

**THE CITY OF CISCO  
CITY COUNCIL, REGULAR CALLED MEETING  
October 28, 2024**

**CISCO, TEXAS           §  
EASTLAND, COUNTY §**

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.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<b>MAYOR</b>	<b>STEPHEN FORESTER</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE I</b>	<b>JASON WHETSTONE</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE II</b>	<b>ROBERT JOHNSTON</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE IV</b>	<b>NATHAN BRUNER</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE V</b>	<b>CHRIS JOHNSON</b>
<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE VI</b>	<b>TRAVIS TOOF</b>

**PERSONNEL PRESENT:**

<b>CITY SECRETARY</b>	<b>TAMMY OSBORNE</b>
-----------------------	----------------------

**PERSONNEL ABSENT:**

<b>COUNCILMEMBER PLACE III</b>	<b>WILLARD JOHNSON</b>
<b>INTERIM CITY MANAGER</b>	<b>PEGGY LEDBETTER</b>

Guests: Ervin Light, Barbara Light, Scott Stevens, Dan Brook, Thelma Thompson, Teresa Slaughter, Jay Slaughter, Donna Williamson, Brian Williamson, Tom Serfas, Paul Flores, Kenneth Preston, Walter Fairbanks, Richard Butler, Steve Livingston, Clyde Wule, Cody Langford, Justin Jaworski

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Mayor Forester 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 Whetstone gave the invocation.

**IV. CITIZEN-VISITOR COMMENTS:**

None.

**V. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING CONDUCTED ON:**

- **October 15, 2024**

Motion was made by Councilmember Johnston to approve the minutes as presented, second was made by Councilmember Toof. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

## **VI. QUARTERLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

- Quarterly Police Department Report-Chief Kenneth Preston presented the Quarterly Police Department Report.
- Quarterly Fire Department Report-Chief Fairbanks presented the Quarterly Fire Department Report.
- Quarterly Court Report-Judge Butler presented the Quarterly Court Report.
- Quarterly Public Works Report-Paul Flores presented the Quarterly Public Works Report.
- Quarterly Street Department Report-Anthony Koch presented the Quarterly Street Department Report.
- Quarterly Water Treatment Plant Report-Jacob Irby presented the Quarterly Water Treatment Plant Report.
- Quarterly Cisco Development Corporation Report-Justin Jaworski presented the Quarterly Cisco Development Corporation Report

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

### **A. Consider and Discuss Specific Use Permit for 1001 W. 7<sup>th</sup> St.—Jay Slaughter**

Mr. Slaughter addressed the Council saying he wanted to place of 50 foot radio antennae on his property. Mayor Forester asked about safety concerns and how the tower would be constructed and whether or not the radio would interfere with neighbors. Councilmember C. Johnson said that he would be ok with the placement indicated as ‘placement B’ on the drawing, but would not vote in favor of ‘placement A’.

Motion was made by Councilmember Whetstone to approve the permit with ‘placement B’, second was made by Councilmember Johnston. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

### **B. Consider and Discuss Request for Abandonment of Easement 100 Block of Ave. P.—Brian Williamson**

Mrs. Osborne presented the Council with a request for an easement abandonment in the 100 Block of Avenue P between W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street and W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, saying that the current property owners have been using the easement as a driveway and were not aware that there was a right of way there. She further stated that if abandoned, half of the 60 foot right of way would go to each adjacent property owner, however, it should be noted that one adjacent property owner had not submitted a letter of approval as required by the application. The Council had much discussion regarding granting the application without all property owner’s being represented.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bruner to approve the abandonment of easement as presented, second was made by Councilmember Johnston. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, Toof  
Nays: C. Johnson, Forester/Motion Carries  
Voted: 4 to 2  
Absent: W. Johnson

### **C. Consider and Discuss Grant of License for 600 Ave. I.—Mary Kay Williamson**

Mrs. Osborne explained that Mrs. Williamson wished to widen her driveway which would require her to cut the curb so she would need this permission to proceed.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to approve the Grant of License as presented, second was made by Councilmember Whetstone. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

**D. Consider and Discuss Community Wildfire Defense Grant.—Kevin Coleman**

Mrs. Osborne presented the Council with the recently approved Community Wildfire Defense Grant, saying that the City of Cisco would be the main subrecipient with the ‘sister cities’ being Eastland, Ranger, and Carbon for wildfire mitigation. She went on to explain that if the city was not willing to be the main grant recipient that all of the cities would lose out on the nine million dollar award. She stated that in light of recent financial concerns the city was facing, there was opportunity to enter into agreements with the sister cities that might ease financial burdens of facilitating the grant. At this time, Mayor Forester engaged Mr. Coleman of Langford Community Management Services by telephone conference call who further explained the details of the grant.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to move forward with the planning of the grant between the other cities, second was made by Councilmember Bruner. The vote was as follows:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

**E. Consider and Discuss Ordinance No. 0-2024-13**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 13 “MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC” OF THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 13.53 “PARKING TIME LIMITS ESTABLISHED”; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF ENFORCEMENT. *(Second Reading)***

Motion was made by Johnston to approve the ordinance as presented, second was made by Councilmember Whetstone. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Toof, Forester  
Nays: Bruner, C. Johnson/Motion Carries  
Voted: 4 to 2  
Absent: W. Johnson

**F. Consider and Discuss Ordinance No. 0-2024-14**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS AMENDING APPENDIX A “ZONING” OF THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES; SPECIFICALLY SECTION 23 “DESCRIPTIONS/ DEFINITIONS OF USES” ADDING A DEFINITION OF A MOBILE FOOD UNIT (FOOD TRUCK) AND MOBILE FOOD UNIT/FOOD TRUCK PARK; SECTION 24 “SPECIAL USES”, ADDING REGULATIONS FOR MOBILE FOOD UNIT/FOOD TRUCK PARKS; AND SECTION 22 “SCHEDULE OF USES” REGULATING THE PLACEMENT OF MOBILE FOOD UNITS AND MOBILE FOOD UNIT/FOOD TRUCK PARKS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. *(Second Reading)***

Motion was made by Councilmember Bruner to approve the ordinance as presented, second was made by Councilmember Johnston. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

The Council requested a short recess at 7:46 p.m.

The Council reconvened from the recess at 7:52 p.m.

**G. Consider and Discuss Resolution No. 2024-10-28**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS, REGARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING “WATER METER INSTALLATION”.**

Mayor Forester explained the resolution would cover the outstanding cost of installing the new water meters. Councilmember C. Johnson had questions regarding the separation of the contracts with Atlas Supply and US Bronco and expressed his skepticism at the legality of paying the invoice if the Council did not approve the contract change. Councilmember Toof echoed this sentiment by saying that it was incumbent upon US Bronco to prove up the costs that were owed with proper documentation.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to table the resolution pending consultation with attorney, second was made by Councilmember Toof. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof  
Nays: Forester/Motion Carries  
Voted: 5 to 1  
Absent: W. Johnson

**H. Consider and Discuss Resolution No. 2024-10-28-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CISCO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (“BUYER”) OF CISCO, TEXAS, TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT TO ACQUIRE AN APPROXIMATELY 0.69-ACRE TRACT OF LAND BEING A PORTION OF AN ABANDONED RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY OF THE ORIGINAL TOWN OF CISCO, EASTLAND COUNTY, TEXAS, ATTACHED HERETO AS EXHIBIT “A” (“PROPERTY”), FROM DAN BROOK (“SELLER”).**

Mr. Jaworski presented the resolution to the Council.

Motion was made by Councilmember Toof to approve the resolution as presented, second was made by Councilmember C. Johnson. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: Bruner/Motion Carries  
Voted: 5 to 1  
Absent: W. Johnson

**I. Consider and Discuss Resolution No. 2024-10-28-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CISCO, TEXAS (“CITY”), APPROVING (I) THE RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CISCO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (“CORPORATION”) REGARDING A LOAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$275,000.00; (II) A SALES TAX REMITTANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE CORPORATION; (III) RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO THE LOAN; AND (IV) THE AUTHORITY OF THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, A GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF THE CITY AND THE SALES TAX REMITTANCE AGREEMENT.**

Mr. Jaworski again addressed the Council with the resolution and Sales Tax Remittance Agreement for financing half of the cost of the new park. Mayor Forester asked about the recitals in the Sales Tax Remittance Agreement that identify the project as improvement to city roads, water, wastewater and gas. Mr. Jaworski said that the documents were drawn up by Government Capital and he did not know why they had defined this project this way. Mrs. Osborne stated that the resolution and agreement had been reviewed by the City Attorney and he raised the same issue with the definition of the “project” not being accurate.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to approve the resolution as presented, second was made by Councilmember Toof. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

**J. Consider and Discuss Appointing Member to the Cisco Development Corporation Board.**

Mr. Jaworski recommended appointing Val Loftin to the Cisco Development Corporation Board.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to appoint Val Loftin to the Cisco Development Corporation Board, second was made by Councilmember Toof. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

**K. Consider and Discuss Eastland County Cooperative Ambulance Service Contract.**

Mayor Forester indicated that the County had still not received the amended contract yet and they recommend tabling the item once more.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to table the item pending amendment, second was made by Councilmember Whetstone. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

**L. Consider and Discuss Appointing Emergency Management Coordinator, Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, and Public Information Officer.**

Chief Fairbanks explained that any time there was a change in these appointed positions, all of the positions must be re-appointed. He said he is the Emergency Management Coordinator, he recommends that Chief Preston be the Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator and Tammy Osborne is the Public Information Officer.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bruner to appoint Chief Walter Fairbanks as the Emergency Management Coordinator, Chief Kenneth Preston as the Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator, and Tammy Osborne as the Public Information Officer, second was made by Councilmember Johnston. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

**M. Consider and Discuss Appointing Members to the Finance Committee and Potentially Setting Meeting Schedule.**

Mayor Forester invited Mr. Tom Serfass to speak as he had been asked by Councilmember Johnston to volunteer for the committee. Councilmember Toof recommended Tifani York and Councilmember C. Johnson recommended Sarah Adams.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to appoint Tom Serfass, Tifani York, and Sarah Adams to the Finance Committee, second was made by Councilmember Toof. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

Councilmember C. Johnson further indicated that he felt the Council should consult with the City Attorney regarding the scope and authority of the committee.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to convene the committee within the next two weeks, second was made by Councilmember Johnston. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

**N. Consider and Discuss Declaring Items as Surplus and Putting Surplus Items up for Auction and Discuss Disposition of Items Previously Declared as Surplus That Did Not Sell.**

Mr. Koch presented a lengthy list of items that were not in use currently and in an effort to raise funds and clean up the city yard, he asked the Council to declare them as surplus and allow the items to be auctioned or at the discretion of the Public Works Director and the Street Department Supervisor to be scrapped.

Motion was made by Councilmember C. Johnson to declare the items as surplus and offer them for sale at auction or if they do not sell, to dispose of them at the Public Works Director and the Street Department Supervisor's discretion, second was made by Councilmember Bruner. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

Chief Preston also addressed the Council regarding surplus vehicles saying that one is a city owned vehicle that could be sold at auction with the proceeds benefitting the city. However, he pointed out that the second was purchased with drug seizure funds which, if sold, would require those funds to go back into the drug seizure account for use on very specific items. Instead, he proposes to trade the second vehicle to a local mechanic who does work on the Police Department vehicles for credit on future vehicle repairs.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bruner to declare vehicles as surplus, offer the Tahoe up for auction and trade the Caprice for credit on future vehicle repairs, second was made by Councilmember Whetstone. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Whetstone, Johnston, Bruner, C. Johnson, Toof, Forester  
Nays: None/Motion Carries  
Voted: 6 to 0  
Absent: W. Johnson

**O. Consider and Discuss Update on City's Financial Status.**

Mayor Forester shared that contingency funds were used to make an extra payment to the Cisco Development Corporation and to Republic Services. He further stated that the Certificate of Deposit has matured and been liquidated and has not been used on anything yet to hopefully provide a cushion. There is no update on the investigation by the Texas Rangers as they have not made contact with the city yet, but, Chief Preston clarified that they had at least been notified by the District Attorney of the issue at hand. Mayor Forester additionally presented a tentative repayment plan to catch up with CDC and Republic Services. Councilmember C. Johnson said that he felt like the only option was to have the current budget brought back to the Council to review for potential amendments and all members agreed.

No action was taken on this item.

**P. Consider and Discuss Long Range Planning**

Mrs. Osborne reminded the Council that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 since that Monday city offices will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day.

**Q. Announcements for City Council.**

Councilmember C. Johnson reminded the City Secretary about the items he would like to see on the next agenda.

# **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Councilmember Toof to adjourn, second made by Councilmember Johnston. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

## **ATTEST:**



---

**Tammy Osborne, City Secretary**



---

**Stephen Forester, Mayor**

