

**CITY OF CASTROVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR CALLED COUNCIL MEETING  
1209 Fiorella  
City Council Chambers  
February 14, 2023  
Tuesday  
5:30 P.M.  
MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Darrin Schroeder called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Present:

Mayor Darrin Schroeder  
Mayor Pro Tem Phil King  
Councilmember Sheena Martinez  
Councilmember Paul Carey  
Councilmember Harold Stein  
Councilmember Herb Dyer

Scott Dixon, City Administrator  
Debra Howe, City Secretary  
Leroy Vidales, Finance Director

Others in attendance:

Cynthia Trevino, City Attorney

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. INVOCATION**

Mayor Schroeder gave the invocation.

**V. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

*The City Council will hear comments from any citizen or visitor. Speakers must address their comments to the presiding officer rather than individual council members or staff; stand at the podium, speak clearly into the microphone, and state your name and residential address before speaking. Speakers will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes for testimony. Speakers making personal, impertinent, profane, or slanderous remarks will be given one warning before losing the privilege to speak or may be removed from the room. In accordance with the State Open Meetings Act, the City Council is restricted from discussing or taking action on items not listed on the agenda. Action can only be taken at a future meeting.*

David Merz, 148 Village Path, spoke on the recent Love Your Library Run he participate in. Mr. Merz said it was a good event and enjoyed the event.

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Minutes for January 24, 2023 Regular Called City Council Meeting.
- b. Racial Profile Report.
- c. Resolution for the Castroville Police Vehicle Project.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Carey and duly seconded by Councilmember approve the consent agenda. A vote was taken (5:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.**

**VII. Proclamation recognizing Career and Technical Education Month**

Mayor Schroeder read the proclamation recognizing the month of February as Career and Technical Education month. Carol Brewer representative for Medina Valley ISD accepted the proclamation on behalf of the school. Also in attendance was new Superintendent Dr. Scott Caloss and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Brandi Hendrix.

**VIII. Consider and take appropriate action on an Ordinance authorizing the Issuance of the City's Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2023; Providing for the payment thereof by the levy of an Ad Valorem Tax upon all taxable property within the City and further secured by the pledged revenues of the system; and other matters in connection therewith**

Ryan Cunningham with SAMCO briefed the city council on the 12 bids received that day. Mr. Cunningham said with the city's AA+ rating the interest rate was very good. Mr. Cunningham said the recommendation was TD Securities with a 3.62% interest. Mr. Cunningham said the repayment of the bond would be paid from utility revenues.

**A motion was made by Councilmember King and duly seconded by Councilmember Martinez to adopt an Ordinance authorizing the Issuance of the City's Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2023; Providing for the payment thereof by the levy of an Ad Valorem Tax upon all taxable property within the City and further secured by the pledged revenues of the system; and other matters in connection therewith. A vote was taken (5:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.**

**IX. Consider and take appropriate action on adopting an Ordinance calling the 2023 General Election for the purpose of electing the positions of Mayor, District 1, and District 2 for two year terms; designating the location of polling place and making provisions for the conduct of the election**

City Secretary Debra Howe briefed the city council on the ordinance calling the 2023 General Election. Ms. Howe said this election was for Mayor, District 1 and 2 for two year terms. Ms. Howe said the next agenda item was for the unexpired term of District 4 for a one year term.

**A motion was mad by Councilmember King and duly seconded by Councilmember Carey to adopt an Ordinance calling the 2023 General Election for the purpose of electing the positions of Mayor, District 1, and District 2 for two year terms; designating the location of polling place and making provisions for the conduct of the election. A vote was taken (5:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.**

**X. Consider and take appropriate action on adopting an Ordinance calling a Special Election for the purpose of electing the position of District 4 for a one year term; designating the location of place and making provisions for the conduct of the election**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Carey and duly seconded by Councilmember Martinez to adopting an Ordinance calling a Special Election for the purpose of electing the position of District 4 for a one year term; designating the location of place and making provisions for the conduct of the election. A vote was taken (5:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.**

**XI. Consider and take appropriate action on entering into a contract with the Medina County Elections Administration to conduct the 2023 General and Special Elections**

City Secretary Debra Howe briefed the city council on the annual contract for Medina County Elections Administrator to conduct the general election for the city. Ms. Howe said the cost for the election was budgeted item.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Martinez and duly seconded by Councilmember Stein to approve entering into a contract with the Medina County Elections Administration to conduct the 2023 General and Special Elections. A vote was taken (5:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.**

**XII. Consider and take appropriate action on an application submitted for an open position on the Library Advisory Board**

City Secretary Debra Howe briefed the city council on the application submitted for an open position on the Library Advisory Board. Ms. Howe said there was two alternate positions open at this time. Ms. Howe said Ms. Cortez was unable to attend but sent a bio for the council to review.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Martinez and duly seconded by Councilmember Carey to appoint Lauren Cortez to alternate position #1 for a two year term ending in 2024. A vote was taken (5:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.**

**XIII. Consider and take appropriate action on a Task Order #2 with Simple City in an amount not to exceed \$115,000 to assist the City with Hwy 90 conceptual designs and negotiations with TxDOT**

Mayor Schroeder briefed the city council on the design the city received from TxDOT for a ten lane highway through Castroville. Mayor Schroeder said their idea for alleviating traffic issues was not what was best for the city and wanted to engage a planner to help with an alternative that would work for the city and TxDOT. Mayor Schroeder said he did know of someone who had worked closely with TxDOT in the past and felt it would benefit the city to engage. City Administrator Dixon said they would not be spending all of the amount requested. Councilmember Dyer wanted to know if this would help or hinder the process with TxDOT and the developments. He felt the only development at this time being held up was Alsatian Oaks and didn't think it would help, only delay, since Castroville was so small. Mr. Dixon said it should not slow the project and they had a meeting in March. Mr. Dyer felt it was going to cost the developers more. Mr. Dixon said they were looking for solutions and the developer had worked with TxDOT. Mayor Schroeder said if the city council approved to go with a planner to prepare a plan it would affect all the people on Hwy 90. Mr. Dixon felt it would help to get TxDOT to say yes but they needed a plan.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Carey and duly seconded by Councilmember Martinez to approve a Task Order #2 with Simple City in an amount not to exceed \$115,000 to assist the**

**City with Hwy 90 conceptual designs and negotiations with TxDOT. A vote was taken (4 ayes: 1 nay (Dyer)) the motion carried by a majority vote.**

Mayor Schroeder recessed into Executive Session at 6:13 p.m.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- (1) Pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, Section 551.071 (entitled “Consultation with Attorney) and the City Council may convene in executive to receive advice from the City Attorney regarding the following:
  - a. Airport Hazard Zoning issues and related matters
- (2) Texas Government Code Section 551.072 (entitled Deliberation regarding Real Property) to deliberate the purchase of real property, parkland acquisition opportunities and disposition/value of city owned property.
  - a. City owned property on Washington and Athens
- (3) Texas Government Code Section 551.085 (entitled “Deliberation regarding Economic Development Negotiations”).
  - a. NP Homes Development Agreement.
- (4) Texas Government Code, Section 551.086, (entitled Competitive Utility Matters) The City Council, as the governing body of a public power utility, will meet in closed session to discuss competitive matters, including purchased power agreements.
  - a. CPS Separation Agreement

Opened: 6:16 p.m.

Closed: 6:38 p.m.

**XV. Reconvene in open session**

Mayor Schroeder reconvened in open session at 6:39 p.m.

**XVI. Consider possible action(s) resulting from items posted and legally discussed in Executive Session**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Carey and duly seconded by Councilmember King to authorize the City Administrator to determine value and sell city owned property located at Washington and Athens Street. A vote was taken (5:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Carey and duly seconded by Councilmember King to authorize the City Administrator to negotiate terms for Special Counsel. A vote was taken (5:0 all ayes) the motion carried by all present.**

**XVII. Discussion on future agenda items**

None.

**XVIII. ADJOURN**

Mayor Schroeder adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Darrin Schroeder  
Mayor

ATTEST:

Debra Howe  
City Secretary

\*Signatures on file