

MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2008

Mayor David W. Samuelson declared a Special Meeting duly open for the transaction of business at 6:04 P.M. Mayor David W. Samuelson led the opening devotion and then led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmembers present were: Mayor David W. Samuelson, Councilmembers Ken Freese, Don Mueller, Domingo Montalvo, Jr., and Jeff Gubbels.

Councilmember absent was: V. L. Wiley, Jr., and Lewis Fortenberry, Jr.

Staff members present were: City Manager Andres Garza, Jr., Finance Director Joyce Vasut, City Secretary Lisa Olmeda, and City Attorney Paul Webb.

Visitors present were: Wharton Journal Spectator Barry Halvorson, Wharton Economic Development Corporation Executive Director David Schroeder, Jim Larson, David Ewell, Jerry Kurszka, Monica Hartland, Bruce Williams, Art Schulze, Ron Sanders, Phyllis Sliva, Gary Bullard, Thane Harrison, Raymond Fisher, and Donald Allen.

The second item on the agenda was roll call and excused absences. Councilmember Don Mueller made a motion to excuse the absence of Councilmembers V. L. Wiley, Jr., and Lewis Fortenberry, Jr. from the Special City Council meeting August 7, 2008. Councilmember Ken Freese seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was public comments. Mr. Bruce Williams addressed the City Council and stated that the Boys and Girls Club members were active in the community and commended their efforts in improving the lives of youth, such as in the case of Ms. Brittny Cantero. No action was taken.

The fourth item on the agenda was to review and consider a resolution of the Wharton City Council approving a Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services Contract and Transfer Station Operations Contract and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute the agreement. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated that during the July 28, 2008 regular Wharton City Council meeting, the City Council approved the recommendation by the City Council Finance Committee to negotiate a Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Service and Transfer Station Operation Contract with certain parameters. He said that the City Staff had revised the contract documents to include those parameters outlined in the July 28th memorandum. He said that Finance Director Joyce Vasut and he met with representatives of Waste Management (WM) and Waste Corporation of America (WCA) on Monday, August 4, 2008 to negotiate the terms of the proposed contract. He then said that he was recommending that the City Council consider

approving a contract with Waste Corporation of America. He said that in the discussions with WCA, their concern was establishing a Citizen's Collection Station if the City was not able to obtain a Transfer Station permit. He said that WCA requested a 120 day period to determine if the City could obtain the permit and then operate either a Transfer Station or Citizen Collection Station. He said that there would only be pick up at the curb until the permit could be obtained. After some discussion, Councilmember Jeff Gubbels made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2008-50, which read as follows:

**CITY OF WHARTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2008-50**

A RESOLUTION OF THE WHARTON CITY COUNCIL APPROVING A SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICES CONTRACT AND TRANSFER STATION OPERATION CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF WHARTON AND WASTE CORPORATION OF AMERICA; AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WHARTON TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT.

WHEREAS, On June 23, 2008 the City of Wharton received proposals for the City of Wharton's Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services; and

WHEREAS, On July 28, 2008, the City Council authorized the City Staff to negotiate the terms of the proposed contract; and

WHEREAS, the Wharton City Council wishes to award the contract to Waste Corporation of America for the City of Wharton Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Service and Transfer Station Operation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Wharton and Waste Corporation of America wishes to be bound by the terms and conditions outlined in the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Wharton City Council wishes to authorize the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to the agreement.

WHEREAS, this resolution is passed in accordance with this bid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS as follows:

Section I. That the Wharton City Council hereby approves a contract between the City of Wharton and Waste Corporation of America for Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Service and Transfer Station Operation.

Section II. That the Mayor of the City of Wharton is hereby authorized to sign all documents relating to the agreement.

Section III. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed, Approved, and Adopted this 7th day of August 2008.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____
DAVID W. SAMUELSON
Mayor

ATTEST:

LISA OLMEDA

City Secretary

Councilmember Ken Freese seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Mr. Gary Bullard with Waste Management addressed the City Council and stated that it was a pleasure to serve the City of Wharton for the past twenty years. He stated that Waste Management would work with the City in transferring the permit. Mayor David W. Samuelson publicly thanked Waste Management for all the assistance during festivals and non-profit events held in the City of Wharton over the past twenty years.

The fifth item on the agenda was to review and consider the funding request by the following:

1. 20th Century Technology Museum.

City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a copy of the letter dated June 10, 2008 from Mr. Arthur E. Schulze, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the 20th Century Technology Museum providing the City of Wharton with his request for funding in the amount of \$13,000.00 from the hotel/motel fund. Mr. Art Schulz addressed the City Council and stated that the museum would need to find an alternative location. He stated that an admission fee was not charged; however, donations were accepted. He said that tour buses from the Houston area come to the facility weekly. He said that he would like the City of Wharton to offer the use of space at the Civic Center for the museum, which would have adequate restroom facilities. He stated that funding was requested from WEDC; however, it was declined. After some discussion, no action was taken.

2. Boys & Girls Club of Wharton.

City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a copy of the letter dated May 2, 2008 from Ms. Phyllis B. Sliva, MSW, Resource Development Director for the Boys and Girls Club of Wharton providing the Boys and Girls request for funding in the amount of \$15,000.00 for fiscal year 2008-2009. Ms. Phyllis B. Sliva addressed the City Council and publicly thanked the City of Wharton for approving funding for the past ten years. She said that last year, the City provided \$12,500 and this year they were requesting \$15,000. She stated that upcoming projects included a Teen Center and an Impact Program. She stated that funding was also requested from WISD. After some discussion, no action was taken.

3. Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture.

City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a copy of the letter dated July 31, 2008 from Mr. Ron Sanders, Executive Director of the Wharton Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture providing the

Chamber of Commerce request for funding in the amount of \$32,644.00. He also presented a copy of the spreadsheet of the expenses and convention services for the Chamber during the 2008 – 2009 year. He then presented a copy of the Chamber of Commerce agreement for the 2007-2008. He said that during the 2007 – 2008 fiscal year, the City of Wharton provided the Chamber of Commerce \$32,385.00. Mr. Ron Sanders addressed the City Council and stated that a brochure was prepared and printed by A&E Graphics. He said that the email for the Civic Center was convention@cityofwharton.com. He stated that the Chamber of Commerce was redesigning the website. He said that 1,000 hits are received per month with lodging being the number one hit. He stated that the Chamber would be preparing a direct mail campaign. He stated that a ½ page advertisement would be included in the phone book featuring the Civic Center and the Chamber would design the cover of the phone book. Finance Director Joyce Vasut stated that projected revenues for the Civic Center for 2008 was \$70,000; whereas, in the past years the average was \$53,000. After some discussion, no action was taken.

The sixth item on the agenda was Budget Workshop: City of Wharton 2007-2008 Fiscal Year Budget:

- A. General Fund.
- B. Hotel Motel Fund.
- C. Narcotics Seizure Fund.
- D. Dare Fund.
- E. Debt Fund.
- F. Water & Sewer Fund.
- G. Solid Waste Fund.
- H. Emergency Medical Services Fund.
- I. Civic Center Fund.
- J. Airport Fund.

Finance Director Joyce Vasut presented the 2008 - 2009 draft proposed fiscal year budget as follows:

General Fund Revenues	\$4,833,937
General Fund Expenses	\$4,983,163
General Fund Shortage	(\$149,226)

She then presented several alternatives.

After reviewing the 2008-2009 proposed budget as presented, the City Council held a discussion.

The City Council consider the following options to balance the budget:

Remove DARE Officer Position in the amount of \$58,000.

Reclass Narcotics Officer to Seizure Fund in the amount of \$40,000.

Delay purchase of one police vehicle in the amount of \$21,000.

Delay Fire Department Feasibility Study in the amount of \$16,000.

Delay Emergency Management Callback System in the amount of \$10,000.

Approve the Boys & Girls Club request in the amount of \$15,000.

City of Wharton
Special City Council Meeting
August 7, 2008

Finance Director Joyce Vasut stated that the Hotel/Motel Fund would have a fund balance of approximately \$70,000 as of September 30, 2008.

Councilmember Domingo Montalvo, Jr. asked if Headstart would be moving to Sivells Elementary School. He said that if that would occur, then the 9,208 square feet could be occupied by another entity. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated that he had not be notified that the Headstart Program would be moved from the Civic Center. After some discussion, no action was taken.

The seventh item on the agenda was adjournment. After some discussion, Councilmember Don Mueller made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Domingo Montalvo, Jr. seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

CITY OF WHARTON, TEXAS

By: _____
DAVID W. SAMUELSON
Mayor

ATTEST:

LISA OLMEDA
City Secretary