY SCOUT TROOP 167.
Scout Master Walter Lee and his scouts presented a commemorative scarf to the Mayor and City Council in appreciation of the city's continued support of the troop and in honor of the troop's anniversary celebration.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Mr. Sean Stockard, President of the Taylor Economic Development Corporation, spoke in support of the Main Street Board efforts to hire a firm to produce a Downtown Master Plan.

CONSENT AGENDA

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 25, AND JUNE 26, 2014.
4. APPROVE ORDINANCE 2014-10 ALLOWING THE ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF WREN WAY WEST OF JASON DRIVE.

ORDINANCE NO.2014-10

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS, VACATING A PORTION OF WREN STREET RUNNING GENERALLY EAST AND WEST BETWEEN LOT 4, BLOCK 4 AND LOT 11 BLOCK 5, GENE SEFCIK SUBDIVISION, SECTION TWO, A SUBDIVISION IN WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT RECORDED IN CABINET "D", SLIDE 60 OF THE PLAT RECORDS OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS, FOR USE AS A STREET, BUT RETAINING A PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT ON THE PORTION VACATED FOR STREET USE; AND PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE

Council Member Hill moved to approve the consent agenda as presented and Council Member Green seconded the motion. VOTE: Five voted AYE. Motion passed.

REGULAR AGENDA: REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

5. CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION BY THE TAYLOR TAX INCREMENT FINANCE (TIF) ADVISORY BOARD TO HIRE DESIGN WORKSHOP, INC. TO CREATE DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN.

At the June 26, council meeting Mayor Ancira expressed a need for additional time to review the proposal and agreed to bring it back for further consideration. Mr. Bob van Til, Director of Planning and Development, presented a second request to consider the plan and Mr. Ed Hile, Chair of the Main Street Advisory Board, spoke to the issue.

Council Member Hill moved to have staff proceed with a Request for Qualifications to receive additional applicants with a decision to be made within 45 days and Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales seconded the motion. VOTE: Two voted AYE (Hill, Gonzales); three votes NO (Green, Ancira, Rydell). Motion failed.

Council Member Green moved to approve the Design Workshop agreement as presented and Council Member Rydell seconded the motion. VOTE: Three voted AYE (Green, Ancira, Rydell); two votes NO (Gonzales, Hill). Motion passed.

6. CONSIDER INTRODUCING ORDINANCE 2014-11 REGULATING VACANT BUILDINGS IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT.

Mr. van Til presented a second request to consider introducing an ordinance that would provide regulations on vacant buildings in the downtown central business district. At the June 26 meeting, Council expressed concern for the details of the ordinance, which was designed after a similar one in effect in Dallas. Discussion included thoughts that there might be existing tools already in effect that are sufficient but not being enforced. Fire Chief Ekiss expressed his support for the regulations contained in the proposed ordinance from a safety standpoint in the event that firefighters would have to gain access to a vacant building with no knowledge of the dangers or unsafe structural issues that might face them. The ordinance was introduced with the understanding that changes can be made prior to its adoption. Staff agreed to present the issue for further review to the new Building Official, Ms. Laura Rouse-Devore, who will begin work on August 4.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-11

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR PROVIDING AGAINST BLIGHT CAUSED BY VACANT BUILDINGS LEFT UNOCCUPIED AND UNMONITORED IN THE CITY; PROVIDING A PENALTY OF FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) FOR EACH OFFENSE, EXCEPT WHERE A DIFFERENT PENALTY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY STATE LAW FOR SUCH OFFENSE, OR FOR ANY VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OR REGULATION WHICH GOVERNS FIRE SAFETY, ZONING, OR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION,

WHICH SHALL BE PUNISHED BY PENALTY OF FINE NOT TO EXCEED THE SUM OF TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$2,000.00); PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, REPEALER, AND PUBLICATION CLAUSES.

7. CONSIDER FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

Mayor Ancira asked for additional items from the Council; Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales asked staff to revisit the idea of reduced or bulk water rates with regard to a previous request from a homeowner's association.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION I. The Taylor City Council will conduct a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, Chapter 551, Texas Local Government Code, and 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 deliberate the offer of financial or other incentives to the business prospect.

- Project Overload

Mayor Ancira and council members retired to closed session at 7:06 pm.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION II. The Taylor City Council will conduct 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 551.074 to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee:

- Chris Hartung of Chris Hartung Consulting will meet with Council to discuss the City Manager position

10. CONSIDER ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Mayor Ancira resumed the open meeting at 7:55 p.m. and stated that there was no action taken on the Economic Development Executive Session.

He announced that on July 24 a public reception would be held for the six finalists for the position of City Manager. The finalists, in alphabetical order, are: Kim Foutz (Temple), Mike Morrison (New Braunfels), Himanshu Patel (Florence, Arizona), Philip Rodriguez (Fate), Jeff Straub (Taylor) and Isaac Turner (N. Venice Florida). Interviews will take place on Friday, July 25, and selected second interviews on July 26. Resumes will be available on request from the City Clerk.

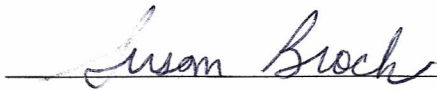
ADJOURN

With no further business, Mayor Ancira adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jesse Ancira, Jr.', written over a horizontal line.

Jesse Ancira, Jr. Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Brock', written over a horizontal line.

Susan Brock, City Clerk