



City of Mesquite, Texas

Minutes - Final City Council

Monday, February 3, 2025

5:30 PM

City Hall | Council Chamber
757 N. Galloway Avenue | Mesquite, Texas

Present: Mayor Daniel Alemán, Jr., and Councilmembers Jeff Casper, Tandy Boroughs, Kenny Green, Elizabeth Rodriguez-Ross, B.W. Smith and Brandon Murden, City Manager Cliff Keheley and City Secretary Sonja Land.

PRE-MEETING - TRAINING ROOMS A&B - 5:30 P.M.

AGENDA REVIEW

EXECUTIVE SESSION - COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM - 5:43 P.M.

Mayor Alemán announced that the City Council would meet in Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code to consider commercial or financial information regarding business prospects or projects (Item No. 7 – Discuss an economic development redevelopment project at the corner of Town East Boulevard and IH-635); whereupon, the City Council proceeded to meet in Council Conference Room. After the closed meeting ended at 5:53 p.m., the City Council reconvened in Open Session.

No executive action was necessary.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM - 5:53 P.M.

Mayor Alemán announced that the City Council would meet in Executive Session pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code to consider the appointment, evaluation, employment, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of the City Manager, City Attorney, Municipal Court Judge, City Secretary, members of the various City boards and commissions, and City officers or other City employees (Annual review of City Attorney); whereupon, the City Council proceeded to meet in the Council Conference Room. After the closed meeting ended at 6:45 p.m., the City Council reconvened in Open Session.

No executive action was necessary.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING - CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER - 7:00 P.M.

INVOCATION

Harry Sewell, Pastor, Family Cathedral of Praise, Mesquite, Texas.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Members of the Mesquite Heart Board.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Mr. Casper stated that Visit Mesquite has curated a new self-guided tour spotlighting local Black-owned restaurants to celebrate Black History Month. Each restaurant on the new foodie trail is featured on the Visit Mesquite website and in a printed guide that includes the eatery's location, description and signature dish. Diners who eat at restaurants on the tour can participate in a drawing to win a suite at Mesquite Arena's Annual Hip Hop Cowboys Spring Rodeo on Saturday, March 15, 2025. Learn more by visiting www.VisitMesquiteTX.com.
2. Mr. Casper invited citizens to a District 1 Neighborhood Meeting on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., at Dunford Recreation Center, 1015 Green Canyon Drive.
3. Mr. Green stated that the Mesquite North Branch Library, 2600 Oates Drive, will celebrate Black History Month with a program presented by Percussion Things, on Saturday, February 8, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. By combining rhythms and sounds, Percussion Things brings stories to life about African Americans who contributed to our nation's history. The event is free and open to all ages.
4. Mr. Green invited citizens to a District 2 Neighborhood Meeting on Saturday, February 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., at the Mesquite North Branch Library, 2600 Oates Drive.
5. Ms. Rodriguez-Ross stated that to celebrate Black History Month, kids, ages 8 to 12, are invited to the Mesquite Main Library, 300 West Grubb Drive, for "Young at Art" to create projects inspired by famous African American artists. This free event will be held on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. The Main Library will also host a gathering on Saturday, February 22, 2025, at 2:00 p.m., featuring African drummer and storyteller Baba Kwasi. At this free, family-friendly event, experience the rhythms of African drums and a variety of percussion instruments accompanied by captivating storytelling and songs.
6. Mr. Boroughs announced that on Saturday, February 15, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., the Mesquite Arts Center will be transformed into a winter wonderland of Valentines and glow-in-the-dark fun for a new event this year called "Winter GLOW Fest." Attendees will enjoy workshops, visually stunning glow installations, vendors, music, Girl Scout Cookie sales, inside and outside the Arts Center. "Winter GLOW Fest" also will include a reception with artist Phil Samson, whose work is currently being showcased in the Main Gallery and a meet-and-greet workshop with the artists from "Write Hands."
7. Mr. Smith announced that this Saturday, February 8, 2025, the Mesquite Police Department is hosting the Annual Polar Plunge at Vanston Pool, 2913 Oates Drive, at 8:00 a.m. This event raises funds for Texas athletes participating in the Special Olympics. You can register to "dive-in" or make a monetary donation to help this worthy cause.
8. Mr. Murden stated that in honor of Black History Month, Historic Mesquite, Inc., will present a free screening of "Cowboys of Color." This award-winning short documentary explores the past, present and future of African American cowboys. North Texas native Coy Poitier directed the film. He will be on hand after the show to answer questions from the audience. The screening will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2025, at 11:00 a.m., at Opal Lawrence Historical Park, 711 East Kearney Street.
9. Mr. Murden stated he is hosting a brunch on Saturday, February 22, 2025, to celebrate Black History Month which will include guest speakers and a panel discussion. Citizens are invited to this event which will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Cliff Keheley Community Room at the Dallas County Mesquite Government Center, 500 South Galloway Avenue.

10. Mayor Alemán stated that in addition to these Black History Month events, the City will be posting weekly recognitions of key City leaders and employees throughout the month on the City's social media accounts. To learn more, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/BHM.

11. Mayor Alemán invited citizens to attend the Annual State of the Community event on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at the Mesquite Arts Center, 1527 North Galloway Avenue. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the program begins at 6:00 p.m. with a panel discussion that he will be a part of along with Mesquite Independent School District Dr. Ángel Rivera, Dallas College – Eastfield President Dr. Eddie Tealer and Mesquite Chamber of Commerce President Alexander Helgar. Come celebrate the successes of the past year and discuss the City's plans for future. The evening will end with a short reception.

CITIZENS FORUM

Vivian Johnson, 4538 Live Oak Drive, suggested that the City post a map and directions, at City Hall, to the Dallas County Tax Office where citizens pay their property taxes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Mr. Green moved to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as follows. Motion was seconded by Mr. Boroughs and approved unanimously.

- 1** Minutes of the regular City Council meeting held January 21, 2025.

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

- 2** RFQ No. 2025-043 - Project Management Services for the Renovation of Multiple City Facilities.
(Authorize the City Manager to finalize and execute a contract with Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson (JMT), Inc., for project management services in connection with the design and remodel of the two newly acquired Dallas County buildings and the Mesquite Convention Center in an amount not to exceed \$535,566.00, inclusive of reimbursables.)

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

- 3** Bid No. 2025-072 - Annual Leasing of Satori Postal Coding Software, Address Printer, Inserter and WTS-P Inbound Tracking System.
(Staff recommends award to Quadient, Inc., through TxSmartBuy Contract No. 985-C1, in an amount not to exceed \$145,131.36. The term of the lease is for 48 months with a monthly amount of \$3,023.57 and an annual amount of \$36,282.84, subject to annual appropriation of sufficient funds.)

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

- 4** Authorize the Mayor to execute an Employment Agreement between the City of Mesquite, Texas, and Municipal Court Judge Detra Hill.

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

- 5 Authorize the Mayor to execute an Employment Agreement between the City of Mesquite, Texas, and City Secretary Sonja Land.

Approved on the Consent Agenda.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

- 6 Consider appointment of one Alternate Member (Alternate No. 1) to the Housing Board for a term to expire December 31, 2025.

Mr. Casper moved to appoint Tasheara Smith-Perkin as an Alternate Member (Alternate No. 1) to the Housing Board for a term to expire December 31, 2025. Motion was seconded by Mr. Boroughs and approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Casper moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Boroughs and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Attest:

Approved:

Sonja Land, City Secretary

Daniel Alemán, Jr., Mayor