



**CITY OF WHITEWRIGHT  
City Council  
Regular Meeting  
MINUTES**

111 W. Grand  
June 05, 2018  
6:30 p.m.

The City of Whitewright met for a Called Meeting, Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Whitewright Visitors Center, the same being open to the public with the following members present:

Councilmember Sarah Beth Owen  
Councilmember Bart Bodine  
Councilmember Rick Magers  
Councilmember Randy Glover  
Councilmember George Fenner

Others present: Mayor Jamie Lawrence, City Secretary Tona Shippet, Gracy Owen, Mike Martin, Robyn Shippet, Barbara Hughes, Annette Snider, Anita Richardson, Bailey Richardson, Gwyn Jordan, Trinity Huffman, Kim V. Barnes, Wende Andrew, Aven Andrew, Sally O'Brien, Tabitha Perdue, Kathy Capps, James Shippet, Velma Montgomery, Benny Montgomery, Larry Threadgill, Amy Shaw, Shonda Latimer, Mark Kline, Matt Cook, Eric Prindle, June Gail Purdom, Quincy Ferrill, Kim Palmer, Mary Ann Starnes, Chris Douglas, Chris Ely, Brandon Latimer, Brian Owens, and Mike Herber.

**1. Call meeting** to Order and Establish a Quorum:

*Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and established a quorum. Councilmembers Owen, Magers, Bodine, and Fenner were present. Councilmember Glover attended via videoconference.*

**2. Invocation** and Pledge of Allegiance:

*Kenneth Franklin gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**3. Citizens Forum:** *(State law prohibits the City Council from considering or deliberating on any item not listed on the posted City Council agenda. A person may address the Council on items not on the printed agenda. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes. The Council may not comment or deliberate regarding such statements or comments during this period. Any discussion of the subjects must be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a future meeting. Sec. 551.042 of Open Meeting Act).*

June Gail Purdom spoke about the Sidewalk project. She said the 4A and 4B board were supposed to be given two weeks to review it, but it had only been one week, so voting on it in this meeting would be against the previous established decision of the council. She was in support of the grant if it was at all financially feasible, and that citizens should be given more info.

Gracy Owen spoke in favor of the Sidewalk grant, a Whitewright High School student, felt it would be beneficial for student safety.

Sally O'Brien asked the Council to consider whether or not the current sidewalks were ADA compliant in their discussion regarding the Sidewalk grant.

Mike Martin spoke about City audits not yet complying as a factor to consider. He was not against the project, but felt the timing was not good to spend a large sum of money when the City's financial situation is unclear.

Mike Herber spoke about the pressing needs for a new water well, and whether we should prioritize water needs over new sidewalks. He asked about the two projects – 80/20% match and the 100% paid – and how they overlap, since it has not been made clear which streets are included in the projects. He also said an audit should be completed before committing to funding the 20% match.

John Simon spoke in favor of the Sidewalk project.

James Shippet expressed concern that declining this grant could mean that the City might risk receiving future grants by not following through with this one. He also reiterated the council had previously tabled this item to give the 4A and 4B boards two weeks to review, and that time period has not yet passed.

**4. Consent Agenda:**

- \* Minutes from May 16, 2018 Called Council meeting.
- \* Current bills for payment.
- \* Review of May bills, June bills paid to date
- \* Departmental reports: Library, EMS, Police, Fire, Public Works, Court.
- \* Financials: Ad Volorum taxes received for the month of April.

*Councilmember George Fenner moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Owen seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**5. Action Items:**

**5a. Consider and act on accepting Randy Glover's resignation from the Board of Adjustments**

*Councilmember Owen made the motion to accept Randy Glover's resignation from the Board of Adjustments. Councilmember Rick Magers seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.*

**5b. Consider and act on the appointment of Diana Scott to replace Randy Glover on the Board of Adjustments**

*Councilmember Magers made the motion to appoint Diana Scott to replace Randy Glover on the Board of Adjustments. Councilmember Bodine seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

**5c. Consider and act upon Resolution declining acceptance of the Texas Transportation Commission TASA Program Award for the Whitewright Sidewalk project.**

*Councilmember Owen expressed concern about the lack of information provided to the council and board members to review as well as the previously voted upon two weeks for the WEDC and WCDC boards not being honored. In addition, she has spoken with Sid Newman from TXDOT and Michael Schmitz from the Antero Group about scaling back the TASA Program award to reduce cost, in light of other funds from TXDOT for sidewalks that will pay for 100% of the cost and overlaps the proposed sidewalks from the TASA program, which is an 80/20% split cost.*

*Councilmember Owen made a motion against the Resolution declining the acceptance of the TASA Program Award for the Whitewright Sidewalk project, and to table the request until the WEDC and WCDC boards have had time to review the information and meet. Councilmember Fenner seconded. Councilmember Glover asked the motion be amended to just table the item, Councilmembers Owen and Fenner reiterated their motion and second to table the motion. Councilmember Bodine acknowledged the need for sidewalks, but felt a review of the overlap of the two sidewalk projects was necessary to reduce cost, and as the President of the 4B board, he could not vote for the Resolution until both boards have had time to review and vote. Councilmember Magers also acknowledged the need for sidewalks, but was concerned about the cost and that during his campaign no citizens mentioned sidewalks as an issue. Councilmember Fenner reiterated the need for the boards to review, and addressed the concerns some had that if the TASA Sidewalk project was not funded, then it would mean other projects could not also be funded, stating that other projects have been done in the past by the City, WEDC, and WCDC boards without affecting the operation of the City. He also felt review of the overlap and possibly downsizing the TASA project was needed, and that while sidewalks might not be a top priority, the grant could be a stepping stone towards funding other projects.*

*Motion carried 5-0 to table the item.*

**6. Informational Reports: (These reports are for information only. No discussion is appropriate unless there is a specific item listed below or there is a request that the item be placed on a subsequent agenda as a discussion and action item.**

Sec. 551.0415 of Open Meetings Act):

**6a. Mayor's Report:**

Update on Projects: Schedule Planning Meeting and future Townhall Meeting

*A budget workshop was scheduled for June 12 at 6:30 PM.*

New Projects:

**Concerns:**

*Councilmember Owen expressed concerns about timely communications from the Mayor and City Hall regarding the sidewalk projects.*

*Councilmember Magers spoke about the need for transparency for this project and all aspects of City business.*

*Mayor Lawrence apologized for the council concerns regarding distribution of information, and will be more aware of this in the future, and is scheduled for a Mayor's workshop in August to learn more about procedures.*

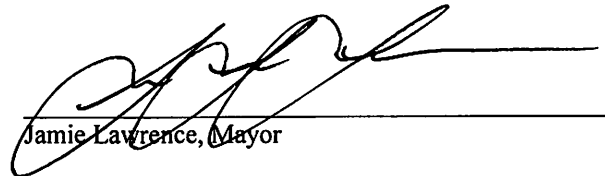
**6c. Future Agenda Items:**

**7. Adjourn:**

*Councilmember Magers made the motion to adjourn. Councilmember Bodine seconded. Motion carried 5-0.*

ATTEST BY:

  
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Tona Shiplet, City Secretary

  
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Jamie Lawrence, Mayor