



## City Council Agenda Item Summary Report

**Meeting Date:** October 19, 2021

**Submitted by:** Dorothy Brooks, City Secretary

**Consent**    xxx

**Public Hearing**

**Action Item**

**Item Title:** Consider approval of a Resolution designating the Forney Messenger as the official newspaper.

**How this item ties-in with the City’s Mission, Vision and Values: Accountable:** We understand that our responsibility is the effective and efficient delivery of service to our citizens; further, that policy decisions are to be implemented with diligence.

**Summary Statement:**

Sec. 11.02 of the Charter requires that ***“The City Council shall declare annually at the beginning of each fiscal year an official newspaper of general circulation in the City. All ordinances, notices and other matters required to be published by this Charter, City ordinance, or the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas shall be published in the official newspaper.”*** The Texas Government Code in Section 2051.0441, sets out the criteria of a newspaper in which a notice must be published. They are as follows:

- ❖ Devote not less than 25 percent of its total column lineage to general interest items; and
- ❖ Be published at least once each week; and
- ❖ Be entered as second-class postal matter in the county where published; and
- ❖ Have been published regularly and continuously for at least 12 months before the governmental entity or representative publishes notice; and
- ❖ The legal rate of publication of a notice in a newspaper is the newspaper’s lowest published rate for classified advertising; and
- ❖ The newspaper shall submit a bill for the publication with a clipping of the published item and a verified statement of the publisher that states the rate charged and certifies that the rate charged is the newspaper’s lowest published rate for classified advertising, and certifies the number and dates of the publication.

Based on their fees and the fact that they qualify under the requirements to be an official newspaper, it is recommended that the Forney Messenger be named the official newspaper for fiscal year 2021-2022.