

The Dallas City Council held its regular meeting on April 28, 2021, at 5 p.m. Mayor Kevin Six called the meeting to order with the following commissioners present: Carole McDowell and Greg Olson. Harold Northup Jr. was absent.

Others attending the meeting were Peggy Newberry, Anne Thompson, Andy Dennis, Charisse Purchatzke, Laurey Wibbell, John & Tiffany Wibbell, J Wibbell, Beth Greenig, Tom Schaefer, Doug Erickson, Gary Smith, and Mariah Wallace.

A motion was made by McDowell, and 2nd by Olson to accept the minutes of the April 14, 2021, meeting. McDowell, Olson, and Six AYE. Northup ABSENT.

The city attorney swore in Peggy Newberry as commissioner to fill the remainder of Commissioner Lila Gittings' term.

Laurey Wibbell spoke on behalf of several of the others that were in attendance. They are concerned about the condition of several of the buildings and houses in the city. The city attorney discussed what the city is in process of doing in regards to current nuisance violations that have been issued, as well as working on updating the city's current nuisance ordinance. She also took down the addresses of the other properties in town that the citizens are concerned about so that she and the police chief can look into them.

Mayor Six informed the concerned citizens that the city is working on getting a Brownsfield Network grant to help with the cost of the demolition of the buildings at 380, 386, and 396 Oak Street. The city attorney added that the problem is with one of the current owners not signing the necessary paperwork.

Mrs. Wibbell discussed the parking on Oak Street and the fact that you sometimes can't find a parking spot just so that you can go into the city clerk's office to pay your water bill due to several residents that live in the apartments on Oak Street using them. Discussed turning the city's vacant lot on the west side of Oak Street into a parking lot.

Discussed a pile of old asphalt by the recycling bin. The city plans on getting this moved.

Charisse Purchatzke let the council know that she appreciates the city having clean-up days, but she feels the city needs to post something that states what items are not allowed to be placed into the dumpsters.

Andy Dennis asked about the city moving its storage building so that it is not partially on his property. The city attorney reported that the city's survey is scheduled to be done within the next two weeks.

Police Chief Gary Smith reported that Police Officer Hannah Brown is resigning. He will start working on finding a replacement.

Discussed a dog that is being allowed to run at large. The dog's owner has already been issued a citation for this.

Doug Erickson reported on the Facility Plan update. He discussed the proposed project to update the city's sewer lift stations and different options, including one that would eliminate some of the current lift stations. He also discussed the funding for this project. He feels that the city might possibly be able to get the funding in 2022, but that it is more likely to be done in 2023.

The city attorney reported that she had been able to obtain the information of the owners of the old high school building, and that if the city would like to file suit, she now has the information that she needs to do so. The council gave the city attorney authority to proceed with the filing of a suit against the property owners of the old high school building.

Police Chief Smith discussed the proposed additions to the city's ordinance regarding the parking along Oak Street. The additions would include not allowing a vehicle-trailer combination to park there unless it is in use, not allowing a vehicle to occupy more than one marked parking space, not allowing an unaccompanied trailer to be parked there unless it is in current use and not allowing it to be parked there overnight, requiring any trailer parked there to be licensed and equipped in accordance with state law, and not allowing parking on city property unless marked. The city attorney will draw up the necessary ordinance to include these proposed additions.

Discussed Officer Brown's resignation and the pro-rated reimbursement of her training costs since she did not work for two full years for the city. She worked for the city for 18 months, and therefore, will be required to reimburse the city 25% of her training costs.

A motion was made by McDowell, and 2nd by Olson to adjourn the meeting. McDowell, Newberry, and Olson AYE. Northup ABSENT.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk