



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

**JANUARY 15, 2019**

On January 15, 2019, a work session meeting of the Odessa City Council was held at 5:00 p.m., in the fifth floor conference room, City Hall, 411 West 8th Street, Odessa, Texas.

City Council present: Mayor David R. Turner; Council members: Dewey Bryant, District Two; Detra White, District Three; Tom Sprawls, District Four; Mari Willis, District Five; and Peggy Dean, At-Large.

Council member absent: Malcolm Hamilton, District One.

Others present: Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, City Secretary; Michael Marrero, City Manager; Gary Landers, Interim City Attorney; Cindy Muncy, Interim Assistant City Manager; Phillip Urrutia, Assistant City Manager; and other members of City staff.

Mayor Turner called the meeting to order and the following proceedings were held:

Council member Sprawls gave the invocation.

**ECHD interlocal agreement.** Mike Gerke, Police Chief, stated that the Ector County Hospital District would be added on to our radio system. The first year was at no charge and in six years, they would pay the City \$24,000 for maintenance.

**Donation from Randi Spenser.** Chief Gerke stated that Ms. Spenser donated \$7,200 last year. This year, she donated \$17,093.52 to purchase a K-9, train the officer and vest for the dog.

**Donation from Oxy Occidental Petroleum Corp.** Chief Gerke stated that Oxy donated \$15,000 that was earmarked to purchase a drone. The drone cost \$27,000 and the \$12,000 would be from seizure funds.

**Bid award for purchase of golf carts for Ratliff Ranch Golf Links.** Steve Patton, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that the golf carts had a three-year turnaround cycle of replacement, which was under warranty. The cost was \$249,585, which included a GPS system. The added cost of the GPS would be covered by advertising. Chris McQuatters, Golf Pro Manager, provided an overview of the GPS features. Lane Wilson, Golf Advisory member, stated that businesses have given a verbal commitment and the costs would be covered. It would generate additional income. Mrs. Muncy explained the funds. Council member Bryant commended the committee for its work and recommendation.

**Liberty Oilfield Services sales tax incentive request.** Carolyn Shantz, Merit Advisors principal, requested a local tax incentive of a direct pay permit to Liberty Oilfield. She provided an overview of the local tax. She explained the direct pay permit with examples. In exchange, Liberty was required to retain a certain number of jobs and capital investment. It shifted the revenue from one city to another. Council member Dean stated that it gave a

competitive edge to the company. The benefit was a tax savings opportunity and it would reduce the tax burden. Mayor Turner thanked Ms. Shantz. He was not in favor of the request. Mrs. Muncy stated it would open the door to other companies. It would be difficult to monitor if they stopped using local vendors. The Council had a consensus of not supporting the direct pay permit.

**Atmos Energy – Discussion 2019 Projects and Annual Report.** Phillip Littlejohn, Atmos VP Rates and Regulatory Affairs, highlighted the Atmos 2018 report. He stated that Atmos had safety as a priority. He reported that there was a lot of aging infrastructure and Atmos was investing to replace the pipes. The training center provided many hours of training for their employees. He reviewed Odessa's profile. The City had 32,809 Atmos customers. Atmos was a partner in the community in providing community service hours and charitable giving. Stephanie Cavazos stated that Atmos was giving back to the community. In 2017, Atmos contributed more than \$8.4 million and over 35,000 community service hours. They were visible in the community. Kelly Grimes reviewed the project improvements for the City of Odessa. She discussed some of the projects.

**Bid award for Downtown street rehab.** Yervand Hmayakyan, City Engineer, stated that the street rehab was the overlay pavement around the hotel and intersections. Jones Brothers was the lowest bidder at a cost of \$1,859,121.67. The work would begin in early April.

**Purchase trucks for various departments.** Mr. Urrutia reviewed the trucks that would be purchased from Caldwell for \$101,060.

**Purchase a sweeper truck for Street Department.** Mr. Urrutia stated it was time for replacement of a sweeper truck that had high maintenance cost. The TYMCO sweeper would cost \$238,707.

**Rezone request of Crossroads Fellowship.** Randy Brinlee, Director of Planning, stated that the request would allow expanding Compass Academy.

**Rezone request of Cross B, LLC.** Mr. Brinlee stated that that the zoning would be for future development of 260 residential lots.

**Rezone request of Weatherford US, L.P.** Mr. Brinlee stated that the zoning would expand operations and create a detention basin.

**Signatures in connection with Municipal Court Account Funds and City Funds.** Mrs. Muncy stated that a signature of an accountant would be added to the signature card.

**Discuss possible amendments to Downtown Odessa, Inc., and Design Committee structure and process to streamline grant review procedure.** Mayor Turner stated that Council should appoint its own Downtown committee appointments. He explained the Design Committee and its process. It needed to be streamlined. He recommended having a council representative, an ODC member and one businessperson associated with downtown. He stated that the Downtown board needed to move toward economic development. Council member Bryant stated that there was a process and guidelines for the Design Committee. The process needed to move more quickly. Mr. Marrero stated that staff would handle the pre-review of the application. Mr. Landers explained the historical structure. The Downtown Board could be a nine-member board with a Council and an ODC representative. Council member Bryant stated that there were two separate issues. One

was the board handled festivities and raising funds. The other issue was handling the façade grants created by ODC. Downtown Odessa was funded through Hotel/Motel Funds and requirements must be met. The façade was economic development using sales tax. The Council agreed to move the façade grants as a part of ODC.

**Discuss adding Mayor as a Council representative to the ODC Board and a Council member to the ODC Compliance Committee.** Mayor Turner stated that the ODC could not be expanded. He recommended allowing the Mayor to be a non-voting member of the ODC board to convey Council's direction. He recommended Council member Dean to be the Council representative on the Compliance Committee as she was a committee member. Council member Dean stated it would create synergy and provide information back to Council. Council member Willis emphasized that the information be shared with the rest of the Council members.

**Discuss if a Sports Complex should be in the City's future and if so, how to fund it.** Mayor Turner stated Hotel/Motel Funds were allocated to organizations. He proposed to keep portion of funds to fund a sports complex for sports tournaments. The UTPB lease would be up in three years and they were interested in running the tournaments. A study analysis of fields was being done. The hotels committed to block rooms at a reasonable rate of \$150. The funds could be allocated through the legislature and was nonbinding if Council chose not to do the project. Mayor Turner stated that the organizations should not use the Hotel/Motel Funds as a budget line item.

There was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, CMC  
City Secretary

David R. Turner  
Mayor