THE CITY OF CISCO CITY COUNCIL, REGULAR CALLED MEETING April 13, 2020

CISCO, TEXAS	8
EASTLAND, COUNTY	8

The City Council of the City of Cisco met in a regular called session at the Cisco Council Chambers in Cisco as scheduled, and notice was posted 72 hours in advance and prior to the meeting.

MAYOR	TAMMY DOUGLAS
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE I	JASON WEGER (videoconference)
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE II	RYAN JOHNSON (videoconference)
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE III	WILLARD JOHNSON (videoconference)
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE IV	ANDY ESCOBEDO (videoconference)
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE V	STEPHEN FORESTER (videoconference)
COUNCILMEMBER PLACE VI	HEATHER BOLES (videoconference)
PERSONNEL PRESENT:	
CITY MANAGER	DARWIN ARCHER
CITY SECRETARY	TAMMY OSBORNE
DEDCONNEL ADCENT	

PERSONNEL ABSENT:

Guests:

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Douglas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. PLEDGES

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Pledge to the Texas Flag

III. INVOCATION:

Councilmember Forester gave the invocation.

IV. CITIZEN-VISITOR COMMENTS:

None

VI. THE CITY COUNCIL MAY DISCUSS AND/OR TAKE ACTION ON ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Consider and Discuss Utility Bill Late Fees, Disconnections, and Associated Fees.

Mr. Archer began by disclosing how neighboring cities are handling disconnections and late fees, saying most are looking at accounts on a case by case basis to determine assessment of late fees, and all but one city was not doing any disconnections. Councilmember Weger stated that he thought the best course of action would be to look at requests for waiver of late fees on a case by case basis based on hardships directly attributed to COVID-19, but to waive all disconnections during the emergency declaration. Councilmember Escobedo asked about the fees charged by the third party for process of credit cards, to which Mr. Archer stated that the Council could make decisions on that. Councilmember R. Johnson asked how determinations of hardship would be made and Mr. Archer explained that any documentation presented to the Texas Workforce Commission or from the employer would be sufficient to establish hardship related to the public health disaster. Both Councilmembers Escobedo and Forester clarified that the city would be waiving only late fees and disconnections and would still expect payment of utility bills as usual.

Motion was made by Councilmember Forester to waive late fees for customers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with proper documents on a case by case basis, second was made by Councilmember R. Johnson. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Councilmembers: Weger, R. Johnson, W. Johnson, Escobedo, Forester, Boles, Douglas

Navs: None/Motion Carries

Voted: 7 to 0 Absent:

Motion was made by Councilmember W. Johnson to not disconnect any customer affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with proper documentation until the expiration of the disaster declaration, second was made by Councilmember Weger. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Councilmembers: Weger, R. Johnson, W. Johnson, Escobedo, Forester, Boles, Douglas Ayes:

None/Motion Carries Nays:

Voted: 7 to 0 Absent:

B. Consider and Discuss Municipal Court Judge Applications.

Mr. Archer explained that court was closed indefinitely right now and obviously the interview process will be hindered by the disaster declaration. Councilmember Weger expressed the opinion that we should accept applications again even though the disaster declaration has court closed currently.

Motion was made by Councilmember Forester to accept applications through May 8, 2020 and review at the regularly scheduled meeting on May 11, 2020, second was made by Councilmember R. Johnson. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Councilmembers: Weger, R. Johnson, W. Johnson, Escobedo, Forester, Boles, Douglas

Nays: None/Motion Carries

Voted: 7 to 0

Absent:

C. Announcements from City Council.

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Councilmember Forester to adjourn, second made by Councilmember Boles. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

ATTEST:

Tammy Osborne, City Secretary

tammez Osborne

Tammy Douglas, Mayor **************************

Farmy Douglas