

CITY OF DENTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 30, 2020

After determining that a quorum was present, the City Council of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, April 30, 2020, at 1:01 p.m. in the Council Work Session Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor, and Paul Meltzer

ABSENT: None

Also present were City Manager Todd Hileman and City Attorney Aaron Leal

Note: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth, and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor and Paul Meltzer will be participating in the closed meeting, work session, and regular meeting via video/teleconference under the provisions allowed by the Texas Government Code Section 551.127.

The posted agenda noted the registration process for public participation at this virtual meeting. While citizen commentary received via the online registration process is not read, each member of the City Council received each registration as it was submitted.

WORK SESSION

1. Citizen Comments on Consent Agenda Items

None.

2. Requests for clarification of agenda items listed on this agenda.

- Consent Item 1.C (ID 20-852) - As requested, staff clarified other information available to the public relating to mail in ballots in Travis County applied only to that County. (Watts)
- Consent Item 1.C (ID 20-852) - As requested, staff reported contact with the Denton County Elections Department on mail-in ballots would be provided in the Friday Report. (Meltzer)

3. Work Session Reports

Note: The items when posted were numbered out of order but when read into the record, were presented in alphabetical order. Therefore, the correction is noted herein.

A.B. ID 20-773 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding an update to the City of Denton's COVID-19 response.

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Dr. Matt Richardson, Director of the Denton County Public Health Department, provided county-level statistics as related to COVID-19.

Following discussion, there was no direction provided. However, needed corrections were identified to the Order to be considered under Individual Consideration Item 2.A (ID 20-873) to be considered during the Special Called Meeting to follow later in the day.

The meeting recessed for a short break at 2:39 p.m. and reconvened at 2:48 p.m.

B.A. ID 20-772 Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding a policy for requests to create special districts within the City and the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ).

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Following discussion, there was no direction provided as the item was for presentation purposes only, with the Policy scheduled to return for formal consideration on May 5.

CLOSED MEETING

1. The City Council convened into a Closed Meeting at 4:03 p.m. consistent with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, as amended, or as otherwise allowed by law, as follows.

- A. ID 20-883 Consultation with Attorneys - Under Texas Government Code Section 551.071. Consultation, discussion, deliberation, and receipt of information from the City's attorneys involving legal issues relating to a disaster declaration and related order, and to provide the City's attorneys with direction, where a public discussion of these legal matters would clearly conflict with the duty of the City's attorneys to the City of Denton and the Denton City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas.

DELIBERATED

The Closed Meeting started at 4:13 p.m. and ended at 4:25 p.m. No votes or actions were taken during the Closed Meeting.

SPECIAL MEETING

After determining that a quorum was present, the City Council of the City of Denton, Texas convened in a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, April 30, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Work Session Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor, and Paul Meltzer

ABSENT: None

Also present were City Manager Todd Hileman and City Attorney Aaron Leal

Note: Mayor Chris Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Gerard Hudspeth, and Council Members Keely Briggs, Jesse Davis, John Ryan, Deb Armintor and Paul Meltzer will be participating in the closed meeting, work session, and regular meeting via video/teleconference under the provisions allowed by the Texas Government Code Section 551.127.

The posted agenda noted the registration process for public participation at this virtual meeting. While citizen commentary received via the online registration process is not read, each member of the City Council received each registration as it was submitted.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of Items 1.A-C. No items were pulled for individual consideration.

Council Member Ryan moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Council Member Briggs. Motion carried.

AYES (7): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth and Council Members Briggs, Davis, Ryan, Armintor, and Meltzer

NAYS (0): None

- A. ID 20-879 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, approving and authorizing the City Manager to sign a Lease Amendment Letter Agreement to a Medical Office Building Lease by and between Epic Development, Inc., and the City of Denton for the use and occupancy of premises at 3537 South I-35E Denton, Texas 76210 for the City of Denton Employee Health Center for a two month rent abatement and two month lease extension; authorizing the expenditure of funds therefor; and providing an effective date.

ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-879

- B. ID 20-880 Consider approval of the minutes of April 7, 2020 (Emergency and Regular).
- C. ID 20-852 Consider approval of a resolution of the City Council of the City of Denton finding that a public emergency exists and setting forth its support for determining that the emergency warrants a special election; for petitioning the governor for a special election date; authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to forward the resolution to the Governor and Secretary of State of the State of Texas; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED RESOLUTION NO. 20-852

2. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

- A. ID 20-873 Consider adoption of an ordinance of the City of Denton, a Texas home-rule municipal corporation, extending the effective period of the declared state of local disaster; superseding and replacing the Second Order of Council of the City of Denton issued April 6, 2020 approved by Ordinance 20-812; confirming and authorizing the expenditure of funds; providing a repealer clause; and providing an effective date.
ASSIGNED ORDINANCE NO. 20-873

The item was presented and discussion followed.

Citizen comments received are noted in Exhibit A.

All members of the City Council received the comments as submitted and had the opportunity to review all submissions prior to the start of the meeting and consider such comments when voting on the item.

Mayor Watts announced the summary of public commentary/registrations. See Exhibit A for details.

- 1 online comment: 0 in Support and 1 in Opposition
- 0 call-ins

Following discussion, Council Member Davis moved to adopt the item with the following amendments to the Order:

- Remunerate Section 4.a, second “iii” as “iv”: [struck through and underlined for emphasis]
 - ~~iii~~ iv. Other boards and commissions shall meet only as necessary to consider time sensitive items critical for the continued operation of the City and provision of services to the public.

- Revise Section 4.k correcting the dollar amount as follows: [struck through and underlined for emphasis]
 - The City Manager is authorized to expend no more than ~~Nine~~ Eight Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000.000) from the general fund reserve balance during this period to proceed with the necessary emergency responses and essential functions not already budgeted, which includes the previously authorize.

Motion seconded by Council Member Briggs. Motion carried.

AYES (6): Mayor Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Hudspeth and Council Members Briggs, Davis, Ryan, and Meltzer

NAYS (1): Council Member Armintor

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.



CHRIS WATTS
MAYOR
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS



ROSA RIOS
CITY SECRETARY
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

MINUTES APPROVED ON: May 12, 2020

April 30, 2020 City Council Special Called Meeting - EXHIBIT A

**Speaker Commentaries/Registrations
Online, Email, Phone**

Name	Last	Address	City	Agenda Item	Position	Method	Comments
Lewis	Toland	9700 Teakwood Avenue	Denton	20-873	Against	Online	We citizens are quite capable of acting prudently about opening and patronizing a business without the consistently erroneous estimates of the prelates of the Petri dishes. Your hasty overreaction in presuming to determine "essential" from "nonessential" is most illiberal, granting monopolies to larger corporations while impoverishing local families. Experts are narrowly focused advisors, not leaders. Much more of your "cures" will prove more economically fatal than the over-hyped virus.