

CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024

Present:

Mayor Mattie Parker
Council Member Carlos Flores, District 2
Council Member Michael D. Crain, District 3
Council Member Charlies Lauersdorf, District 4
Council Member Jared Williams, District 6
Council Member Macy Hill, District 7
Council Member Chris Nettles, District 8
Council Member Elizabeth Beck, District 9
Council Member Alan Blaylock, District 10 (Remote)
Council Member Jeanette Martinez, District 11 (Remote)

Absent:

Mayor Pro tem Gyna M. Bivens, District 5

Staff Present:

David Cooke, City Manager
Leann Guzman, City Attorney
Ronald P. Gonzales, Assistant City Secretary

With a quorum of the City Council Members present, Mayor Parker called the City Council Work Session of the Fort Worth City Council to order at 1:14 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, in the City Council Conference Room 2020 of the Fort Worth City Hall, 200 Texas Street, Fort Worth, Texas.

1. Report of the City Manager - David Cooke, City Manager

a. Upcoming and Recent Events

There were no upcoming and recent events.

b. Organizational Updates and Employee Recognition(s)

City Manager Cooke called on the following staff:

Assistant City Manager Dana Burghdoff recognized Ellen Pearce and Jennifer Swofford, Director of Development for the Heart Walk of the American Heart Association, to provide information on the 2024 American Heart Walk.

Chief Communications Chief Reyne Telles introduced Carmen Castro as the New Strategic Communications Assistant Director and Meg Dufour as the New Customer Service Assistant Director.

Cody Whittenburg, Environmental Services Director, introduced Wyndie Turpen as the New Environmental Services Assistant Director.

Deputy City Manager Mark McDaniel introduced Allison Docker as the New Greenspace Champion.

Assistant City Manager Jesica McEachern introduced Leila Peoples as the New Human Resources Assistant Director.

c. Informal Reports

[24-1905](#) Proposed 2025 Council Meeting Schedule - Jannette Goodall, City Secretary

[24-1906](#) Amendment to Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Three (Downtown TIF) and Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone Number Eight (Lancaster TIF) Term and Project And Financing Plans - Robert Sturns, Economic Development Director

[24-1907](#) Fire Station Capital Project Funding Gaps - Christianne Simmons, FWLab Chief Transformation Officer

[24-1908](#) Property Tax Relief Strategies - Christianne Simmons, FWLab Chief Transformation Officer

[24-1909](#) Game Room Update - Chris Mosley, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Senior Assistant City Attorney Chris Mosley provided a staff report and advised that the Communications Office would publicize the particulars of this endeavor this week.

[24-1910](#) Recommendations for American Rescue Plan Act Allocations - Catherine Perry, Financial Management Services Interim Assistant Director

[24-1911](#) Regulation and Operation of Open Space Properties - Jennifer Dyke, Transportation and Public Works Assistant Director

2. Questions Regarding Changes in Membership on Boards and Commissions for October 15, 2024 Council Meeting

There were no questions regarding changes in membership on boards and commissions for October 15, 2024, Council Meeting.

3. Questions Regarding Significant Zoning Cases for October 15, 2024 Council Meeting

There were no questions regarding significant Zoning Cases for October 15, 2024, Council Meeting.

4. Questions Regarding City Council M&C Log for October 15, 2024 Council Meeting

There were no questions regarding City Council M&C Log for October 15, 2024.

5. Annual Fort Worth Botanic Garden Update – Mark McDaniel, Deputy City Manager, and Patrick Newman, Botanical Research Institute of Texas CEO and President

Deputy City Manager Mark McDaniel provided opening remarks and introduced Patrick Newman, Botanical Institute of Texas (BRIT), who presented the Fort Worth Botanical Garden Annual Report for FY 2023.

6. Emergency Medical Services and 911 Update – Mark McDaniel, Deputy City Manager and Valerie Washington, Assistant City Manager

Deputy City Manager Mark McDaniel and Assistant City Manager Valerie Washington provided a staff report.

Mayor Parker recognized Frank Gresh, Interim CEO of Emergency Services, in the audience.

7. City Council Requests for Future Agenda Items and/or Reports

Council Member Lauersdorf requested a presentation or Informal Report on the number of citations issued to households by Code Compliance on behalf of the Water Department for those who do not have Water accounts and the associated costs.

Mayor Parker requested that staff also include in Council Member's Lauersdorf, informal report, information if the City needed to shift policy pertaining to what is being done holistically to help serve those households that cannot afford to have a Water account.

Council Member Martinez requested staff provide an update pertaining to the fentanyl crisis in the City and what measures are we taking to address this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Parker adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.