

MINUTES
of
MART CITY COUNCIL
September 11, 2023

Call to Order: Mayor Bob Kaiser called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Roll call. A quorum was present—Mayor ProTem Trevor Baize, Councilmembers Odell Nevills, John Garrett, Sandra Lynch, and Ethan Deike were all present. Also present were City Secretary Lambert Little, City Attorney Charlie Buenger, and Finance Director Vikki Grimes.

The Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge were recited. Odell Nevills offered 2 prayers—one for the City and the other for 9-11 victims.

4 citizens spoke during "Citizens' Comments". Carolyn Potts promoted Founders Day, scheduled for September 23rd. Anita Buzon discussed a "Teddy Bear" program for First Responders to use to calm kids during emergencies. Carolyn Range offered kudos to the Police Department. Cheryl Baize asked questions about the recent "house number" ordinance and then harangued Mayor Kaiser for inappropriate actions at the last regular meeting.

Mayor Kaiser opened the Public Workshop regarding the 2023-2024 Annual Budget. The entire budget document was scrutinized, and minor adjustments were recommended. Council voted unanimously, on a motion from Mayor ProTem Baize and a second from Councilmember Sandra Lynch, to approve the 2023-2024 budget, with amendments, for possible adoption at the end of the month.

The Consent Agenda was passed by unanimous vote on a motion from Mayor ProTem Baize and a second from Councilmember Ethan Deike.

Departmental Reports were offered. City Secretary Lambert Little augmented the written report on Municipal Court with a few words. Secretary Little also reported on Public Works activities. Mayor ProTem Baize read the Police Report. Vikki Grimes presented a Finance Report. Gil Gregory offered an Engineering report from MRB Group. There was no Fire Department report. Secretary Little made a report about Administration.

Item # 9 was Presentation of Commendation for the Mart Police Department. Mayor ProTem Baize read a letter of Commendation to Chief Shane James, and Officers Rob Douglas, Brett Pledger, Terico Cade, and Jemiah Weathington. The document was passed around for signature by all elected officials.

Item # 10, Discussion and possible action on approving the residential use of downtown commercial buildings, was discussed. Secretary Little explained that an owner of a downtown commercial building has expressed that he has no call for commercial

buildings but has constant calls about residential properties. This individual wants to put residential units in commercial buildings. Little explained that Council had already modified the zoning ordinance to allow for commercial activities if commercial activities were already adjacent. Additionally, Zoning Ordinances usually allow for lesser uses in each zone. Therefore, residential uses would be permissible in a commercial setting as long as commercial activities were already next door. No action was taken.

Item # 11, Discussion and possible action on naming a Newspaper of Record, was discussed. Secretary Little explained that Local Government Code states that cities must choose an official newspaper in which to publish official notices. Mayor ProTem Baize moved, and Councilmember John Garrett seconded, to name the Riesel Rustler as the City of Mart's Newspaper of Record. The vote was unanimous.

Item # 12, Discussion and possible action on authorizing a search for a replacement vehicle in the Police Department, was discussed. A 2016 Chevrolet pickup was totaled last year; insurance proceeds were about \$16,000. Mayor ProTem Baize stated that those dollars should be committed to a replacement vehicle for the Police Department, and the Police Department's Crown Victoria could be handed down to a Water Plant Operator when one is hired. Councilmember Odell Nevills moved, and Mayor ProTem Baize seconded, to authorize City Secretary Little and Police Chief James to seek a replacement vehicle for the Police Department. The vote was 5-0 in favor of.

Item # 13, Discussion and possible action on approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Mart Youth Baseball and Softball Association (MYBSA), was discussed. Secretary Little's presentation focused on the outstanding relationship between MYBSA and the City, and the major improvements that MYBSA was making at Rucker Park, including a new concession stand and restrooms. Councilmember Ethan Deike made the motion and Councilmember Sandra Lynch seconded the motion, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between MYBSA and the City of Mart. The vote was 5-0 in favor of.

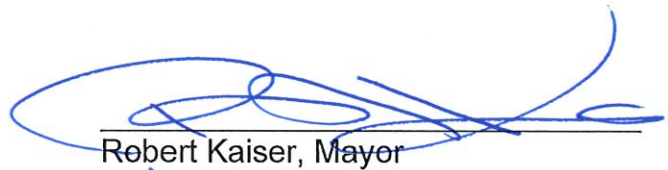
Item # 14, Discussion and possible action on accepting the recommendations of the selection committee and naming Bond Counsel, Financial Advisor, and Engineer for the TWDB Lead Pipe Survey project, was the subject of much discussion. Mayor Kaiser and City Secretary Little explained that the City was obtaining grant/loan monies from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and that TWDB requires that the City solicit for Bond Counsel, Financial Advisor, and Engineering services. A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) had been published. Mayor Kaiser and City Secretary Little described how a committee of 3 individuals had been formed—individuals who were concerned citizens, who were intelligent, and who would be unbiased in their assessments. That committee scored the Statements of Qualifications for Bond Counsel, Financial Advisor, and Engineer. Councilmembers generally disagreed with the scoring and the scoring procedure. Mayor ProTem Baize moved to name MRB Group as Engineer, McCall, Parkhurst, and Horton as Bond Counsel, and U.S. Capital Advisors as Financial Advisor. Councilmember Lynch seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0 in favor of.

Item # 15, Discussion and possible action on removing and/or replacing members on the Community Outreach Board, was discussed. City Secretary Little explained that some members of the Community Outreach Board, Sandra Lynch and Emily Baize, have asked to be replaced. He added that the Community Outreach organization was having a period of inactivity, and that some of their activities were being accomplished with the new Lions Club. Councilmember Odell Nevills moved to accept the resignations of Emily Baize and Sandra Lynch; Mayor ProTem Baize seconded. The vote was unanimously in favor of. No action was taken on naming replacements.

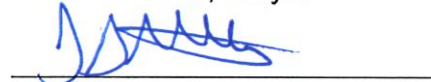
Item # 16, Discussion and possible action on placing a crosswalk across J.L. Davis Avenue, was discussed. The consensus of Council was that this was a great idea, and that it would be awesome for the City, the County, and the School to work together to make it happen. Mayor ProTem Baize moved, and Councilmember John Garrett seconded the motion, for City Secretary Little and Police Chief Shane James to continue to work cooperatively with the County and the School to create a crosswalk for child safety. The vote was 5-0 in favor of.

Short comments from Councilmembers and the Mayor led to the adjournment at 7:50 pm.

The meeting was adjourned.



Robert Kaiser, Mayor



Lambert Little, City Secretary