

CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2025

Present:

Mayor Mattie Parker
Mayor Pro tem Gyna M. Bivens, District 5
Council Member Carlos Flores, District 2
Council Member Michael D. Crain, District 3
Council Member Charlie 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
Council Member Jeanette Martinez, District 11

Staff Present:

Jesus "Jay" Chapa, City Manager
Leann Guzman, City Attorney
Jannette S. Goodall, 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 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 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 - Jesus "Jay" Chapa, City Manager

a. Upcoming and Recent Events

City Manager Jesus "Jay" Chapa called on Dianna Giordano to announce the upcoming Citywide Job Fair on April 5th from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Will Rogers Memorial Center.

b. Organizational Updates and Employee Recognition(s)

City Manager Jesus "Jay" Chapa announced that Dianna Giordano had been selected as the new Assistant City Manager.

c. Informal Reports

[25-0045](#) Monthly Report on the Release of Area from the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) by Petition of Landowner or Resident - D.J. Harrell, Development Services Director

[25-0046](#) The East Berry Street Corridor Plan Update - Kelly Porter, Transportation and Public Works Assistant Director

A brief update was provided by Armond Bryant, Transportation Department.

[25-0047](#) Overview of Historic and Cultural Landmarks Commission - Lorelei Willett, Development Services Historic Preservation Officer

A brief update was provided by Lorelei Willett, Historic Preservation Officer, Development Services.

Council Member Beck requested recommendations for amendments to the City Code to require members of the Historic Cultural Landmark Commission to demonstrate expertise in the defined areas.

[25-0048](#) Pavement Markings Update - Martin Phillips, Transportation and Public Works Assistant Director

A brief update was provided by Martin Phillips, Assistant Director, Transportation and Public Works.

[25-0049](#) Readoption of Tax Abatement Policy and Other Updates to Economic Development Incentive Policies - Ori Fernandez, Economic Development Assistant Director

A brief update was provided by Ori Fernandez, Assistant Director, Economic Development.

Council Member Crain additional information on the proposed changes to the Tax Abatement Policy and other updates to Economic Development Incentive Policies be shared with Council Offices.

[25-0050](#) Reappointment of Substitute Judges - Simón González, Municipal Court Chief Judge

A brief update was provided by Simon Gonzalez, Municipal Court Chief Judge.

Mayor Parker requested staff review the current compensation rate for substitute judges and consider options for increasing the amount.

2. Questions Regarding Changes in Membership on Boards and Commissions for April 8, 2025, Council Meeting

There were no questions regarding Changes in Membership on Boards and Commissions for April 8, 2025, Council Meeting.

3. Questions Regarding Significant Zoning Cases for April 8, 2025, Council Meeting

There were no questions regarding significant Zoning Cases for April 8, 2025, Council Meeting.

4. Questions Regarding City Council M&C Log for April 8, 2025, Council Meeting

There were no questions regarding City Council M&C Log for April 8, 2025, Council Meeting.

5. Tarrant County Vietnam Memorial Project Update – Dave Lewis, Park and Recreation Director

Presentation was made by Dave Lewis, Director, Park and Recreation Department.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested information on how individuals could donate to the project.

6. Proposed Economic Development Program Agreement with ACS Group for Development of a Data Center Campus – Cherie Gordon, Economic Development Coordinator

Presentation was made by Cherie Gordon, Economic Development Coordinator, Economic Development Department.

7. Will Rogers Memorial Center Update – Michael Crum, Public Events Director

Presentation was made by Michael Crum, Director, Public Events Department.

8. Proposed Amendments to the Urban Forestry Ordinance - LaShondra Stringfellow, Development Services Assistant Director

Presentation was made by LaShonda Stringfellow, Assistant Director, Development Services and Jaclyn Ingram, City Forester, Development Services Department.

Council Member Beck requested options for recommended increases to the proposed civil fine for the removal of trees.

9. Capital Project Gap Funding Update – Christianne Simmons, FWLab Chief Transformation Officer

Presentation was made by Christianne Simmons, Chief Transformation Officer, FWLab.

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

Council Member Beck requested information on types of parking options available for residential neighborhoods.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested options for addressing panhandling, including possible fines for residents who provide money.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested information on Community Engagement Staff attending Neighborhood meetings.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested information on the role of the NPOs.

Council Member Lauersdorf requested cost for offering a paid day off for employees for diagnostic screening.

Council Member Lauersdorf requested options for addressing the number of requests for lift-assist calls at facilities including options for fees for responding to the calls.

Council Member Lauersdorf requested information on extending Civil Service to the Marshals.

Council Member Lauersdorf requested an update on the fee ordinance relating to abandoned donation boxes.

Council Member Williams requested information on providing employee discounts for Fooda at New City Hall.

Council Member Hill requested information on illegal camping.

Council Member Hill requested an update on the Homeless High Impact Pilot project.

Council Member Nettles requested information on the process for requesting installation of speed cushions.

Council Member Nettles requested information on community centers not in compliance with ADA requirements.

Council Member Nettles requested information on extending civil services to all general employees.

Council Member Flores requested information on the fiscal impact of including Cesar Chavez as a City holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Parker adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.