



City of Hawkins
City Council Minutes
March 04, 2024



On this day March 04, 2024, at 6:00 pm, Mayor Pro Tem Cuck Richoz called a Special City Council meeting to order with council members Greg Branson, Eric Maloy, Eleta Taylor and Clara Kay. The department heads present were: Norma Hallmark, Mandy Thomas, Bucky Elkins, Guy McKee, and Mike Maberry.

Jeff Karlson gave the invocation.

U.S. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz.

Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz declared a nonstandard agenda to make modifications as desired. Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz said the agenda has to be approved. Councilmember Clara Kay made a motion to move Item #6 to Item #10 on the agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz stated we are following Roberts Rule of Order. Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz seconded the motion. Councilmember Greg Branson and Councilmember Eric Maloy opposed moving the items on the agenda. Councilmember Eleta Taylor and Councilmember Clara Kay for moving the items on the agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz broke the tie, and voted for moving the items on agenda.

Citizens of the community were at the meeting and will not comment until the agenda item.

Councilmember Eleta Taylor made a motion to approve the building permit at 197 Burton Road Hawkins, Texas 75765 for a manufactured home; seconded by Councilmember Clara Kay. The motion carried.

Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz called for an Executive Session per 551.074 (Personal Matters) at 6:17pm. Debbie Rushing stated that the Executive Session was illegal. Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz has a different interpretation of the Executive Session 551.074 (Personal Matters) laws.

Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz stated the attorney interviews in public. The Lawyer from Tyler, Texas, Blake Armstrong has been a municipal city attorney for 26 years. Attorney Blake Armstrong stated "It's clear to me that issues you all are facing right now are simple going to be to much for me to handle. I don't have time in my schedule to deal with some of the issues that I can tell are present here, some which might be legal and some are probably not legal. So, it will not be fair to this council or to the city for me to remain in consideration for this job and not be able to fulfill my responsibilities. I can tell by the tone in the room, the meeting that there is a lot going on in Hawkins, Texas right now. So, I appreciate the opportunity but I'm going to respectfully withdrawal my name for consideration Thank you for the opportunity to present myself." The other applicant is Nicole Corr. Councilmember Clara Kay made a motion to table the City Attorney until March 18, 2024 City Council Meeting. Councilmember Clara Kay stated for the record that the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem is to set the agenda not City Secretary. Councilmember Eric Maloy seconded the motion. The motion carried.



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Chief of Police Guy McKee stated “he drives the 2018 Ford Explorer to Mineola, Texas. Officer Eric Tuma stated “he was on call a half year, and he drives the 2005 Chevrolet Pickup and it is not reliable. If I get called out in the middle of the night, and someone gets killed, it’s going to be on you all.” Councilmember Greg Branson made a motion to reject Chief of Police Guy McKee on buying a used police car. Councilmember Eric Maloy seconded the motion. Councilmember Eleta Taylor and Councilmember Clara Kay abstained from voting. Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz abstained from voting. The motion did not pass. Councilmember Clara Kay tabled Chief of Police Guy McKee on buying s used police car. Councilmember Eleta Taylor seconded the motion. Councilmembers Greg Branson and Eric Maloy voted against the motion. Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz opposed the motion. The motion did not pass. Councilmember Greg Branson made a motion to reconsider rejecting Chief of Police Guy McKee on buying a used police car. Councilmember Clara Kay seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Councilmember Greg Branson made a motion to table Computer Issues (Texas Senate Bill 271-Texas Government Cybersecurity Incident Reporting until March 18, 2024 City Council Meeting. Councilmember Eric Maloy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Councilmember Clara Kay made a motion to not appoint Debbie Rushing to fill the remaining Mayor term until May 2024 per Texas Local Government Code Section 22.010 and would be best she waited until the May 2024 election. Councilmember Eleta Taylor seconded the motion. Councilmembers Greg Branson and Eric Maloy voted against Councilmember Clara Kay motion. Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Richoz broke the tie by voting for Councilmember Clara Kay motion. The motion carried not to appoint Debbie Rushing to fill remaining Mayor term until May 2024 per Texas Local Government Code Section 22.010.

Councilmember Eleta Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilmember Eric Maloy. The motion carried.

Chuck Maloy
Chuck Richoz, Mayor Pro Tem

3/19/2024
Date

Attest:


Mandy K. Thomas, City Secretary