

**MINUTES OF THE  
HENDERSON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

April 14, 2020

The City Council met on this date at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor John (Buzz) Fullen presiding. Council Members present included Tommy Goode, Michael Searcy, Henry Pace. Joining the meeting virtually were Melissa Morton and Steve Higginbotham.

Staff members present included City Manager Jay Abercrombie and City Secretary Cheryl Jimerson. Joining the meeting virtually were City Attorney Joe Shumate, Police Chief Chad Taylor, Fire Chief Rusty Chote, Public Services Director Davis Brown, Community Development Manager Billy Hughes, Director of Finance Karen Arnall, Communications and Marketing Letti Goodrich, Animal Center Director Charissa Pool, HEDCO Director John Clary, and HEDCO Administrative Assistant Karen Smith.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council Member Henry Pace gave the Invocation and Mayor Buzz Fullen led the Pledges.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

There were none.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS:**

Jimmy Esparza with Waste Connections asked to speak about item 3 on the agenda; Action awarding a contract for Solid Waste and Recycling Services. Jimmy stated their company has served the City of Henderson for a very long time they want to keep the City's business. He also stated the company would like for the Council to reconsider the recommendation from Solid Waste Services.

**PRESENTATION'S:**

City Manager Jay Abercrombie explained the City contracted with Solid Waste Services (SWS) in January to handle the Proposal process for Solid Waste Services. Jay turned the floor over to Lynn Lantrip with SWS. Lynn explained to Council what the process was and how the scoring system worked for the proposals submitted. This scoring system reflected Republic Services as the recommendation SWS submitted to Council to consider servicing the City of Henderson.

James Pike with the Emergency Management Operations Updated Council that as of day 42 of the Covid 19 pandemic, the first positive case in Rusk County was March 4<sup>th</sup> and as of April 16<sup>th</sup> there were 14,622 positive cases in Texas; Rusk County has 17 of those positive cases. There has been an estimated count of 2,580 patients that have recovered, 318 of those are fatalities.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** *Consent Agenda items are considered to be routine in nature and may be acted upon in one motion. Any item requiring additional discussion may be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda by the Mayor, Councilmember or City Manager, and acted upon separately.*

**1. Consideration and possible action on the following Minutes: (Jimerson)**

- ❖ March 17, 2020 – Regular Council Meeting
- ❖ March 17, 2020 – Emergency Council Meeting

**2. Consideration and possible action upon HEDCO financials for February 2020. (Clary)**

HEDCO Director John Clary updated information to the Council on the stimulus plan HEDCO was offering to the businesses that purchased lunch for their employee's at local restaurants getting a refund of 50% from HEDCO to help the local businesses keep operating. John stated this has been very successful HEDCO has paid out just under \$12,000 in reimbursements. Participating businesses were a total of 23, just to list a few; Sadlers, Panel Truss, Gabriel Jordan, Velvin Oil, Top Line Rental and MTC. Participating restaurants were 28, top sales were with Francisco's, Snowflake, Debbie's Bistro and Bodacious.

Council Member Melissa Morton made to a motion to approve the consent agenda items, duly seconded by Council Member Michael Searcy; vote was unanimous.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS – REGULAR SESSION:**

**3. Consideration and possible action upon awarding a contract for Solid Waste and Recycling Services.** Jay Abercrombie stated the Council approved outsourcing the Solid Waste and Recycling Service proposals at the January 14, 2020 Council Meeting. Jay turned the floor over to Lynn Lantrip with Solid Waste Specialist (SWS). Lynn explained the bid process and scoring technique to determine how a

company would be selected. Republic Services received the highest score; SWS recommends to Council to award the contract to Republic Services.

Council Member Tommy Goode made a motion to award the contract to Republic Services; duly seconded by Council Member Steve Higginbotham, vote was unanimous.

4. Mayor Fullen opened a Public Hearing to review and readopt a Juvenile Curfew Ordinance.

Council Member Steve Higginbotham asked the Police Chief Chad Taylor if there had been an increase in the juveniles breaking the curfew ordinance. Chad stated there had not been an increase but there could be if we do not readopt the ordinance.

There were no other comments.

5. Mayor Fullen asked for a motion to close the public Hearing.

Council Member Tommy Goode made a motion to close the public hearing; duly seconded by Council Member Michael Searcy, vote was unanimous.

6. Consideration and possible action upon readopting Juvenile Curfew Ordinance No. 2020-04-41.

Council Member Steve Higginbotham made a motion to readopt the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance 2020-04-41; duly seconded by Council Member Henry Pace, vote was unanimous.

7. Consideration and possible action amending the Christus Trinity Clinic professional services agreement. City Manager Jay Abercrombie stated the agreement has not been approved by Christus Trinity and asked the item be tabled.

Council Member Michael Searcy made a motion to table the agreement; duly seconded by Council Member Henry Pace, vote was unanimous.

8. Consideration and possible action on the Declaration of Local Disaster and Public Health Emergency issued March 17, 2020 shall continue in effect until the Mayor or Henderson City Council terminates its consent to the continuation of this declaration or until this declaration is terminated by order of the Mayor, whichever occurs first.

Council Member Michael Searcy asked if there were any changes to the order. Mayor Fullen stated there was not any change.

Council Member Michael Searcy made a motion to keep the declaration in place until terminated by order of the Mayor or Henderson City Council; duly seconded by Council Member Henry Pace, vote was unanimous.

9. **Departmental Reports**

Council Member Steve Higginbotham asked if the total COVID cases included any of the prisons, the Mayor stated they have not had any cases.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

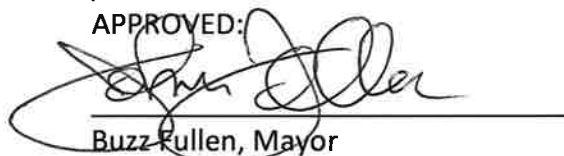
There were no items to discuss in executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

10. Adjourn.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, upon a motion by Council Member Melissa Morton, duly seconded by Council Member Henry Pace; with a unanimous vote of the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

APPROVED:



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Buzz Fullen, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Cheryl Jimerson, City Secretary