

**MINUTES
of the
KEENE CITY COUNCIL**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

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

ABSENT: Rob Foster

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

Invocation – Mayor Gary Heinrich

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

1. Public Comments:

- Estevan Solis shared that this was his last meeting he would record.

2. Mayor Comments:

- Mayor Gary Heinrich thanked Mr. Solis for his service.
- Councilmember Lisa Parrish presented Mr. Solis with a gift card from council and brownies.

3. Consideration of City Council Minutes dated August 25, 2022, and September 1, 2022.

- Councilmember Robert Cooper made a motion to approve City Council Minutes dated August 25, 2022, and September 1, 2022. Councilmember Phillip Jackson seconded the motion.
- Motion Carried (5-0-0).

4. The City Council may consider, discuss and approve a resolution approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee, which the City of Keene is a member, and Atmos Energy regarding the Company's 2022 Rate Review Mechanism Filing and adopting tariffs that reflect rate adjustments consistent with the negotiated settlement.

- City Manager Bernie Parker presented the resolution and Atmos Rate Review Mechanism to council.
- Councilmember Parrish made a motion to approve a resolution approving a negotiated settlement between the Atmos Cities Steering Committee, which the City of Keene is a member, and Atmos Energy regarding the Company's 2022 Rate Review Mechanism Filing and adopting tariffs that reflect rate adjustments consistent with the negotiated settlement. Councilmember Gwen Beeson seconded the motion.
- Motion Carried (5-0-0).

5. Discuss and take action on award of a contract to Texas Pride Utilities, LLC for the Lewis Lane & Hillcrest Street Sewer Line Replacement in the amount of \$165,887.50.

- Director Don Martin presented the award of a contract to council.
- Councilmember Beeson made a motion to approve the award of a contract to Texas Pride Utilities, LLC for the Lewis Lane & Hillcrest Street Sewer Line Replacement in

the amount of \$165,887.50. Councilmember Robert Cooper seconded the motion.

- Motion carried (5-0-0).

6. Budget workshop FY 2022 – 2023

- Mayor Heinrich proposed a 5% raise for staff with an additional 2% raise for the Fire Department and Police Department.
- Mayor Heinrich discussed a reducing the proposed tax rate from \$.844134 to \$.834134 with council.
- Director of Finance Charles Williams spoke about the budget with council.

7. City Manager Report.

- Mr. Parker spoke about TXDOT postponing the installation of a stoplight at Country Road 414 and Highway 67 for at least a year and at the next City Council meeting we will set a tax rate and approve the budget.

8. 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:

- No Executive Session held.

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)

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.

- No Executive Session held.

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

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

- None.

11. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

By: _____

Gary Heinrich, Mayor

Attest: _____

Jaqueline Munoz-Saldivar, City Secretary