



The City Council for the City of Abernathy met in regular session on Monday, April 8th, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. in the City Hall building at 811 Ave D. Members present were Mayor Ron Johnson, Eva Cortez, Gary Stephenson, Tammy Mahan, Jared Shannon, and Bilinda Prater. Also present were City Staff including Don Provost, Krista Adames, Ricky Patteson, Cindy Tapia, Dwain Read, and Robert Prater with the AVFD. Members of the Public were Robert and Kimberly Hicks.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call of Council Members

Members present were Mayor Ron Johnson, Tammy Mahan, Eva Cortez, Jared Shannon, Bilinda Prater, and Gary Stephenson.

3. Welcome Guests

Mayor Johnson welcomed the guest.

4. Invocation

Councilwoman Prater gave the invocation.

5. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Councilwoman Prater led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

6. Texas Pledge – “Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.”

Councilman Shannon led the Texas Pledge.

7. Public Comment (non-action)

A concerned business owner informed the council that he feels let down by Abernathy’s Police Department in the handling of an incident which occurred at his establishment.

8. Review/Approval Minutes of the Previous City Council Meeting

Councilman Stephenson made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.

9. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

Councilwoman Prater made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports. Councilwoman Cortez seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.

10. Discussion/Action Items

- a. Discussion and updates related to the Code Enforcement/Animal Control Department
CE/AC Departmental Director provided the council with departmental updates and opened the floor for council to ask about any departmental related questions.
- b. Discussion about the Formation of a Personnel Policy Committee
After discussion, council asked City Manager Don Provost to form a personnel policy committee.
- c. Discussion on Roof and Gutter Repairs
Don Provost informed council that he had a company come out and do a detailed overview of City Hall’s roof. The company repaired all leaks for \$2,700. The city is in need of all gutters to be repaired. City Manager Don Provost is waiting on insurance to let us know what insurance will pay on repairing gutters.

- d. Ratification of City Councils Agreement with Chief Read at the Time of Hiring
Councilman Stephenson made a motion to not ratify. Councilwoman Prater seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/1 with Councilwoman Mahan, Councilwoman Cortez, Councilwoman Prater, and Councilman Stephenson voting for and Councilman Shannon voting against.
- e. Executive Session – In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section, §551.074 “Personnel Matters”, to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, duties, discipline, or dismissal regarding the Chief of Police and City Manager.
City Council entered into executive session at 7:17 p.m.
- f. Reconvene Open Session - in accordance with Texas Government Code, consider any action necessary regarding matters discussed in Executive Session.
City Council reconvened open session at 9:11 p.m.
Councilman Shannon made a motion to ratify the original employment agreement made with the Chief of Police Dwain Read. This agreement states the following:
 - 1. His immediate supervisor is the city council.
 - 2. Work hours and job description will stay the same.
 - 3. Chief Read has permission to live outside of the city limits and use the city issued police vehicle to commute.Councilwoman Mahan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 4/1 with Councilwoman Mahan, Councilwoman Cortez, Councilwoman Prater, and Councilman Shannon voting for and Councilman Stephenson voting against.
Mayor Johnson postponed City Manager Don Provost evaluation to Tuesday April 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment

Councilwoman Cortez made a motion to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Councilman Shannon seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5/0.

Mayor Ron Johnson

ATTEST

Krista Adames, City Secretary