

MINUTES  
OF  
CITY OF WHARTON  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 14, 2006

Mayor Bryce D. Kocian declared a Regular Meeting duly open for the transaction of business at 7:00 P.M. Councilmember Ray Linseisen led the opening devotion and then Mayor Bryce D. Kocian led the pledge of allegiance.

Councilmembers present were: Mayor Bryce D. Kocian, Councilmembers V. L. Wiley, Jr., David Samuelson, Ken Freese, Don Mueller, Domingo Montalvo, Jr., and Ray Linseisen.

Councilmember absent was: None.

Staff members present were: City Manager Andres Garza, Jr., Finance Director Joyce Vasut, City Secretary Lisa Stavena, Assistant to City Manager Jackie Jansky, Planning Director Prudencio Arriaga, Sr., Police Chief Tim Guin, Building Official Ronnie Bollom, Public Works Director Phil Bush, EMS Director John Kowalik, and City Attorney Paul Webb.

Visitors present were: Benjamin Sharp with Wharton Journal Spectator, David Schroeder, Lewis Fortenberry, Carlos Cotton, John McLeod, Mark Jordon, Rick Villagomez, Gregory Baines, Mary Barnes, Billie Jones, Kent Hill, Larry Jackson, Wes Birdwell, Louis Edwards, Dr. Tom Sears, Dr. Gregg Dimmick, Debbi Dimmick, Kaydi Dimmick, Mary Ellen Martin, Coby Frankum, Kelly Frankum, Brandon Cruz, Krista Umschied, Felicia Compain, Gloria Garza, Glen Dyer, Arthur Felder, Jr., Pastor B.B. Willis, Heather Chappell, Barbara Morris, Lily Ann Hawes, and Caroline Hawes Dickerson.

The third item on the agenda was Public Comments. No comments were given. No action was taken.

The fourth item on the agenda was Wharton Moment. No comments were given. No action was taken.

The fifth item on the agenda was to review and consider the reading of the minutes from the regular meetings held July 10, 2006 and July 24, 2006 and the special meetings held July 3, 2006 and July 31, 2006. After some discussion, Councilmember Ray Linseisen made a motion to approve the Wharton City Council minutes of the regular meetings held July 10, 2006 as

corrected and July 24, 2006 and the special meetings held July 3, 2006 and July 31, 2006 as presented. Councilmember David Samuelson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The sixth item on the agenda was to review and consider the request by Mr. Jim Faetche for City Council consideration to cover Wharton Municipal Pool. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. presented a copy of the letter dated July 24, 2006 from Mr. Jim Faetche for the City Council to consider covering the Wharton Municipal Pool during the August 14, 2006 Wharton City Council meeting. Mr. Jim Faetche was not present at the meeting. No action was taken.

The seventh item on the agenda was to review and consider the request by Dr. Gregg J. Dimmick, M.D., Chairman, Gala Committee, East Wharton County Habitat for Humanity for the following City assistance during the Habitat for Humanity Gala to be held October 28, 2006:

- A. Use of Wharton Civic Center tables and linens to seat 500 participants.
- B. Request restroom facilities from Waste Management.
- C. Closure of Milam, Fulton, Houston, and Burleson Streets from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. October 28, 2006.
- D. Closure of Houston Street from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on October 28, 2006 and October 29, 2006.
- E. Provide the City stage and personnel to set up and dismantle the stage.
- F. Provide electricity for the event.
- G. Provide Security during the event.
- H. Request for a variance from the City of Wharton Code of Ordinances, Chapter 30 Fire and Prevention, Article V. Fireworks, Section 30-132 Prohibited Acts and allow a fireworks display at Riverfront Park.
- I. Waive fee for use of Wharton Civic Center Main Hall for October 28, 2006.
- J. Proclaim October 28, 2006 as Habitat for Humanity Day in Wharton, Texas.

City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated that the East Wharton County Habitat for Humanity had been successful in constructing its first new home for a Wharton family and was moving forward to begin construction on additional homes. He stated that the Wharton Habitat for Humanity had formed a Committee to hold a Gala Event on October 28, 2006 to raise the funds needed to take on this venture. He then presented a copy of the letter received from Dr. Gregg J. Dimmick through his email dated July 6, 2006, requesting the above-mentioned assistance from the City of Wharton. He stated that Dr. Dimmick's letter stated that Habitat for Humanity would like the aid to be provided at no charge. He stated that he had met with Dr. Dimmick on August 1, 2006 to discuss the proposed Gala Event and he indicated that the Committee was also proposing to hold a fireworks display in the same location as the Wharton Freedom Fest in Riverfront Park. He said that Dr. Dimmick was contacting the Boling Fire Department for assistance in the fireworks display. Dr. Dimmick addressed the City Council and requested the City Council authorize variances to the policies. He stated that Habitat for Humanity would like to raise \$200,000 from the Gala Event, which would be used to build 4 to 5 homes. He stated that the Civic Center was requested for a backup site, if the event had to be moved indoors. He stated that by building new houses through Habitat for Humanity, an increase to the tax base would occur for Wharton and requested the City Council to look at it from an investment point of view. City Manager Andres Garza, Jr. stated that the City had not previously allowed use of the tables and linens for an outdoor event, security at no cost and waived the fees for the Civic Center. Finance Director

