

**Minutes
Forney City Council
Tuesday, January 5, 2021
6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
City Hall, 101 E. Main Street, Forney, Texas 75126**

The general public can view the meeting live on our video stream at <https://www.forneytx.gov/803/Watch-Meetings>. If you wish to address the Council on any subject or in open forum at this meeting, you are required to email dbrooks@forneytx.gov no later than Tuesday, January 5, 2021, by 1:00 p.m. You must provide your name and telephone number and state which item(s) you wish to speak on. You will be provided a telephone number and meeting ID which you must dial into 15 minutes prior to the scheduled meeting start time. Due to technical restrictions, those who fail to dial into the meeting at the prescribed time may forfeit their ability to speak at said meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Penn called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. Present were Mayor Mary Penn, Mayor Pro Tem Shaun Myers and Council Members James Traylor, Robbie Powers, Kevin Moon and Derald Cooper. Council Member David Johnson was absent. Also present was City Manager Tony Carson.

II. INVOCATION – COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES TRAYLOR

III. PROCLAMATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of the GFOA CAFR award.

Mayor Penn read the following statement:

“The Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the City of Forney by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. This is the 23rd year that the City has received this award.”

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the Minutes of the December 15, 2020, City Council meeting.

Mayor Penn asked if Council had any changes to the Minutes. There being no changes, Mayor Penn called for a motion. Council Member Powers made a motion to approve the Minutes of the December 15, 2020 City Council meeting and Mayor Pro Tem Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes and 1 absent [Johnson].

V. CONSENT AGENDA

The items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be self-explanatory by the Council and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Council Member.

1. Consider approval of a Resolution ordering the General Election for May 1, 2021, and take any action necessary. [Comenta y considerar la aprobación de una Resolución que ordena la Elección General el 1 de mayo de 2021, y tomar las medidas necesarias.]

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2. **Consider a Resolution setting a date, time and place for a public hearing on the proposed annexation of an approximate 1.14 acres located at 11237 County Road 212 owned by Bobby Wayne Hilbert.**
 3. **Consider a Resolution setting a date, time and place for a public hearing on the proposed annexation of an approximate 3.95 acres located at 11263 County Road 212 owned by George Brown.**
 4. **Consider a Resolution setting a date, time and place for a public hearing on the proposed annexation of an approximate 7.9 acres located at 11305 County Road 212 owned by Edwina Elaine Edwards.**
 5. **Consider a Resolution setting a date, time and place for a public hearing on the proposed annexation of an approximate 34.2 acres located at 11379 County Road 212 owned by the Beene Family Limited Partnership.**
 6. **Consider a Resolution setting a date, time and place for a public hearing on the proposed annexation of an approximate 25.3345 acres located on County Road 212, in the Absolom Hyer Survey, Abstract 203 owned by Platform 80-20, LP.**

79 Mayor Penn asked if Council wanted to pull any of the Consent Items for discussion. No items were
80 pulled, so Mayor Penn called for a motion. Mayor Pro Tem Myers made a motion to approve the
81 entire Consent Agenda and Council Member Cooper seconded the motion. The motion passed by
82 a vote of 6 ayes and 1 absent [Johnson].
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84 **VI. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

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1. **Discuss and consider a Resolution approving a contract for depository banking services with American National Bank for a period of five (5) years.**

90 Finance Director Deborah Woodham discussed the background of this item. The City's depository
91 contract will expire on April 1, 2021. Staff has been in the process of soliciting and receiving bids
92 for banking services. The City's investment advisor, Linda Patterson of Patterson & Associates,
93 assisted in evaluating the different proposals. Linda has considerable knowledge and experience
94 in dealing with municipal banking services and her firm represents hundreds of municipalities
95 requiring similar services.
96

97 The City received bids from two banks – American National Bank of Texas and Texas Bank and
98 Trust. American National Bank proposed two different rate structures and both were evaluated
99 along with the proposal from the other bank. Both banks met the criteria of the RFP and are able
100 to provide the services that the City requires.
101

102 The City is currently under contract with American National Bank and they scored higher in the
103 evaluation of required services. Either American National Bank or Texas Bank and Trust would be
104 a good choice for the City of Forney however, based on staff and Patterson & Associates analysis,
105 we recommend American National Bank, Option 1. The term for this contract will be five (5) years
106 if approved by Council.
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108 With approval of this item, Council is authorizing the City Manager to execute a final contract with
109 American National Bank.
110

111 There was no Council discussion and no one signed up to speak on this item. Mayor Penn called
112 for a motion. Council Member Powers made a motion to approve the Resolution and Mayor Pro
113 Tem Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes and 1 absent [Johnson].
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115 **2. Discuss and consider a Resolution adopting tax abatement guidelines**
116 **and criteria for granting a tax abatement in reinvestment zones for**
117 **economic development.**
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119 City Attorney Jon Thatcher discussed the background of this item. Chapter 312 of the Texas Tax
120 Code requires that before a City can participate in tax abatements, it must adopt a resolution setting
121 forth its eligibility to participate in such agreements and establish certain guidelines and criteria
122 governing the designation of reinvestment zones and tax abatement programs prior to granting any
123 future tax abatements.
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125 The City of Forney had previously adopted a set of guidelines and criteria in January 2019, expiring
126 in January 2021. It is recommended that the City consider approval of the resolution to establish the
127 guidelines and criteria in the event that the City is petitioned to participate in any future tax abatement
128 programs. The resolution is good for a period of two years. The proposed tax abatement guidelines
129 and criteria would expire in January 2023. The proposed guidelines and criteria resemble closely
130 the prior set of guidelines and criteria.
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132 There was no Council discussion and no one signed up to speak on this item. Mayor Penn called
133 for a motion. Council Member Moon made a motion to approve the Resolution and Council Member
134 Cooper seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes and 1 absent [Johnson].
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136 **3. Discuss and consider a Resolution approving a contract for**
137 **wrecker/towing services with Buster's Automotive.**
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139 City Manager Tony Carson discussed the background of this item. The City received bids from two
140 wrecker/towing services – Buster's Automotive and Chubbs Towing Recovery. Both proposals were
141 evaluated based on set criteria with Buster's scoring highest. Based on this evaluation, staff
142 recommends approval of a contract with Buster's Automotive. This will be a one-year contract.
143

144 Mayor Pro Tem Myers thanked Police Chief Lunt for working on this project. No one signed up to
145 speak on this item. Mayor Penn called for a motion. Council Member Cooper made a motion
146 approve the Resolution and Mayor Pro Tem Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed by a
147 vote of 6 ayes and 1 absent [Johnson].
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149 **VII. OPEN FORUM/CITIZEN COMMENTS**

150 This is the public's opportunity to address the City Council on any matter related to the City. In accordance with
151 the Texas Open Meetings Act, Section 551.042, the City Council cannot discuss, consider, or take action on
152 matters not listed on the agenda. The City Council will receive citizen comments on non-agenda items, and if
153 necessary, may refer the matter to City staff for research, resolution or referral to Council on a future agenda. As
154 described in the City's Public Meeting Procedures, comments will be limited to three (3) minutes.
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156 No one signed up to speak in Open Forum.
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158 **VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

159 THE CITY MANAGER WILL DISCUSS CURRENT CITY ACTIVITIES, UPCOMING MEETINGS,
160 FUTURE LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES, AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS FOR POSSIBLE ACTION,
161 INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING:

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163 City Manager Carson stated he had no comments tonight.
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165 **IX. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

166 PURSUANT TO SECTION 551.0415 TEX. GOV'T CODE, CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY MAKE A REPORT
167 ABOUT ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST DURING A MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY WITHOUT
168 HAVING GIVEN NOTICE OF THE REPORT. ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST INCLUDE:
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170 Council Member Traylor stated he was happy to be in 2021 and wished everyone Happy New Year.
171

172 Mayor Pro Tem Myers dittoed Council Member Traylor's statement. He thanked Staff for all that
173 they do.
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175 Council Member Powers wished everyone Happy New Year. She told everyone to be safe and to
176 follow the guidelines. The hospitals are full; please pray for everyone. Be safe and get vaccinated.
177

178 Council Member Moon told everyone to be safe to get vaccinated.
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180 Council Member Cooper congratulated the Finance Department on their award.
181

182 Mayor Penn asked City Secretary Brooks to update the Council on the status of the applications for
183 the Bond Committee and a citizen survey. Brooks advised that the Bond Committee Application is
184 online and due to the documentation for the upcoming election that it would be a few weeks before
185 she would be able to work on a citizen survey. Mayor Penn stated she is glad to know that it is out
186 there and wanted to know if it would be possible to put it in the water bill. Carson stated that we
187 could and would check into it.
188

189 Council Member Powers thanked Kyle Rouvaldt for the work at Eastside Park.
190

191 Mayor Penn also thanked Kyle and stated that Covid has really slowed us down. She thinks 2021
192 will be great.
193

194 There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Penn called for a motion to
195 adjourn at 6:51 p.m. Council Member Moon made a motion to adjourn and Council Member Powers
196 seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes and 1 absent [Johnson].
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198 **PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORNEY, TEXAS,**
199 **this _____ day of _____, 2021.**
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203 **ATTEST:**

Mary Penn, Mayor

Dorothy Brooks, City Secretary