

**MINUTES
of the
KEENE CITY COUNCIL**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

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

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

Invocation – Bernie Parker

Pledge of Allegiance & Pledge to the Texas Flag – Gary Heinrich, Mayor

1. Public Comments: None

2. Mayor Comments:

Chief Hunt swore in Officer Dominguez as a new police officer for the City of Keene.

3. Consideration of City Council minutes dated September 30, 2021.

Councilmember Cooper made a motion to approve minutes dated September 30, 2021. Councilmember Beeson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0-1, Councilmember Foster abstained.

4. Discussion and possible action approving the budget for Type A Economic Development Corporation for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022.

A presentation was given by a representative of Retail Strategies. He stated that Retail Strategies has had a 60-70% success rate and had been successful in 50-60 cities. The representative said that plans start at 16-18 months and can take up to 24 months to ignite. He stated that his company could present research that would indicate the buying habits of Keene residents to target specific brands to come to the city.

Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve the budget for Type A Economic Development Corporation for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. Councilmember Beeson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1-0, Councilmember Parrish voted against

5. Discussion and take possible action approving the budget for Type B Business Development Corporation for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022.

Councilmember Bass made a motion to approve the budget for Type B Business

Development Corporation for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2021, and ending September 30, 2022. Councilmember Cooper seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-1-0, Councilmember Parrish voted against.

6. Discussion and take possible action on a Gas Well Ordinance.

Council gave direction to staff to draft the gas well ordinance with a 200 ft radius from the wellhead with the ability to grant a possible variance of 100 ft radius from the wellhead, as well as add a noise restriction/reduction using masonry walls.

7. Discussion and take possible action regarding proposed traffic control changes during school zone hours at the KISD campuses.

Council gave direction to staff to have further discussions with the schools as to the speed zones and times. The council was in agreeance with the strict enforcement in the no parking areas during the drop-off/pick-up times and the no left turn control for westbound East 4th at Eastern. They were not interested in the one-way roads during the peak drop-off/pick-up times.

8. Department Reports:

a. Public Works Department:

Public Works Director Don Martin presented the public works department reports for September 2021.

b. Police Department

Police Chief Hunt presented the police department reports for September 2021.

9. City Manager's Comments:

The City Manager reminded the council and citizens of some important dates of events in the city.

The first day of Early Voting starts on October 18th and runs thru October 29th located in the small room of the community center at City Hall. The voting days are Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm with October 21st and 26th being the two 12 hour days 7:00 am – 7:00 pm.

November 2nd is Election Day from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm in the Community Center.

10. 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. No executive session was held.

Executive Session Started at 8:38

a. Consultation with the City Attorney (551.071): Houghton Dis-Annexation petition.

Reconvened into Open Session at 8:54

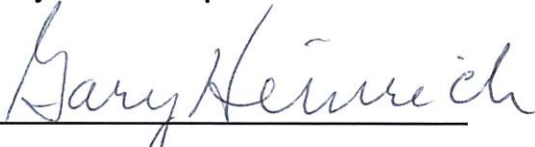
11. Reconvene into Open Session for possible action resulting from any item posted and discussed in Executive Session.


Councilmember Parrish made a motion to authorize the Mayor's signature on an engagement letter with the law firm of Messer, Fort, and McDonald to defend the City in a lawsuit entitled Angela Denise Houghton and Houghton Land Company V. City of Keene. Councilmember Foster seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0-1, Councilmember Bass abstained.

12. Discussion and requests for future items on the agenda. - None

13. Adjourn at 8:55 pm

By: 
Gary Heinrich, Mayor

Attest: 
Diane Helms, City Secretary