



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

**May 26, 2020**

On May 26, 2020, a regular meeting of the Odessa City Council was held at 6:00 p.m., City Hall, Council Chambers, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, 411 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Odessa, Texas.

Due to the COVID-19, the meeting was teleconferenced, as allowed by Governor Abbott's executive order. The City Council was present through teleconference.

City Council present: Council members: Michael Shelton, District One; Dewey Bryant, District Two; Detra White, District Three; Tom Sprawls, District Four; Mari Willis, District Five; and Peggy Dean, At-Large.

City Council absent: Mayor David R. Turner.

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

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

The invocation was given by Council member Sprawls and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas flags.

**Parks and Recreation site openings** – Steve Patton, Director of Parks and Recreation, reported that the Parks Department was in compliance with the Governor's order. On June 1, the community buildings could be rented at 50% capacity. The playgrounds opened on May 22. The youth programs would resume on May 31. He reviewed the requirements for the youth programs. The spray grounds remained closed. The Governor allowed the pools at 25% capacity. With 25% capacity, it would equal 150 people at our aquatic facilities. Staff would be difficult to find and there would be added expense at 25% capacity. He recommended the pools to remain closed. He was concerned with the issues of social distancing, staff cleaning and the potential numbers going up on the corona virus. The pool management contract would include more fees to follow the CDC guidelines and the anticipated loss of revenue. He would analyze the conditions and monitor the situation for next season. Council member White was concerned with the company charging more and to consider other alternatives. Council member Willis stated that Dr. Saravanan reported that the numbers were increasing on recent cases due to family gatherings. She asked how it would be monitored. Mr. Patton stated that there would not be any monitoring with the lack of personnel or authority. She emphasized that they understand and follow the guidelines.

**Recognition of Odessa Fire Rescue for American Heart Association** – Rodd Huber, Assistant Fire Chief, reported that the Odessa Fire Rescue received the highest accreditation for the mission lifeline for the second year in a row. The award was for cardiac care and Odessa Fire Rescue was the only one in the Permian Basin and the Regional Advisory Council to receive this award. Council member Dean thanked all the fire personnel for their work during this pandemic and congratulated the Fire Rescue Department.

**Perryman Odessa Virus and Oil Response** – Dr. Ray Perryman thanked the Council for their service. He reported the findings from the report. He stated that the structure must be kept for the local workforce and businesses. The Permian Basin was important to Texas and the United States but the story must be told. Our area was underrepresented with playing a major role in the economy. He reviewed the economic benefits and fiscal benefits in 2019 at normal conditions. The Permian Basin contributed billions in tax revenue to State and local taxing entities as well as the federal government through severance taxes paid on production and the increased taxes. The effects of COVID-19 provided a drastic decline in energy with losses of \$14.1 billion in output and 35,900 jobs in 2020 in the Permian Basin. He stated it was not like the 1980's. He explained the difference between the 80s and today. Dr. Perryman provided recommendations, which some were underway. A taskforce was implemented and David Boutin was leading the taskforce. Other recommendations included assisting local families, provide a marketing and advocacy campaign, and provide a universal broadband. He stressed the importance of an aggressive focus response of advocacy and marketing. Council member Bryant thanked Dr. Perryman and stated it was important to send the message out to the legislators. Council member Dean stated that the report was concise and compelling. Wesley Burnett, Director of Economic Development, stated that meetings were moving forward with a marketing and advocacy campaign. CVA would provide the marketing to local, state and national coverage.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. City Council minutes, May 12, 2020;
- B. City Council work session minutes, May 19, 2020;
- C. **Resolution No. 2020R-36 - Accept grant funding from Walmart Community Grants Team and Facility #537, and appropriating the funds to Odessa Fire Rescue;**
- D. **Resolution No. 2020R-37 - Apply for and accept a Federal Government Grant (\$80,800) to provide partial payment for bulletproof vests, committing to a cash match, appropriating awarded grant funds, and authorizing expenditure of awarded grant funds;**
- E. Purchase for roll of truck for Solid Waste from Big Truck Rental for \$199,593;
- F. Reject any and all bids for dry type transformers.

Motion was made by Council member Bryant and seconded by Council member Sprawls to remove Item E. from the consent agenda items. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Shelton, Bryant, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Dean  
Nay: None

Motion was made by Council member White and seconded by Council member Sprawls to approve consent agenda items A-D & F. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Shelton, Bryant, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Dean  
Nay: None

**Purchase for roll of truck for Solid Waste from Big Truck Rental for \$199,593.** Mr. Urrutia stated that the purchase was for a truck. The insurance disbursement was

\$129,924. The rest of the funds would be paid out of the Equipment Services Capital Replacement Fund. The total cost was \$199,593. The purchase was not from the buy board. Council member Sprawls had concerns on the purchase from Baltimore and not local. Mr. Urrutia talked to the local vendor but the truck was not readily available.

Motion was made by Council member White and seconded by Council member Sprawls to approve the consent agenda items. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Shelton, Bryant, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Dean  
Nay: None

### OTHER COUNCIL ACTION

**Karla Flores Façade Grant at 513 N. Grant Avenue.** Lawanna Lambert, Director of Downtown Odessa, stated that the grant was for 513 N. Grant. She reviewed the tier structure with funding. The business investment was \$21,560 with the façade investment of \$25,000, which brought the total investment of \$46,560. She reviewed the materials for the façade. The property would be a bar restaurant type of facility. Project completion would be 12-months. The Odessa Design Committee and ODC approved the grant.

Motion was made by Council member Bryant and seconded by Council member White to approve the façade grant. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Shelton, Bryant, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Dean  
Nay: None

### RESOLUTION

**Resolution No. 2020R-38 - Support urging the Texas Department of Transportation to include all routes as part of its study of the extension of I-27 (Ports to Plains). In particular, the areas considered in the original analysis of the Lubbock to I-10 Study conducted from 1993-1997. The economic impact and population growth of the areas in Odessa-Midland is significant and should be a leading consideration of any study.**

James Beauchamp, MOTRAN, reported that The Texas Department of Transportation was conducting a feasibility study of the designated Ports to Plains corridor. This study was a continuation of the original Lubbock to I-10 study that was done in 1993-97 where multiple routes were studied but ultimately no route was identified for designation or build out to an interstate standard. The extension of the I-27 would provide a positive impact with the major route to Midland and Odessa. The economic analysis included economic and demographic justification. The Midland-Odessa would account for 60% of the projected population growth from the 69 counties included in the entire corridor and 69% of that growth along segment 2.

Mr. Beauchamp stated that telling the story of the Permian Basin would help in the persuasion of the extension of I-27. Council member Bryant expressed his support.

Motion was made by Council member Bryant and seconded by Council member Shelton to approve the resolution. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Shelton, Bryant, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Dean  
Nay: None

**Resolution No. 2020R-39 - Deny Oncor's requested rate change.** Mr. Urrutia stated that Oncor filed an application of a rate increase. Oncor was seeking to increase rates by approximately \$75.8 million. This was Oncor's third filing under law. The City of Odessa was a member of the Oncor Cities Steering Committee. The committee recommended the denial of the rate increase and allow for outside counsel and consultants, Lloyd Gosselink Rochelle & Townsend, P.C., to review the filing and negotiate on behalf of the steering committee cities.

Motion was made by Council member Sprawls and seconded by Council member Shelton to approve the resolution. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Aye: Shelton, Bryant, White, Sprawls, Willis, and Dean  
Nay: None

#### MISCELLANEOUS

**Appointment of Boards: Animal Shelter Advisory Committee, Historic Preservation Commission, Housing Authority of Odessa, Traffic Advisory Committee, Zoning Board of Adjustment and Midland Odessa Urban Transit District.** No action.  
**Citizen's comments on non-agenda items.** No action.

There was no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Norma Aguilar-Grimaldo, TRMC, CMC  
City Secretary

Peggy Dean  
Mayor Pro Tem