

**CITY OF WINONA**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**520 Dallas St. Winona, TX**  
**Tuesday November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

**MINUTES**

**On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2023, the Winona City Council convened at the Community Center located at 520 Dallas St, Winona, Texas at 6:30 pm in a Regular City Council Meeting. The meeting was open to the public and the following were present:**

**Members Present:** Mayor Rachel Moreno, Alderman Craig Attaway, Alderman Gary Fox, Alderman Laney Barnes, Alderman Dee Roden

**Members Absent:** Alderman Pat Land

**Guest Present:** David Beck, Fontayn Beck, Thomas Banks, Miranda Banks, Craig McCollum, Shanne Clark, Lathan Pilcher, Ronnie Pilcher

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

**FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Roll Call. Public notice of this meeting has been given and a quorum is present.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION**

At this time Mayor Rachel Moreno asked everyone to observe in the Pledge of Allegiance and visitor David Beck gave the invocation prayer.

**C. VISITORS OPEN FORUM**

Fonteyn Beck spoke at this time on the vulnerability of Winona and asked the Council to address the need for a true city plan to protect the growth of Winona's future. Become proactive instead of reactive. David Beck spoke at this time about the development at 620 Dallas St (packet handed out) stated needing a legal opinion on development if it is admissible to proceed forward on this project. Thomas Banks spoke at this time to say that he is a new resident in Owentown and on 11/02 his gas services were cut off for non-payment. He is requesting the council to change the policy to at least notify customers of disconnects. Seeking a refund of late fees and reconnect fees. Lathen Pilcher spoke at this time regarding the development at 620 Dallas St. The roads will be private roads within the development. Winona is a poor community and can barely afford a 1200sqft home, much less the ability to build a 2-story home. Some lots inside the city really are not big enough to build 1200sqft. There were no other speakers after this closing out the visitor's open forum.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**1. Approval of October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Minute**

Alderman Laney Barnes made the motion to approve the October 17<sup>th</sup> minutes and seconded by Alderman Gary Fox.

All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

**E. APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS:**

**1. Approval of Financials**

No Financials

**F. MONTHLY REPORTS OR UPDATES:**

**1. Utility Department**

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a) **Monthly report:** Craig McCollum gave an update on the utility department. Water loss held to the same as last month, installed 4 water meters and replaced 6, installed 4 gas meters in Nolan Farms, we got the bids in for the concrete to replace the retaining wall at City Hall, a 24x24 pad for a pavilion at the park, and a pad for the generator for well #5 (Tower), repaired water leaks, the shop is looking good and has been cleaned up. We did receive the CDBG Grant of \$500,000 to redo about 5 roads within the city.

**2. Park/City Beautification**

Updated by Alderman Dee Roden. Got the Christmas decorations up at the park for Christmas. Wanda, Karen, Phyllis, and Shanna volunteered to help get the decorations set up. Working on adding more decorations and finishing the tree in the park. Brother Earl stopped by to discuss the parade. The wild women of Winona are doing a fundraiser for the park and there is a jar up at City Hall for those who would like to participate in the fundraiser.

**3. Mayor Updates**

a) **Update on permits submitted for processing.**

The only permits have been for solar, Pecan Grove, and generators.

b) **Clean-up around town**

Smith County came in and talked to several places that needed to be cleaned up around town and we have seen progress on cleaning up of some of these problematic buildings.

**G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. Discussion and possible action to update Ordinance 221 Establishing Square Foot Minimum for single family homes to input verbiage to include offsite built homes/structures and to include verbiage to build upward if a lot is too small to fit a 1200sqft home/structure.**

Alderman Gary Fox made the motion to table until next meeting and seconded by Alderman Craig Attaway.

All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

**H. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*The City Council reserves the right to convene into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed above, as authorized by the Texas Open Meeting Act, Government Code, Section 551.071 (Consult with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personal Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and 551.087 (Economic Development). This session is a closed session.*

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Craig Attaway made the motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:23 pm.

Seconded by Alderman Gary Fox.

All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to come before the council, this meeting was adjourned.

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Rachel Moreno, Mayor

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Deana Powell, City Secretary