

CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS
CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023

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:

David Cooke, 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 1:33 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, 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 David Cooke called on Chief Judge Danny Rodgers to give his retirement farewell message to Council.

City Manager David Cooke called on Assistant City Manager Dana Burghdoff to recognize the Landmark Historic Preservation Division for receiving two awards: 1. Mule Alley is the 2023 Recipient for a Public Space, and 2. Stockyards Horse and Mule Barn.

City Manager David Cooke called on Assistant City Manager Jesica McEachern to announce the Chapter PRIMAS Risk Management Achievement Award.

c. Informal Reports

[23-1767](#) September 2023 - Sales Tax Revenue Update - Clay Pearson, FWLab Interim Chief Transformation Officer

[23-1768](#) Adoption of the City of Fort Worth's 2024 Federal Legislative and Administrative Agenda - T.J. Patterson, Jr., Legislative Affairs Manager

[23-1769](#) Code Compliance Director Recruitment Process - Holly Moyer, Human Resources Assistant Director

[23-1770](#) Environmental Services Director Recruitment Process - Holly Moyer, Human Resources Assistant Director

[23-1771](#) Customer Care Team Updates and Statistics - Sharon Gamble, Communications & Public Engagement Customer Service Administrator

[23-1772](#) Homebuyer Assistance Program Policy Change - Victor Turner, Neighborhood Services Director

[23-1773](#) Inventory of Fort Worth Housing Finance Corporation Lots and Surplus Property Available for Sale - Victor Turner, Neighborhood Services Director and Ricardo Salazar, Property Management Interim Director

[23-1774](#) Veterans Assistance Programs - Victor Turner, Neighborhood Services Director

Council Member Lauersdorf requested staff look at methods to improve the application process to make it easier to apply online and to post the amount of funds available.

[23-1775](#) Small-Business Program for Veterans and Service-Disabled Veterans-Christina Brooks, Diversity and Inclusion Director

[23-1776](#) Judicial Pay Recommendation for FY24 - Danny Rodgers, Municipal Court Chief Judge

[23-1777](#) Lease Amendment with Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, re: Sheep and Swine Barn Renovation Debt Payments - Michael Crum, Public Events Director

[23-1778](#) Will Rogers Memorial Center Master Services Agreement - Michael Crum, Public Events Director

Michael Crum, Public Events Director, provided a summary of the report for Council.

[23-1779](#) Litter Control Update: FY23 Year-End and FY24 Outlook - Cody Whittenburg, Environmental Services Interim Director, Lauren Prieur, Transportation and Public Works Director and Richard Zavala, Park and Recreation Director

[23-1780](#) Managing the Feral Cat Population - Chris McAllister, Code Compliance Assistant Director

Chris McAllister, Assistant Code Compliance Director, provided a summary of the report.

[23-1781](#) Process for Reconsideration of Council Actions - Leann Guzman, City Attorney

Council Member Nettles requested information on the threshold required for approving a reconsideration request required by other cities.

[23-1782](#) Results for Incentive Agreements Reviewed in FY 2023 - Robert Sturns, Economic Development Director

Robert Sturns, Economic Development Director, provided a summary of the report.

[23-1783](#) Texas Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Update -
Kevin Gunn, IT Solutions Director

**2. Questions Regarding Changes in Membership on Boards and Commissions for
December 12, 2023, Council Meeting**

There were no questions regarding changes in membership on boards and commissions for the December 12, 2023, Council Meeting.

**3. Questions Regarding Significant Zoning Cases for December 12, 2023,
Council Meeting**

There were no questions regarding significant zoning cases for the December 12, 2023, Council Meeting.

**4. Questions Regarding City Council M&C Log for December 12, 2023, Council
Meeting**

There were no questions regarding the City Council M&C Log for the December 12, 2023, Council Meeting.

**5. Presentation on Roles and Responsibilities of Fort Worth Economic
Development Partnership, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and City of Fort
Worth Economic Development - Robert Sturns, Economic Development Director,
Robert Allen, Fort Worth Economic Development Partnership CEO and Steve
Montgomery, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce President and CEO**

Presentation was made by Robert Sturns, Economic Development, Robert Allen, Fort Worth Economic Development Partnership CEO, and Steve Montgomery, Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce President and CEO.

**6. Briefing on Selection of Proposed 2024 Neighborhood Improvement Program
Target Areas - Victor Turner, Neighborhood Services Director**

Presentation was given by Victor Turner, Neighborhood Services Director. Director Turner announced the following two neighborhoods were selected for the 2024 Neighborhood Improvement Program Target Areas:

1. Seminary located in Council District 9
2. Worth Heights located in Council District 11

7. Update on Take Home Vehicle Policy and Use – Brad Hunter, Property Management Assistant Director and Christianne Simmons, FWLab Assistant Director

Presentation was given by Christianne Simmons, FWLab Assistant Director.

Council Member Beck requested additional information on the cost of fuel and maintenance for take home vehicles.

Council Member Beck requested information and recommendations for policy improvements including process used to determine how vehicles are assigned.

Council Member Beck requested information on the replacement schedule for police vehicles.

Council Member Beck requested information on how departments are monitoring the number of on-call trips and appropriate thresholds for number of trips to justify a vehicle.

Council Member Beck requested information on the process for auditing the requests and policy compliance.

Council Member Williams requested information on the methods for tracking non-work use of the vehicles.

Council Member Crain requested information on the policy of use of vehicles for off-duty approved jobs for police officers and how often that occurs.

Council Member Beck requested information on how assignment decisions are made for marked vs. unmarked vehicles and could more vehicles be marked.

Mayor Parker and Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested staff consider the impact on staff morale when proposing changes to the policy.

Council Member Martinez requested information and recommendations on where the radius allowed for take home vehicles starts.

Council Member Beck requested information on restrictions of response times for on-call trips.

Council Member Williams requested information on options for other incentives other than take home vehicles.

Mayor Parker requested information on the criteria used for determining if a take home vehicle is justified.

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

Council Member Nettles requested follow-up information on IR 1781 relating to the number of votes required for reconsideration used by other cities.

Council Member Flores requested an update on Vision Zero.

Mayor Pro tem Bivens requested information on ways to encourage schools to schedule time for classes to attend a daytime/morning Council Meeting.

Council Member Martinez requested an update on the fentanyl crisis.

Council Member Crain requested a report on the procedures for issuing and monitoring the use of valet parking permits.

Council Member Nettles requested information on options for a Charter Election to address Council Compensation.

Council agreed to schedule a homeless workshop for a comprehensive discussion on how best to assist the City's homeless population. The workshop will include a variety of participants from the City, County and private partners serving the homeless population. Topics for the workshop will include discussion on a report on the memo dated October 17, 2023, from the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition; discussion on a comprehensive plan for addressing homelessness, including need for a strategy position; creative options for housing types to address homelessness; options for use of City owned parking lots to create safe places for homeless residents to park vehicles while they are in transition.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Parker adjourned the meeting at 3:58 p.m.