

City of Eden
Regular Session

The City Council of the City of Eden met in regular session Tuesday December 10, 2019 in the council chambers of City Hall.

Mayor & City Council Members

Mayor Agapito Torres
Councilmember Wade Ellison
Councilmember Luz Saavedra

Councilmember Jennifer Torres
Councilmember Grover Hall
Councilmember Eddy Markham

City Staff/Appointed Officials

City Admin Celina Hemmeter
Public Works Supervisor Rodney Castleberry
Court Clerk Lisa Evans
City Attorney Jeff Betty

REPORTS OF OTHER AGENCIES, COMMISSIONS & STAFF

Craig Pfluger-Economic Development –
Craig updated Council on current projects and all rentals and loans are current and up to date. Phase 3 of the Warehouse Business District is about to begin and will include water and sewer lines to each of the buildings. Currently working on a plan and placement for the digital sign. The former Methodist Church is being worked on- beginning to repair the electrical and HVAC.

WORKSHOP

Public Works Supervisor Rodney Castleberry-**Absent**

Richard Doane gave the invocation

PRESENTATION BY CITIZENS

None

CONSENT ITEMS

Councilperson Hall requested that item C be pulled from the consent Items for discussion. Celina explained that the payments for the detention center were not coming in order because some have been rejected and have had to be resubmitted. Celina is working on this with Dana Torres at CoreCivic. The amount in the account is equal to the funds received through the end of November.

Celina stated that the minutes for item A were not included but will be next month.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve Consent items B, seconded by Councilperson Ellison, motion carried.

Councilperson Hall made a motion to approve Consent Item C, seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried.

- A. Approval of November 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of Financial Statement Month Ending November 2019
- C. Approval of City of Eden Investment Report Month Ending November 2019

BUSINESS ITEMS

Manny Garcia made a presentation on behalf of Bill Baker of Nextlink Internet regarding business item A. Discussion and possible action on given presentation. Nextlink would like to make a proposal for installing equipment on the City's tower in the Industrial Park. Councilperson Hall made a motion to defer action until questions can be answered, motion failed without a second. Councilperson Markham made a motion to authorize Celina to pursue negotiations with Nextlink, seconded by Councilperson Ellison, motion carried.

Craig Pfluger and Stacey McIntyre of Fastsigns gave information on business item B. Digital sign options and funding collaboration, Craig would like to see the additional funding for the project to be shared by the EEDC, Spirit of Eden and the City. The amount needed for the sign is \$28,000 in addition to the insurance payment. Placement options are being explored and include the original location as well as the flag park area. Craig will meet with the VFW to discuss. Councilperson Ellison made a motion for the City to fund up to \$8,000 towards the project seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve Business Item C. TexPool Enrollment; Authorizing City Administrator to submit required forms, seconded by Councilperson Torres, motion carried.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve Business Item D. Resolution Authorizing Participation in the TexPool Investment Pools and designating Authorized Representatives (City Administrator and Mayor), seconded by Councilperson Torres, motion carried.

Councilperson Ellison made a motion to approve Business Item E. Resolution Adopting Investment Policy, seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve Business Item F. Resolution Expressing Intent to Finance Expenditures to be Incurred, seconded by Councilperson Hall, motion carried.

Councilperson Ellison made a motion to approve Business Item G. Spirit of Eden Grant Request for Beautification committee: Banners for downtown lamp posts/new lamps for Rudder Park, seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to approve Business Item H. November 2019 Bills, seconded by Councilperson Hall, motion carried.

Council discussed Business Item I. Discussion and possible action regarding one time annual merit pay or longevity pay policy.

Councilperson Markham made a motion to continue with merit pay as done in the past, motion died for lack of a second.

Attorney Betty suggested that a longevity pay policy was not a good idea because it would be a required payment each year. He suggested that the merit pay be tied to an annual review so that it would not be viewed as a bonus. It was discussed that two people in addition to the employee being reviewed sit in on each review.

Councilperson Hall made a motion to approve Business Item I. one time annual merit pay up to \$500 per employee based upon a review, a report will be given to Council at the January meeting as to how the funds were allocated. Rodney will review his staff and the Mayor will review Celina, Celina will review Lisa, Cheryl and Rodney, seconded by Councilperson Markham, motion carried

Mayor Torres called an executive session citing Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) and 551.086 (Economic Development)

Council returned to Regular Session

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Agapito Torres- Mayor

Celina Hemmeter, City Administrator