

MINUTES FOR THE TERRELL HILLS MAY 9, 2022 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

1. Call to Order and Recording of Quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm and a quorum was established.

Council Members Present

Mayor John Low
Emmy Ballantyne
Peter Mako
Bill Mitchell
Kate Lanfear

City Employees Present

City Manager William Foley
Asst. City Manager Michelle Pack
Asst. Fire Chief Justin Seibert
Police Chief Roger Mangum
Asst. Police Chief Gail Baham
Director Rick Baldarrama
City Attorney Frank Garza

Others Present

Jenny Schimpff
Rick Schimpff
George Case
Chade Case

2. Review/Action of minutes from:

a. April 11th Public Hearing & Regular Meeting

Mayor John Low: [00:00:30] First item of business is to act on and consider is the minutes from our public hearing and regular meeting on April 11. Did everybody have a chance to take a look at that? Does anybody have any corrections additions?

William Foley: [00:01:00] Mr. Mayor. I have a point on the second page. There is the second to last page there needs to be a correction on the end of the meeting time.

Mayor John Low: [00:01:00] Okay.

William Foley: [00:01:12] From 5:56 to 4:56.

Mayor John Low: [00:01:14] Okay. Thank you. Anybody else have any corrections or additions to the minutes? I'd ask for a motion to approve our April, 10 minutes as with corrections city manager Foley has made.

Bill Mitchell: [00:01:28] I move to approve as corrected.

Mayor John Low: [00:01:30] Thank you. Mr. Mitchell. Do I have a second?

Mayor John Low: [00:01:32] I'll second.

Mayor John Low: [00:01:32] Thank you Mrs. Ballantyne. All in favor? (all say aye)Any opposed? Minutes are adopted.

3. Comments by Citizens

Mayor John Low: [00:01:32] Next item on the agenda are the opportunity for citizens to speak to the council. We are not able, we're not allowed to take any action on what is brought to the council, but we would certainly like to give you an opportunity to speak to us. And it looks like we have some folks here. So if you'd introduce yourselves and let us know why you're here.

Rick Schimpff: [00:01:58] He wants for us to stand up here?

Mayor John Low: [00:02:00] You can stay there if you like.

Rick Schimpff: [00:02:04] My name is Rick Schimpff. I live at 1001 Ivy lane. I've been a resident of Terrell Hills since my parents brought me home from the Nix Hospital August 1953. Sometimes the first week in March a car, flew through the intersection the yield signs at Seaford and Crestwood. Uh, I followed the car down. It was somebody that works at Enterprise Holdings. The next day. I got Mr. Baldarrama and I asked him if I could volunteer to buy two stop signs for that location and have the city put them up. He told me in a very nice way that there were policies and procedures that had to be followed. And the next day, he brought me three pages of policies and procedures that I needed follow. I started getting signatures, which I have in my packet. And I found out real quickly as people down in that neighborhood are furious at the City. They have been yelling at the city since Cal Johnson was city manager here and absolutely nothing has been done for them. I ordered the stop signs. With full intention of giving them to the city. The world is out of everything so it took almost a month for me to get my stop signs because they were backordered. I got them. In that time, I gathered signatures. I started thinking I'm very worried about that intersection because I had five grandkids four of them play at the park. One of them is a little young. She's only five months old, but she is in a stroller down with her sister. On April 30th in the afternoon I took the yield signs down and put stop signs up. I saw no reason to get a traffic study. I saw no reason to get a traffic engineer. And after I learned that the citizens had been going for 15 years to get this done and I just I can't understand that in the City of Terrell Hills. That was Saturday, Sunday the signs were there, Monday morning, the sign were there, Monday afternoon I came home from work, the signs were gone. Figured you guys knew what was going on at that point. The next day. I had a card from. Mr. Foley. Please call me. I called Mr. Foley on Wednesday morning. Um, conversation started out pretty well, and Mr. Foley started trying to intimidate me telling me he was going to arrest me for criminal mischief and tampering with a traffic device. I said to go ahead and do whatever you need to do. I understand. I'm trying to protect my grandkids. Things got a little bit better and then he explained to me that every traffic sign in the city of Terrell Hills is put there by an ordinance, that the city council signs and the mayor signs. I have a little problem with that. Don't need to ride around and look at some of the traffic signs out there but that's what he told me. So I take it at face value. Um, I have 26 signatures of people who want the stop signs put back up. Mr. Foley could not answer one question that I asked. On the Crestwood, Edsel Parkway Street system. If you go to Rittiman stop signs. Morningside stop signs, Eventide. Stop signs. Next street is Wiltshire. Stop signs. Canterbury Hill, stop signs and Ivy Lane. Stop signs. Lyman. Stop signs. You get to Seford, the west side of the ditch. Stop signs. The east side of the ditch is yield signs and that's the worst part of the intersection because of the bridge, they're trying to look over the railing around the railing. The gentleman, who lives on the corner, always has this park, his car parked out in front. Legally, I think, but he always has it parked there. So it's hard to see and anybody who doesn't stop there and spend a few seconds looking. It's a bad intersection. The lady who lives on the south east corner of that has called Terrell Hills, Police Department four times this year. I'm going to give them a compliment. They are running radar down there more often now, and I appreciate that. So

somebody needs to explain to me why the entire system is stop signs. Except for the worst intersection and its yield sign. That's all I got. I appreciate your time. Appreciate the mayor's time.

Mayor John Low: [00:07:25] Well, thank you very much for coming in and I'm assuming you will continue to work with Mr. Foley to move this along in the, through the proper channels that we have here that we have to follow.

Rick Schimpff: [00:07:39] May I speak?

Mayor John Low: [00:07:41] You may continue your comments.

Rick Schimpff: [00:07:44] I'm sorry. How many city managers have we gone through and nothing has happened? Do I really need to talk to Mr. Foley? He certainly did not seem like he was going to do anything about it. So um, and I understand I broke the law. But I think the city needs to do something quickly before someone... The other thing is, I was on planning and zoning, and I was on the board of adjustment, four years each, chairman for two years of each. I think y'all have lost your Municipal immunity down there. There's been so many complaints that somebody is killed at that intersection. I truly believe that every personal injury attorney in the state of Texas is going to be on y'all looking for liability. Thank you very much. Thank you.

Jenny Schimpff: [00:08:40] Can we leave the signatures with the...

Mayor John Low: [00:08:40] You can leave them with the city manager.

Mayor John Low: [00:08:43] All right. Is there anymore citizen comments? Hearing none. We'll move on to our next item on our agenda which is administration of the oath of office to the mayor, council place one and council place two.

4. Administration of the Oath of Office for Mayor, Council Place One and Council Place Two

Mayor John Low: [00:08:43] We'll move on to our next item on our agenda which is administration of the oath of office to the mayor, council place one and council place two. I'll take it Mr. City manager has to start.

The statements of appointed officials and oaths of office were administered.

Mayor John Low: [00:13:43] Okay. Thank you everybody.

5. Election: Of Mayor Pro-Tempore to serve a term effective from May 10, 2022 to May 8, 2023.

Mayor John Low: [00:13:43] Welcome to our visitors who just came in. Okay, next item. We need to elect a mayor pro-tem to serve a term effective from a May 10, 2022 to May 8, 2023. Our current mayor pro-tem, Mrs. Kate Lanfear, thank you very much for helping us. But I'd like to have a nomination from the council as to a mayor pro-tem for the coming year.

Bill Mitchell: [00:14:11] I would like to nominate Emmy Ballantyne.

Mayor John Low: [00:14:14] Thank you. I've got a nomination to appoint Emmy Ballantyne as Mayor Pro tem forthcoming. Do I have a second?

Peter Mako: [00:14:20] Second.

Mayor John Low: [00:14:20] Mr. Mako. Thank you. All in favor? (all say aye) Any opposed? None. Thank you Mrs. Ballantyne.

6. Discussion/Authorization: To discuss the bid from CRI Electric and authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into a contract. For the replacement of the Emergency Generator.

Mayor John Low: [00:14:20] Mr. Mako. Thank you. All in favor? (all say aye) Any opposed? None. Thank you Mrs. Ballantyne. Okay. Next item is going to be a discussion authorization on our generator project. Mr. Foley's got some information. We're ready to maybe make...Mr. Foley?

William Foley: [00:14:43] We advertised work with DBR to hit the schematics for the generator. We advertised. We went through this process and we have one bid. As I sent in the email, eighty, eighty-five thousand dollars over what the cost estimate was initially. I emailed DBR and asked them, what do you think about this, and I sent you and your email, their responses, that the prices are changing. So regularly that it's very difficult for them to estimate the price. The bid that we have is 321ish 680, I believe. The company that submitted the proposal CRI, we uh, high recommendations from DBR, they've done business with them. We called their references that they submitted. Everybody had good things to say about them. We didn't have, the only, only thing that Mr. Brown from Schertz have them as a contractor on call, but they haven't done any work. So he wasn't able to give thumbs up or thumbs down, but that was the only thing beside positive that we got. So we're looking to move forward where we move forward with them and you approve this. We're looking at it 48 week wait just to get the generator.

Mayor John Low: [00:16:22] Okay, obviously, it's more than we thought going in, but everything is more than we think going in. Um Bill, do you have any ideas, any concerns?

Bill Mitchell: [00:16:33] No, I think. I mean, I'm sorry, we only got one price on it. But that's the market today. There's not a lot of competition because everyone is so busy that there's like, actually not a lot of interest because everybody's so busy.

William Foley: [00:16:48] And I asked that question. Mr. Mitchell. I said, well, what could we have done? And DBR said, they had a bunch of people ask. I now know how to use civcast, when they put these, I looked at the plan holders. There was seven or eight different companies and the plan holders that have downloaded the plans and we only got the one bid.

Bill Mitchell: [00:17:12] In normal times, I might be a little hesitant. I'm not because the way that the it's being funded is through the federal government money. And I think that's what it's for, it's for this type of a situation when you need something badly and times are difficult. So my recommendation is that we move ahead.

Mayor John Low: [00:17:37] Peter?

Peter Mako: [00:17:38] I cant make any other comments, I agree.

Mayor John Low: [00:17:38] Yeah unfortunately, it is what it is.

Peter Mako: [00:17:42] If we wait any longer, it might just get worse. I mean.

Bill Mitchell: [00:17:46] Everything's going up very, very quickly in our industry.

Mayor John Low: [00:17:49] Yeah, and that price is turn key? Is that correct Bill?

William Foley: [00:17:53] Yes. That's my understanding.

Mayor John Low: [00:17:54] Okay, let's verify that.

William Foley: [00:17:55] Flip the lights it's up....

Mayor John Low: [00:17:57] So turn of the light and power here and turn it on, or everything kicks on...

Bill Mitchell: [00:18:01] Did they give you a timeframe? Not and, I know how long it takes to get it to do the work.

William Foley: [00:18:07] So it's in that bid proposal and I'll dig in there...They're basically, he said once everything hinges on that 48, week delay...

Bill Mitchell: [00:18:18] Right.

William Foley: [00:18:18] And once they have that it's specified out in there and I can dig in there and get you that answer.

Bill Mitchell: [00:18:23] It's curiosity only it, it's going to be ok. Let's beat the next hurricane season. Okay.

Mayor John Low: [00:18:31] Okay. Yeah, hearing no further discussion, and I'm going to ask for a motion to provide authorization to the city manager to follow up a negotiated contract with CRI electric for a generator for City Hall.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:18:44] I'll make a motion to authorize the city manager to negotiate and enter into a contract for the replacement of the emergency generator.

Mayor John Low: [00:18:52] Thank you, Miss Ballantyne. Do I have a second?

Kate Lanfear: [00:18:54] Second.

Mayor John Low: [00:18:54] Thank you Mrs. Lanfear. All in favor? (all say aye) Any opposed? Motion carries. Bill, you've got your direction and just let us, let us know how it goes with them.

William Foley: [00:19:09] Thank you. I will keep you updated.

7. Discussion/Provide Staff Direction: Guidance on FY 2023 Budget Calendar

Mayor John Low: [00:19:11] Okay, thanks very much. Next item of business is it's time to think about our 2023, budget calendar. Some days came out. You've got them in front of you. We're following the same format as we have the last few years where we try to knock out that first pre budget workshop right before city council meeting. And the same thing, I believe, that September, um October. Anybody have any concerns or problems with the dates or the process in general?

William Foley: [00:19:41] So you should have a copy in your email that just has your meeting dates on it. No highlighting, red anything on there. This is our copy to show some of the hurdles that we have to jump through. In your email, you should have a copy that just shows the August 8th meeting, the September 12th meeting, the October 11th meetings and November 9th, if needed, and the December 11th. Just if nobody has issues with those dates, that's what we're going to shoot for.

Mayor John Low: [00:20:14] Okay. Yeah, everyone knows October 12 is a Tuesday, October 11, because of Columbus Day. I had to look that up. Okay. Well, then the date seems good if you'll keep us on schedule so that we are working backwards from approving everything we need to approve that be great.

William Foley: [00:20:32] Certainly.

Mayor John Low: [00:20:33] Thank you.

8. Discussion from monthly reports as submitted in the council packets.

Mayor John Low: [00:20:33] Thank you. Next item. We've got reports from our department heads. You've got them in your packets. Do you have any? Let's just kind of go Justin anything from fire?

Justin Seibert: [00:20:49] Nothing additional.

Mayor John Low: [00:20:50] Okay. We noted that you guys are really getting your 70, some odd percent complete on the best practices documentation. That's great. Do you think that's something that we get done by the end of the year? Is that possible?

Justin Seibert: [00:21:01] I would think so. I don't want to speak out of turn without the big boss being here, but I definitely think it's doable.

Mayor John Low: [00:21:07] Okay. Thank you. Any questions for Justin? Roger?

Roger Mangum: [00:21:11] Sir?

Mayor John Low: [00:21:12] Your department? Everything seemed to be going, okay?

Roger Mangum: [00:21:15] It is.

Mayor John Low: [00:21:16] Okay.

Bill Mitchell: [00:21:16] Seemed like there were a lot of automobiles and incidents. As I skim through report is like people breaking in people stealing cars, which is a little bit unusual.

Roger Mangum: [00:21:26] Yeah, and they actually recovered one of those in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It was stripped of all identification, but they did determine it was stolen from one of our residents, the resident already squared away with the insurance, so he didn't want it back. You're just, but at least we recovered it and I've got it off the stolen and list.

Bill Mitchell: [00:21:45] And the jeep was seen in Olmos Park is that, did I read that right?

Roger Mangum: [00:21:48] So they look like they're fishing in our respective areas. I'm sorry. We still haven't found the guy on the bicycle that were very interested in Mrs. Ballantyne, there is an arrest warrant out for him.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:22:14] Our garage got broken into, but they have been wonderful to work with.

Roger Mangum: [00:22:15] We're just waiting for him to get picked up and they'll notify us and we can begin the interview process and try to link him to the theft of vehicles and the burglary of your garage.

Bill Mitchell: [00:22:23] Are most of these car break-ins. Are they break-ins? Are they opening unlocked doors?

Roger Mangum: [00:22:29] Well, I hate to tell you but it's mostly just fishing around finding a vehicle that's unlocked, because it's easier. And it's a lot quieter. So they're looking for vehicles that they can unlock and have

immediate access to as opposed to breaking out windows and making a lot of noise. And that's what we found. Matter of fact. I don't think there was any one, that was actually broken into.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:22:53] Yeah, the same night as our burglary two other cars got broken into on the next street. So I wouldn't be surprised if they're all the same.

Roger Mangum: [00:23:11] I talked to Mike, our investigator, he's back, he is still waiting on the finger prints on the can that was found in your garage. DPS takes sometimes, two to three weeks. If we're lucky to get fingerprints back, but we haven't forgotten. We're just waiting for a response from them to try to match up prints from this guy.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:23:24] Great. Thank you.

Mayor John Low: [00:23:28] Is it is it time to put something on our website again or a reminder to people, hey folks lock your doors and will your car will get past fine. It seems like these things run in waves and there be three or four months, and I'll give you another one. But if we can get some word out, that just to remind folks, that..

Roger Mangum: [00:23:48] We will be more than happy to put a PSA out. And again, I'm sure some people think, well, if I leave it open and they won't damage my property and it's easier to maybe replace things than it is to repair a broken window, but I think if you're looking for a deterrent is probably better, if we put out the announcement again that you should secure your vehicles.

Mayor John Low: [00:24:09] Okay? Okay. Thank you. Rick, what's going on in public works?

Rick Baldarrama: [00:24:15] Just keeping up with garbage and brush and stuff like that. Painted the rails down in the park. Other than that we're doing good.

Bill Mitchell: [00:24:22] Rick. I have bad news for you. The 600 block of Canterbury Hill where you cleared those drains?

Rick Baldarrama: [00:24:27] Yes. Yes, sir.

Bill Mitchell: [00:24:28] They're both clogged up again.

Rick Baldarrama: [00:24:29] Are they again?

Bill Mitchell: [00:24:30] Yeah, both sides.

Rick Baldarrama: [00:24:31] Our pressure washer with the hose is in the shop right now, soon as we get that back we will look at it.

Bill Mitchell: [00:24:39] Yeah both sides, one side. Looks like it's coming from a construction site because it was full of look like it's full of mud- that's the south side.

Rick Baldarrama: [00:24:48] SAWS is working in that area.

Bill Mitchell: [00:24:49] Yeah.

Mayor John Low: [00:24:55] Great. Okay. Thank you, Michelle?

Michelle Pack: [00:24:58] I just wanted to say because this is the first month that we have had graphs in the packet. I want to remind you that property taxes that we were anticipating in December of 2021 were paid and January 2022, which Phil said he was staying with his municipality because people were paying their taxes later, so our income is going to appear odd all year long. Because the month the big money came in January instead of December.

Mayor John Low: [00:25:25] Okay.

Michelle Pack: [00:25:27] That's all that I have.

Mayor John Low: [00:25:28] Okay, and then Mr. Manager,

William Foley: [00:25:33] The, Rick talked about the bridge railings down there. They did a phenomenal job of getting everything painted. H-E-B was able to reimburse us for all of our costs down there, which was awesome. Our road project, we held our pre-bid conference. We have that up on civcast, it's being advertised and we're looking to open bids on May 12. So hopefully in the June meeting, I can bring you something for the road project. And we can get that moving forward. We would then need to wait to the July SAWS board so that they can approve the addendum for the SAWS work and we'd be moving ahead with, or hopefully getting started. Crestwood Park, my email, I talked about what we've been doing down there. We've had a couple of very good meetings with a company that is on our by board Play Well Group. I sent you a link of one of the playgrounds that they did in Chattanooga, Shavano Park. We're getting some ideas and some businesses together to redo that part. Hopefully, by June, I will also have that to you, to look at and make some input on. Also, in your email. You have our Terrell Hills app that I talked about. In my report. Hopefully you got a chance to look at some of the mock-up branding that they did for us. I think it's going to look pretty nice. Once it gets going. We're still not 100% sure on what buttons will be on the app. We have a good list. We've added your suggestion, Mr. Mitchell, for a link to our weather station here at the fire department. So once we get that up and running the entire idea behind that is to bring it to you in June. Hopefully, by then you can all download it to your phones and be kind of the guinea pigs, if you will, to look through it and then we can put it on the agenda for June and have a discussion about what you don't like. And that would give us time. And our plan is to make a big marketing push to all of our residents at the July 4th parade. We plan to have a booth, we plan to get QR codes on everything so that you can just walk by with your smartphone, get the QR code to download my Terrell Hills at and you're up and running. So I think it's going to be pretty positive and it will be something, I think, that more folks will use compared to our call out systems that we have. And just like if you have a Facebook page or any other app on your phone, if we want to send you a push notification, you'll see a little red one or two or three pop up next to that app. As you click on there and city of Terrell Hills says, garbage is not going to be picked up tomorrow for whatever reason. So I think it would be pretty nifty. Also going to be some really neat ownership that for residents to say I saw it on my Terrell Hills app. That they could say. Oh you live in Alamo Heights you don't have one of those? (laughter)

Mayor John Low: [00:29:04] Okay, I'm sorry. Bill, go ahead.

William Foley: [00:29:13] Any questions on any of that?

Mayor John Low: [00:29:13] I was going to just briefly touched on our meeting with Dave Robertson with Play Well, we had lunch with him here and he brought samples of materials and conceptual ideas and what everybody was talking to you and all the people I've talked to, we need two players. We need a 0 to 6 and then a 6 to 12. You can't do a 2 to 12. We were looking at it to 12 because of the cost, you just can't do that because of the difference in intellectual and physical development. And so his plan encompasses that and they've got slides that point. Like, if you're coming down to 12 year old slide, it goes away from the kids are you don't want to run right across. I mean a lot of thoughts giving it and he gave us a brief overlay of how would fit on our area down there and about a cover and then the softer material and so the guy really knows what he's talking about. He hopefully will be here next month with some storyboards. So we can kind of see what he what we've selected

with colors laid out against what it looks like. And so we're pretty excited about that. It's not inexpensive. I think the one if you went to the look at the length of the Shavano Park, I think he said that was a half-a-million-dollar installation. We're not anywhere close to that, but it did, to get to cover it and put the soft area. It's going to, it's going to cost some money, but everybody, I talk to said, our park, people like driving on our roads, but people are passionate about the parks. I think this would really be a nice statement for our community to have a state-of-the-art playground, instead of what we started out being that way but now it's really kind of fallen into disrepair and it's aged. So that's all I've got for that. Anybody to add anything else for Bill? I do want to brag on Bill as well. Yes, last Thursday, Wednesday, Thursday, Wednesday, maybe, uh, the, we hosted a well we didn't, the, Bill hosted a barbecue for all employees, cooked a couple of briskets, and we had them here and sit right here and had brisket and Bill brags about his barbecue, it lives up to it. Darn good. An Billy and his group did the beans and Michelle kind of oversaw everything, but it was great. You can see that everybody was having a good time and it was nice. And I saw Rick wanted to go back twice.

Bill Mitchell: [00:31:55] So, should we have barbecue instead of chili this year?

William Foley: [00:32:00] We could do it.

Emmy Ballantyne: [00:32:03] Can we have both? (laughter)

Mayor John Low: [00:32:08] Okay. All right. Before we adjourn I'd like to say hello to this young man and tell us. So you're looking for a specific merit badge of some type maybe?

George Case: [00:32:19] I think so, yes.

Mayor John Low: [00:32:20] Okay. Tell us, what's your name?

George Case: [00:32:25] George Case

Mayor John Low: [00:32:25] Hi, George. How are you doing?

George Case: [00:32:31] Good.

Mayor John Low: [00:32:31] And what troop are you with?

George Case: [00:32:31] 809.

Mayor John Low: [00:32:31] 809. So you've been able to see a little bit about what we do here, which is to take care of not only the day-to-day business, but long-term planning for the city. Do you live here in Terrell Hills?

George Case: [00:32:42] Yes sir.

Mayor John Low: [00:32:42] Uh, Grandview.

Mayor John Low: [00:32:42] Oh you live right around the corner from me. Uh, any questions, do you want to be on City Council?

George Case: [00:33:07] What are some issues Terrell Hills is facing this year? What is being done and? How can young people help?

Roger Mangum: [00:33:20] Well We encourage everybody even young people and young adults? If you see something that doesn't look right, if you think it just needs to be reported to tell your parents and to call us.

Because we're not out there at every house at any given time because we patrol quite frequently and sometimes the eyes of the citizens are much better than we are, because you kind of know what your house looks like and what your neighbor's house looks like. So if you see suspicious people, suspicious vehicles that would be the perfect time to let your parents know and call the police that we can come check it out. There's no harm in that. It's better to do that and find out there's nothing to it. Than to say it isn't. I'm just going to forget that because that could be the difference between catching the car burglar one day or, you know, just not taking any action. So please anything that you see out of the ordinary let your parents know, and give us a call.

George Case: [00:34:22] Thank you

Roger Mangum: [00:34:22] You're welcome.

Mayor John Low: [00:34:23] Great. Well, thank you very much for coming. We appreciate. You're welcome here. Anytime. It was, fortunately, was a quick meeting for you. We're glad you're here. I don't have any other items on our agenda. Bill, so we're still okay for July, as far as looking to get everything in June. June is gonna be a busy meeting.

William Foley: [00:34:50] I don't know how busy, but we're okay, for July.

Mayor John Low: [00:34:52] Okay. Okay, very good.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34pm.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

SECRETARY-MANAGER