

CITY OF ABERNATHY

The City Council for the City of Abernathy met in regular session on Monday, May 10th, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Hall building at 811 Ave D. Members present were Mayor Ron Johnson, Gary Stone, Matt Riley, Jared Shannon, and Bilinda Prater. Also present were City Staff including Joe Hines, Krista Adames, Bruce Kastning, Desiree Stephenson, Oscar Martinez, and Will Dewitt. Attached, is a list of members of the public that were present.

MINUTES

- I.** Call to Order
Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Johnson called the meeting to order.
- II.** Roll Call of Council Members
Council members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Johnson, Matt Riley, Gary Stone, Jared Shannon, & Bilinda Prater.
- III.** Welcome Guests
Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Johnson welcomed the guest.
- IV.** Invocation
Councilwoman Prater gave the invocation.
- V.** Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.
- VI.** Texas Pledge
Mayor Pro-Tem Ron Johnson led the Texas Pledge.
- VII.** Action Item
 - A.** Canvass election result and approve.
Councilwoman Prater made a motion to approve the official canvass. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.
 - B.** Swear in elected mayor and council members.
City Secretary Krista Adames administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Ron Johnson, Councilman Gary Stone, and Councilman Matt Riley.
- VIII.** Public Comment (non-action)
No public comments were offered.
- IX.** Old Business
Approval minutes of the previous meeting
Councilman Riley made a motion to approve the following minutes. Councilman Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.
 - A.** April 12, 2021
 - B.** April 21, 2021, Public Hearing
 - C.** April 26, 2021, Public Hearing
- X.** Informational Items
 - A.** Officer Bruce Kastning gave his report to Council.
 - B.** Director of Public Utilities, Oscar Martinez gave his report to Council.
 - C.** City Manager Joe Hines gave his report to Council.
 - D.** Council members gave their reports.
- XI.** Approval of monthly financial reports

Councilman Shannon made a motion to approve the following monthly financial reports. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

- A. Monthly Bank Balances and CD report 2 pages.
- B. Actual vs Budget report 7 pages
- C. General fund check summary 2 pages
- D. Water fund check summary 1 page
- E. Payroll check report 2 pages
- F. Credit card statements

XII. Approval of Fleet Maintenance report

Councilman Shannon made a motion to approve April's fleet maintenance report. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

XIII. Conduct a public Hearing concerning Annexation of AX-01-21 and AX -02-21

Mayor Ron Johnson opened the public hearing for AX-01-21 and AX -02-21. No one spoke for or against AX-01-21 and AX-02-21. Mayor Ron Johnson closed the public hearing at 7:27 P.M.

XIV. Discussion / Action Items

A. Discussion / Action Appoint Mayor Pro-Tem

Councilwoman Prater made a motion to nominate Councilman Riley as Mayor Pro-Tem. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 3/0/1 with Councilman Riley Abstaining.

B. Discussion / Action Resolution 051021 Signatures on city accounts.

Councilman Riley made a motion to approve Resolution 021021. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

C. Discussion / Action Ordinance 622 Annexation of AX-01-21 Williams.

City Manager Joe Hines presented Ordinance 622, Annexation of AX-01-21 Williams, to City Council. Councilman Riley made a motion to approve Ordinance 622. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

D. Discussion / Action Ordinance 623 Annexation of AX-02-21 Moore.

City Manager Joe Hines presented Ordinance 623, Annexation of AX-02-21 Moore, to City Council. Councilman Riley made a motion to approve Ordinance 623. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

E. Discussion / Action Family Dollar Curb

City Manager presented a plan of a mountable curb and gutter for the Family Dollar. He stated they are asking to cut the curb as they originally requested.

Councilman Shannon made a motion to approve the original plan on the curb cut.

Councilman Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

F. Discussion / Action Ordinance 624 Sanctuary City for the Unborn

Brandon Fannin – Lubbock City voted to keep Lubbock a sanctuary city. It is my opinion that the organizations are going to try to move to the small towns outside of Lubbock. Our duty as citizens is to protect the unborn whether it be today, tomorrow, or 10 years down the road. I ask that you would each carefully consider protecting the rights of unborn children. The pain, the torment, the agony, that comes from that down the road could create even more issues psychologically, physically, emotionally, and spiritually for our city.

Father Bryan Wood – Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak at this time. I agree with the gentleman that just spoke that as the progression of what had happened in Lubbock is going to continue to be expanded to the other areas for anyone that is open to or accepting to allow them to enter their cities. Remember that

we are to respect all human life from conception until death. I ask the councilmembers to consider extending the rights of all people within our city here in Abernathy. City Manager Joe Hines introduced Mark Dixon the director of the Right to Life of East Texas and founder of the Sanctuary City of the Unborn. Mark Dixon gave the history of the Sanctuary City for the Unborn and explained the struggles that they went through. Councilman Mike Cummings, from Joaquin, Tx, explained the struggles that they went through as one of the first Cities to pass the Sanctuary City for the Unborn Ordinance. Councilman Riley made a motion that we put it up to city vote. The motion died with lack of second. Councilman Shannon made a motion to approve Ordinance 624 Sanctuary City for the Unborn. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

- XV.** Convene Executive session – Convene into executive session in accordance with Texas Government Code §551.074, “Personnel Matters” and “Filling Council Vacancies”. City Council went into executive session at 8:05 P.M.
- XVI.** Reconvene Open Session – Take action on Personal Matters and Filling Council Vacancies discussed in Executive session. City Council Reconvened open session at 9:22 P.M. Councilman Shannon made a motion to give the City Manager authority to hire a code enforcement position for 20 hours per week. Councilman Riley seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0. Councilman Shannon made a motion that we put a notice in the newspaper and on social media that we have an unexpired vacant seat on City Council to fill and should they be interested to go to City Hall. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.
- XVII.** Adjournment Councilman Riley made a motion to adjourn at 9:55 P.M. Councilman Stone seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/0.

Mayor Ron Johnson

ATTEST

Krista Adames, City Secretary