

**MINUTES  
of the  
KEENE CITY COUNCIL**

**THURSDAY, May 4, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Lisa Parrish, James Belz, Ray Johnson, Thomas Gutwa, Rob Foster, Owen Larson, Gwen Beeson.

**ABSENT:** None.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Invocation – Mr. Don Beeson.**

**Pledge of Allegiance & Pledge to the Texas Flag – Council and Public**

**1. Mayor Comments:**

- Presented local community news and announcements.
- Announced Councilmember Larson at Evoke Roofing donated water to the Fire Department.
- Updated the public on the City Manager hiring progress.
- Announced Chief Kidd is hosting a Peace Officer Memorial Ceremony 5-15-23 at 10am.
- Chief Warner and Captain Metcalf conducted a presentation on a Positive Pressure Ventilation Fan. The Celebration Committee is having a fundraiser to help raise the funds for the Positive Pressure Ventilation Fan for the Fire Department. Joyce Shaw was present to accept donations.

**2. Public Comments:**

- None

**3. Consideration and approval of City Council minutes dated April 20, 2023.**

- Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve the City Council minutes dated April 20, 2023.
- Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion.
- Motion carried 6-0-0.

**4. Discussion and take possible action renaming the fire station after Keene's first Fire Chief and Fire Marshall, Ben Putnam.**

- Mayor spoke about Ben Putnam and his contributions to the community.
- Mayor will collaborate with Chief Warner and the Fire Department to determine a name. The dedication ceremony will be held on October 29, 2023.
- Wes Schram spoke about the topic.
- Chief Warner spoke about the topic.
  
- Councilmember Belz made a motion to approve renaming the fire station after Keene's first Fire Chief and Fire Marshall, Ben Putnam.
- Councilmember Gutwa seconded the motion.
- Motion carried 6-0-0.

5. **Discussion and take possible action adopting Ordinance No. 2023-653, to charge mitigation rates for the deployment of emergency and non-emergency services by the Keene Fire Department for services provided/rendered by the City of Keene.**
  - Chief Warner explained the topic to the Council.
  
  - Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve adopting Ordinance No. 2023-653, to charge mitigation rates for the deployment of emergency and non-emergency services by the Keene Fire Department for services provided/rendered by the City of Keene.
  - Councilmember Larson seconded the motion.
  - Motion carried 6-0-0.
  
6. **Discussion and take possible action amending Ordinance No. 2009-383 Water and Wastewater Fees by adopting Ordinance No. 2023-654, adjusting current Water and Wastewater Fees to compete with current market values.**
  - Interim Assistant City Manager Don Martin explained the topic to the Council.
  - Mayor spoke on the topic.
  
  - Councilmember Foster spoke on the topic.
  - Councilmember Johnson spoke on the topic.
  - Councilmember Gutwa spoke on the topic.
  
  - Councilmember Belz made a motion to approve amending Ordinance No. 2009-383 Water and Wastewater Fees by adopting Ordinance No. 2023-654, adjusting current Water and Wastewater Fees to compete with current market values.
  - Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion.
  - Motion carried 6-0-0.
  
7. **Discussion and take possible action amending the budget for Keene Business Development Corporation (Type B Board) to allow for a \$5,000 increase for the Shade Sails repair at Elisa Carver Park.**
  - Interim Assistant City Manager Don Martin explained the topic to the Council.
  - Mayor spoke on the topic.
  
  - Councilmember Larson spoke on the topic.
  - Councilmember Johnson spoke on the topic.
  
  - Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve amending the budget for Keene Business Development Corporation (Type B Board) to allow for a \$5,000 increase for the Shade Sails repair at Elisa Carver Park.
  - Councilmember Gutwa seconded the motion.
  - Motion carried 6-0-0.
  
8. **Discussion and take possible action on an amendment to Ordinance No. 2001-218 regarding the meeting date and times of the Keene Planning and Zoning Commission.**
  - Interim Assistant City Manager Don Martin explained the topic to the Council.
  - Councilmember Larson made a motion to approve amending Ordinance No. 2001-218 regarding the meeting date and times of the Keene Planning and Zoning Commission.
  - Councilmember Foster seconded the motion.
  - Motion carried 6-0-0.

9. Discussion and take possible action on an interlocal agreement for JCSUD and the City of Keene regarding placement of JCSUD's water line facilities within the City of Keene's right of way of Ashton Homeplace Addition phase 1.
  - Interim Assistant City Manager Don Martin explained the topic to the Council.
  - Wes Schram spoke on the topic.
  - Councilmember Larson spoke on the topic.
  
  - Councilmember Larson made a motion to approve an interlocal agreement for JCSUD and the City of Keene regarding placement of JCSUD's water line facilities within the City of Keene's right of way of Ashton Homeplace Addition phase 1.
  - Councilmember Belz seconded the motion.
  - Motion carried 6-0-0.
  
10. Discussion and take possible action on an interlocal agreement for JCSUD and the City of Keene regarding placement of JCSUD's water line facilities within the City of Keene's right of way of Ashton Homeplace Addition phase 2.
  - Interim Assistant City Manager Don Martin explained the topic to the Council.
  
  - Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve an interlocal agreement for JCSUD and the City of Keene regarding placement of JCSUD's water line facilities within the City of Keene's right of way of Ashton Homeplace Addition phase 2.
  - Councilmember Larson seconded the motion.
  - Motion carried 6-0-0.
  
11. Discussion and take possible action on an interlocal agreement for JCSUD and the City of Keene regarding placement of JCSUD's water line facilities within the City of Keene's right of way of Sunset Ridge Addition phase 1.
  - Interim Assistant City Manager Don Martin explained the topic to the Council.
  
  - Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve an interlocal agreement for JCSUD and the City of Keene regarding placement of JCSUD's water line facilities within the City of Keene's right of way of Sunset Ridge Addition phase 1.
  - Councilmember Belz seconded the motion.
  - Motion carried 6-0-0.
  
12. Department Report
  - Derek Malone provided the Public Works Quarterly Department Report.
  
13. Executive Session: Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, the City Council may convene into a closed, Executive Session in accordance with the following authority:
 

551.071 (consultation with the attorney)	551.072 (real property)	551.073 (prospective gifts)
551.074 (personnel matters)	551.076 (security matters)	551.087 (economic development)

  - a) No executive session was held.

Executive Session may be held, under these exceptions, at the end of the Regular Session, Workshop and/or Special Session, or at any time during the meeting that a need arises for the City Council to seek advice from the City Attorney as to the posted subject matter of this City Council Meeting.

14. Reconvene into Open Session for possible action resulting from any item posted or discussed in Executive Session.

15. Discussion and requests for future items on the agenda.

- Mayor requested suggestions for different options for water bill payments.
- Mayor instructed the Council to study the Budget Calendar.
- Councilmember Belz requested Finance Director Charles Williams provide the Council with money market information.
- Councilmember Foster requested an update on the Sidewalk Fund.
- Councilmember Beeson requested an Executive Session to choose an Interim City Manager.
- Mayor asked the Council when they would be available for a Special Called Meeting to interview City Manager candidates.

16. Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm.

By: 

Lisa Parrish, Mayor

Attest: 

Tabatha Mansell, City Secretary