



*City of Weston Lakes*

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(281-533-0907)

**Minutes of City Council Meeting and Public Hearing**

Weston Lakes Country Club Ballroom  
32611 FM 1093  
Weston Lakes, Texas 77441  
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2020 at 6:00 PM

1. **Call to Order.** The City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 by Mayor Ramona Neal. A quorum was present.

Council Members Present:

Mayor Ramona Neal

Earlene Hopkins

Alderman Trent Thomas

Alderman Linda Harnist

Alderman Bill Ragle

Council Members Absent:

Alderman Ted Case

Alderman Denis Deluca

2. **Invocation and Pledge.** Alderman Trent Thomas led Council in the Invocation and Pledge.

3. **Reading of Public Statement Rules and Public Statements.** Earlene Hopkins, filling in during City Secretary's absence, read the following statement: "Each individual who wishes to make a public comment should sign the sign-in sheet in the entrance prior to the Call to Order. Please note the topic of conversation on the sign-in sheet. Three minutes will be allowed for comments. City Council members may respond. Please turn off all cell phone ringers so the assembly isn't disturbed."

Individuals speaking:

Barrett Sheppard tendered his resignation as Emergency Management Director.

Melissa Blanscet reserved her time slot for comments on the budget during the hearing.

Lance Farrell spoke on the need for Council to purchase Logitec equipment (or similar equipment) with CARES Act funds for allowing citizens to view City Council meetings.

4. **Mayor's Comments**

**5. Open Public Hearing on Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2020-2021.** Mayor Neal opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget at 6:06. The Mayor stated that in the year 2019 expenditures totaled \$76,253.00. During 2020, even though rent had doubled from 2019 and the city offices were moved to a new location, spending was approximately \$76,000 for the year. Spending during 2020 is in line with prior years expenditures.

**6. Open Public Hearing on Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2020-2021.**

Questions from citizens concerning the following:

**\*\*Dates on the budget for prior year spending are not complete year's information**

**\*\*Interest income questioned concerning why the budgeted amount was significantly lower than prior year actual amount**

**\*\*Why the payroll increase from prior years?**

**\*\*Question about the cost of Office 365**

**\*\*Question regarding the proposed budget funds allocated**

**\*\*Question on the non-committed funds being a surplus in funds**

**7. Close Public Hearing on Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2020-2021.** The Public Hearing portion of the meeting was closed at 6:18 pm.

**8. Consider and take action on Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2020-2021.**

Alderman Thomas made a motion to accept the proposed budget. Linda Harnist seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**9. Discuss and take action on approving the credit card authorization as originally stated.** Mayor Neal stated that Wallis Bank would not allow the credit card agreement to be revised for two people. Only one signature is necessary. Caleb Villarreal, attorney, advised regarding this agreement. Meeting minutes would be required by the bank when the agreement is signed. Mayor Neal proposed a resolution be written and adopted regarding credit card regulations. Trent Thomas made a motion to table the credit card authorization. Bill Ragle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**10. Discuss and take action on renewal of membership to Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) for year 2021.** Mayor Neal agreed to be the Representative 1 for 2021. Linda Harnist agreed to be the Representative 2 for 2021.

**11. Authorize and approve the payment to ERCOT for 2021 membership in the amount of \$100.00** Item was approved in the budget, so no action was required. Mayor Neal proposed writing of the check after the meeting and having council sign to make the Deadline of Nov. 6,2020. Alderman Harnist stated that Mayor Neal Could not write and sign the check. Mayor Neal proposed writing the check and having two other council members sign the check. This was agreed upon by council and carried out after the meeting was adjourned.

**12. Discuss and approve CARES Act expenditures by CARES Act committee: Mail out and Temperature Verification Kiosk.** CARES Act expenditures for a mail out and a temperature verification kiosk were discussed. The mail out will include the “close out” date for CARES Act funds. The Mayor advised Council that the cost would approximately \$1,200.00. Council reviewed the letter to be mailed to all citizens. Citizens could possibly go through the county at a later time if funds are available. Mayor Neal will coordinate with the County on funds to be sent back to county from the City of Weston Lakes CARES Act allotment. A motion was made by Linda Harnist and seconded by Bill Ragle to approve the mail out to citizens with the close out date for funds application before the end of November. Council agreed all funds not used by the City of Weston Lakes were to revert back to the county for their programs.

**13. Consider and approve moving office furniture to “surplus” status in order to remove from inventory as identified in the City of Weston Lakes Fixed Asset Ledger.** Discussion was held regarding the process of disposing of non-usable office furniture and equipment. The City of Weston Lakes Fixed Asset Ledger is in need of an update. Council is allowed to dispose of equipment at their discretion and can discard items as trash, items can be sold at auction, or they can be donated to a charitable organization. Trent Thomas made a motion to discard as trash the used City Secretary’s desk and the inoperable Canon copier. Bill Ragle seconded the motion. The motion carried.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ramona Neal, Mayor  
City of Weston Lakes

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Jenni McJunkin City Secretary