

MINUTES
Irving City Council Work Session
Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 12:00 PM
City Hall, First Floor, Council Conference Room
825 West Irving Boulevard, Irving, TX 75060

The Irving City Council met in work session on January 14, 2021 at approximately 12:00 p.m. The following members were present/absent:

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Mayor Rick Stopfer	Irving City Council	Mayor	Present	
John C. Danish	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Allan Meagher	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Mark Zeske	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Phil Riddle	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
J. Oscar Ward	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Al Zapanta	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Kyle Taylor	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	
Wm David Palmer	Irving City Council	Councilman	Present	

DISCUSSION TOPIC

1 Citizen Comments on Items Listed on the Agenda

No one signed up to speak at this meeting.

2 City Operations Update

- EPA Green Power Partnership

Melissa Baker, Transportation Project Manager, provided an overview of the EPA Green Power Partnership.

Rebecca Taylor with the EPA provided an overview of the EPA Green Power Partnership and presented the City with the Certificate of Partnership.

- COVID-19 Update and City Response

Jason Carriere, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented an update on the COVID-19 pandemic and the City's response. He also provided information on the vaccine rollout plan for City employees.

Council discussed the importance of communicating the vaccine process to the residents.

- CARES Act Funding Update

Tony Cao, Assistant to the City Manager, described how the CARES Act funding has been used by the City to reimburse for COVID-related city expenses.

Imelda Speck, Economic Development Project Administrator, gave details on the qualifications for childcare assistance.

Shanae Jennings, City Secretary, presented an On the Spot Award to Ben Toon, Senior Library Services Manager, for assisting on the night of the Presidential Election to reopen the Valley Ranch Library so election officials could retrieve election equipment in the middle of the night.

3 Fiscal Year 2022 Employee and Retiree Compensation and Benefits Discussion Series

- Pension Obligation Bonds Discussion

Rob Collins with Bracewell presented additional information on the bond process.

- Supplemental Benefits Plan Overview

Jeff Litchfield, Chief Financial Officer, gave an overview of the current Supplemental Benefits Plan, additional information on a proposed 457 Plan, and updated information pension obligation bonds. The presentation also outlined the City Manager's recommendation which included creation of a second tier, use of pension obligation bonds, and establishing a risk sharing plan.

Councilman Ward asked for examples of risk sharing plans.

Council and staff discussed the City's exposure and how to increase the financial sustainability for employee benefits.

- Texas Municipal Retirement System Overview

Colin Davidson with the Texas Municipal Retirement System presented an overview of the Texas Municipal Retirement System (TMRS). The presentation included key facts about TMRS, plan provisions, how monthly payments are calculated, the profile of the average retiree, and additional benefits.

Councilman Palmer asked for a comparison between SBP disability and TMRS disability.

Jeff Litchfield, Chief Financial Officer, described various scenarios that illustrates disability benefits paid out by TMRS and how they are supplemented by SBP.

Council and staff discussed various retirement options with TMRS.

Mr. Litchfield outlined the pension obligation bonds related to TMRS.

Council recessed at approximately 2:37 p.m.

Council reconvened at approximately 3:05 p.m.

- Future Fiscal Years

Jeff Litchfield, Chief Financial Officer, provided cost projections and savings for employee benefits over the five years.

Council and staff discussed restructuring existing debt and expected cost savings due to current low interest rates.

Council discussed how the future bond election and pension obligation bonds will affect the City's debt capacity.

4 Irving Future in Focus (Budget, Services & 5-Year Outlook): Irving Police Department

Chris Hillman, City Manager, gave an overview of the Future in Focus program which provides information on all the City's services and the associated budget considerations for the next five years.

Jeff Spivey, Police Chief, presented the Police Department's current budget, services, and a five-year outlook for the department related to personnel, proposed service enhancements, and budgetary needs.

Sam Hall, Assistant Police Chief, described the field operations bureau division.

Brian Redburn, Assistant Police Chief, outlined the investigative services bureau division.

Darren Steele, Assistant Police Chief, detailed the administrative services bureau division.

Council and staff discussed the needs of the Police Department, especially reinstating funds for training.

5 Update on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) COVID-19 Funds

Councilman Taylor abstained from this discussion and has filed an abstention affidavit with the City Secretary's Office.

DeLiza Gierling, Community Development Manager, presented an update on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG-CV) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV) COVID-19 Funds. She confirmed there are medium income calculations for families and described the emergency rental payment assistance program.

6 Texas Emergency Rental Assistance Program

This item was related to Item No. 16 on the regular agenda and not discussed separately at this meeting.

7 Review of Regular Agenda

CONSENT AGENDA

- 10** Resolution -- Approving a Professional Service Agreement Between the City of Irving and Freese and Nichols, Inc., in the Amount of \$1,424,500.00, for the Drainage Analysis, Alignment Study and Environmental Permitting of the West Irving Creek Channel Improvements Project

Councilman Riddle asked about the status of the drainage study at Wyche Park.

Walt Thomas, City Engineer, confirmed that the study was completed, and staff is working on finalizing the design work to improve the basin and outlet for the detention area.

- 29** Ordinance -- Calling a Regular Municipal Election to be Held on Saturday, May 1, 2021, for the Purpose of Electing City Council Places Four (4), Six (6) and Eight (8), and Calling a Subsequent Run-Off Election, If Necessary

Kuruvilla Oommen, City Attorney, provided information on the Charter provisions related to petition requirements and the corresponding Election Code. He confirmed that additional review will be conducted to see if the Governor's orders allow any exceptions for petitions.

Council and staff discussed the petition and candidate qualification requirements outlined in the Charter.

APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

- 31** Mayor's Report

Mayor Stopfer asked for an update on the compensation study.

James Childers, Assistant City Manager, provided an update on the compensation study, noting over 1,000 employees have completed the job questionnaire and the consultant is reviewing that information.

8 Irving Fire Department Central Station

This item was not discussed at this meeting.

9 Corridor Enhancement Improvement Program Application for Properties Located at 2520 & 1711 W. Irving Blvd.

This item was not discussed at this meeting.

10 Sale of Property at 303, 309,317, 321 East Second Street to Housing Channel, LLC

Imelda Speck, Economic Development Project Administrator, outlined the proposed Sale of Property at 303, 309,317, 321 East Second Street to Housing Channel, LLC for an affordable housing project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council convened into executive session pursuant Section 551.087 of the Texas Local Government Code to discuss the below item at approximately 5:54 p.m.

**11 Economic Development Negotiations - Project Cool Air –
Open Meetings Act § 551.087**

Council adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Richard H. Stopfer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shanae Jennings, TRMC
City Secretary