



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

JULY 22, 2019

On July 22, 2019, a special meeting of the Odessa City Council was held at 1:30 p.m., City Hall, fifth floor conference room, 411 W. 8th St., Odessa, Texas.

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

Others present: Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, City Secretary, Michael Marrero, City Manager; Phillip Urrutia, Assistant City Manager; and Cindy Muncy, Interim City Manager.

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

Council member Bryant gave the invocation.

Recess for executive session to interview applicants for the position of City Attorney, as authorized by the Texas Government Code, Section 551.074 (Personnel Matters).

Motion was made by Council member Dean to go into executive session under Section 551.074. Council member Hamilton had concerns on the City Manager and the assistants in executive session. He stated that there was no legal representation during the hiring of the City Manager. The City Attorney reported to the City Council. Council member Bryant stated that the City Manager worked with the departments. Council member White was in favor of the assistant city managers in executive session. Council member Hamilton stated that the past City Attorney leaned toward the City Manager and in cases would not carry out Council's direction. He stated that it looked discriminatory. Council member Dean stated that with lack of knowledge on the City Attorney, she would like input from staff on the City Attorney. Council member Sprawls would like their input. Mr. Marrero stated it was Council's decision and not to direct Council on who to hire. Council member Willis was concerned with the internal candidate that may be an issue. Council member Bryant stated it was important to have them in session as they will be working together. Council member Hamilton stated it was not fair. Council member Dean asked the City Manager what they wanted in a City Attorney. Mr. Marrero stated that there should be a high level of competency. The City Attorney should understand the daily issues and all departments. The City Attorney should provide sufficient research, thought, and provide answers to staff.

Mayor Turner stated that the references would be checked after the second interviews. He stated that the team would work better than as individuals. Mrs. Muncy would like a City Attorney to accomplish things.

Council member Bryant seconded to go into executive session under Section 551.074. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Turner, Bryant, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Dean

Nay: Hamilton

Council member Hamilton objected to the employees being in executive session as

discriminatory.

Reconvene in open session for possible action. Motion was made by Council member White and seconded by Council member Sprawls to return from executive session. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Turner, Hamilton, Bryant, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Dean
Nay: None

No action was taken. There was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, CMC
City Secretary

David R. Turner
Mayor