

**MINUTES  
of the  
KEENE CITY COUNCIL**

**THURSDAY, February 24, 2022**

**PRESENT: Mayor Gary Heinrich, Mayor Pro-Tem Gwen Beeson, Lisa Parrish, Robert Cooper, Rob Foster, Thomas Gutwa, and Phillip Jackson.**

**CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.**

**Invocation – Councilmember Jackson**

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

**1. Public Comments:**

- **Councilmember Gutwa spoke regarding the traffic issues on CC Cook Pkwy.**
- **Councilmember Parrish spoke about the shirts the councilmembers were wearing. The shirts were in support of the Keene Chargers.**

**2. Mayor Comments: Welcome**

**3. Consideration of City Council Minutes dated January 27, 2022, and February 10, 2022.**

- **Council was advised of the minor spelling changes made after the minutes were provided to them.**
- **Councilmember Cooper made a motion to approve the City Council Minutes dated January 27, 2022, and February 10, 2022, as corrected. Councilmember Foster seconded the motion.**
- **Motion carried 6-0-0**

**4. The City Council shall consider participation in the settlements reached by the Texas Attorney General with Endo Pharmaceuticals and Teva Pharmaceuticals and authorize the Mayor to sign election and release forms and any other documents necessary to participate in the settlements**

- **City Manager Bernie Parker briefly explained the item.**
- **Councilmember Beeson made a motion to approve for the City of Keene to participate in the settlements reached by the Texas Attorney General with Endo Pharmaceuticals and Teva Pharmaceuticals and authorize the Mayor to sign election and release forms and any other documents necessary to participate in the settlements. Councilmember Parrish seconded the motion.**
- **Councilmember Foster asked if there were any requirements on what to spend the money on and Mr. Parker advised that the money can be spent on things related to the impact of the opioid.**
- **Motion carried 6-0-0**

**5. Keene Police Department 2021 Racial Profiling Report Presentation.**

- Chief Hunt provided the report to the council.
- Councilmember Parrish asked about the robbery which occurred in Keene. Chief Hunt provided an update on the incident and investigation.
- Councilmember Jackson asked if the racial data was only for the driver. Chief Hunt advised that the information in the report was only based on the race of the driver of the vehicle which was pulled over.

**6. Discussion and take possible action on appointing or reappointing Keene Economic Development Board (Type A) board members.**

- This item was moved after Item 11.
- Mayor Heinrich spoke about conversations with the board members and their choice on the appointments. Mayor advised that if the council agrees to pick all of the members together, only one motion would be needed, otherwise, there would be a need for each individual motion.
- Councilmember Parrish expressed dissatisfaction and frustration with staff and the Mayor regarding the process and the information that was being provided.
- Councilmember Gutwa advised that the city should follow a process that is fair.
  
- Councilmember Parrish made a motion to appoint David Bass, Don Beeson Sr., Samantha Gillin, Cody Thornton, and Troy Smith to the Keene Economic Development Board (Type A) board for a term based on drawing.
  - Mayor Heinrich advised that the motion was out of order due to the council not deciding to make the motion with all choices at once or individually.
  - Motion was not passed.
- Councilmember Parrish made a motion to appoint Troy Smith to the Keene Economic Development Board (Type A) board for a term based on drawing.
  - Motion died due to lack of a second.
- Councilmember Jackson made a motion to reappoint David Bass to the Keene Economic Development Board (Type A) board for a term based on drawing. Councilmember Cooper seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 4-2-0 (Councilmember Parrish and Gutwa Against)
- Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve Don Beeson Sr. to the Keene Economic Development Board (Type A) board for a term based on drawing. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 4-2-0 (Councilmember Parrish and Gutwa Against)
- Councilmember Beeson made a motion to appoint Samantha Gillin to the Keene Economic Development Board (Type A). Councilmember Foster seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 4-2-0 (Councilmember Parrish and Gutwa Against)
- Councilmember Foster made a motion to appoint Cody Thornton to the Keene Economic Development Board (Type A) board for a term based on drawing. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 4-2-0 (Councilmember Parrish and Gutwa Against)
- Councilmember Foster made a motion to appoint Carl Wright to the Keene Economic Development Board (Type A) board for a term based on drawing. Councilmember Cooper seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 4-2-0 (Councilmember Parrish and Gutwa Against)

**7. Discussion and take possible action on appointing or reappointing four (4) Keene Business Development Board (Type B) board members for a two-year term ending in March 2024.**

- This item was presented after Item 6 which was moved after Item 11.
- Mr. Parker clarified how many positions were open and who applied for the board.
- Troy Smith advised that he would serve on either board if the council needs him to.
- Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve Donnie Beeson for a two-year term to expire March 2024 to the Keene Business Development Board (Type B) board. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 4-2-0 (Councilmember Parrish and Gutwa Against)
- Councilmember Foster made a motion to appoint Jason Hamilton for a two-year term to expire March 2024 to the Keene Business Development Board (Type B) board. Councilmember Beeson seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 4-2-0 (Councilmember Parrish and Gutwa Against)
- Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve Aaron Moses for a two-year term to expire March 2024 to the Keene Business Development Board (Type B) board. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 4-2-0 (Councilmember Parrish and Gutwa Against)
- Councilmember Parrish made a motion to approve Troy Smith for a two-year term to expire March 2024 to the Keene Business Development Board (Type B) board. Councilmember Foster seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 6-0-0
- Councilmember Gutwa advised that he has nothing against the people that were being appointed but he was against the process.

**8. Discussion and take possible action on giving both, the City Manager and the Finance Director, authorization to execute the BKD's contractual letter of agreement to complete the 2020 FYE audit and the 2021 FYE audit.**

- Mr. Parker provided the update on the audit process and timeframe.
- Councilmember Parrish asked why we did not budget for this in the current budget year. Mr. Parker provided an explanation as to how the money was allocated and that the audit firm was completing two years versus only one year.
- Councilmember Jackson asked if we had money leftover from last year. Mr. Parker provided an explanation and would consult with the Finance Director on further information.
- Councilmember Cooper made a motion to approve giving both, the City Manager and the Finance Director, authorization to execute the BKD's contractual letter of agreement to complete the 2020 FYE audit and the 2021 FYE audit. Councilmember Jackson seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 5-1-0 (Councilmember Parrish Against)

**9. Discussion and take possible action to pay the remaining costs regarding the FY 2020 redistricting costs for City of Keene by Mike Morrison, Consultant.**

- Mr. Parker provided an update on the item.
- Councilmember Parrish made a motion to approve paying the remaining costs regarding the FY 2020 redistricting costs for City of Keene by Mike Morrison, Consultant. Councilmember Cooper seconded the motion.
  - Motion Carried 6-0-0

**10. Department Reports:**

- Finance Department – Not Presented
- Public Works Department – Don Martin presented the report
- Fire Department – Chief Warner presented the report

**11. City Manager Comments:**

- Mr. Parker presented a brief summary of current activities.

**12. Executive Session: Pursuant to Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government, Sections 551.071 (consultation with an attorney), 551-072 (real property), 551. 073 (prospective gifts), 551.074 (personnel matters), 551.076 (securities matters), 551.087 (economic development). An executive session may be held, under the 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 matter of the City Council Meeting.**

- None

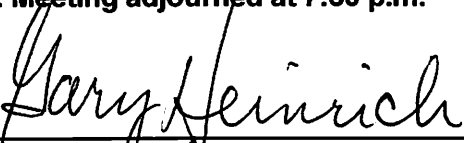
**13. Reconvene into Open Session for possible action resulting from any item posted and discussed in Executive Session.**

- None


**14. Discussion and requests for future items on the agenda.**

- None

**15. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**

By: 

Gary Heinrich, Mayor

Attest: 

Natanael Drambareanu, Interim City Secretary