



**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
CITY OF ODESSA, TEXAS**

June 27, 2023

On June 27, 2023, a work session meeting of the Odessa City Council was held at 3:00 p.m., Council Chamber, fifth floor, City Hall, 411 W. 8th St., Odessa, Texas.

City Council present: Mayor Javier Joven; Council members: Mark Matta, District One; Steven P. Thompson, District Two; Gilbert Vasquez, District Three; Greg Connell, District Four; Chris Hanie, District Five; and Denise Swanner, At-Large.

Staff present: Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, City Secretary; Agapito Bernal, Interim City Manager; Dan Jones, City Attorney; and other members of City staff.

A quorum being present, Mayor Joven called the meeting to order, and the following proceedings were held:

Mayor Joven gave the invocation.

Motion was made by Council member Thompson and seconded by Council member Swanner to suspend the rules and move item eight to item three. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Joven, Matta, Thompson, Vasquez, Connell, Hanie, and Swanner
Nay: None

Discuss removing Discover Odessa from the Chamber of Commerce. Motion was made by Council member Hanie and seconded by Council member Connell to table the item.

Motion was made by Council member Thompson and seconded by Council member Matta to amend the motion to table indefinitely. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Joven, Matta, Thompson, Vasquez, Connell, Hanie, and Swanner
Nay: None

Bright Star Memorial Plaza update. Randy Ham, Odessa Arts Executive Director, provided a recap for the Bright Star Memorial Plaza to memorialize and heal from the tragedy. The Bright Star was a cylinder with the names and quotes from loved ones that would be placed at UTPB. The site is off Loop 338 by the sports complex and would have two walking paths. The landscape was being designed and be completed by August 2024. The funding was from City and private funds.

Discuss an economic development agreement between the Odessa Development Corporation and Border State Industries. Kris Crow, ODC President, stated that the Border State was a wholesale facility in Ector County that would increase jobs by retaining 26 employees and add seven new jobs. Border State would provide a \$1,632,480 annual payroll over the five years of the economic development agreement. The company would make a capital investment of \$10.5 million. The ODC grant over five years was \$970,660.

The company was expanding. An auditing company would verify the investment and payroll.

Discuss replacement/upgrade of leaf network switches and core network switches as part of city-wide infrastructure improvement project. Tony Flores, IT Supervisor, stated that upgrade in switches would be done to provide expanded monitoring capabilities, and the future proof network expansion. The cost was \$302,556.45 which was the first of two purchases to complete the project. The switches would ensure communication, function properly, and replace the aging infrastructure. James Kenimer, IT Supervisor, stated that the switches would improve the protocols.

Discuss the asbestos abatement for old Fire Station #6. Mr. Bernal reported that the cost for the asbestos abatement was \$365,538.46. Mayor Joven stated that the asbestos was in the glue, carpet, living area and dorm rooms. Mr. Jones stated that the three options to sell was by a real estate, public auction or sealed bid. Council had a consensus to sell the building.

Discuss setting up a 501(c)(3) organization or a foundation to accept money on behalf of the sport complex. Mr. Jones stated that Council needed to set up the board of directors for the sports complex and provide the name of the foundation. He suggested that each member of the Council appoint a director for the board. Council would consider the appointments and naming the foundation on the July 11 Council meeting.

Motion was made by Council member Swanner and seconded by Council member Vasquez to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Joven, Matta, Thompson, Vasquez, Connell, Hanie, and Swanner
Nay: None

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

Javier Joven
Mayor