

City of Midway
City Council Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Brenda Ford.

The Invocation was given by Councilman John Whitmire, Mayor Brenda Ford led the Pledge.

Those in attendance included Mayor Brenda Ford, City Secretary Debra Newkirk, Council members Gus Kangos, John Whitmire, Rex Newkirk, Angie Thornton and Steve Parrish. Wes Savage and Janet Boone were unable to attend.

Guests for the meeting were Don Helmstadter and Taylor Miller.

Gus Kangos made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda, Steve Parrish made the second and with all voting in favor the motion passed.

The first item before the Council pertained to Donald Helmstadter and his property located at 6004 FM 3060. Mr. Helmstadter had asked the Council at the last meeting if it would be possible to use his existing mobile home as a storage unit. Per City ordinance, this would not be allowed. Mr. Helmstadter did not have a problem with that answer and asked about the setbacks on the property. The setbacks for property in the city limits is 40' from the road and 10' from the back and each side.

The next item before Council was Ordinance No. 2022-04, amending the Budget for the Midway Volunteer Fire Department's bills for electricity and natural gas to be added to the City's Departmental Budget. Gus Kangos made the motion to approve the ordinance, Steve Parrish made the second and with all voting in favor the motion carried.

Sponsorship of the Midway Volunteer Fire Department's Steak Dinner was the next item. The Steak Dinner is the last Saturday in February and Sponsorship is \$250.00. Gus Kangos made the motion to approve the sponsorship, Steve Parrish made the second and with all voting in favor the motion carried.

The next item before the Council was request for approval of Debra Newkirk to attend the Election Law Seminar in Denton, Texas on January 13th and 14th with the afternoon of January 12th as a travel day. Mrs. Newkirk had been asked to team teach a session at the seminar with the City Secretary of Haltom City, Art Camacho. Because of teaching, Mrs. Newkirk's cost of attending the seminar would be covered, cost of the hotel would not be; however Mrs. Newkirk had already looked into staying at the overflow hotel which offered the less expensive rate of \$89.00 a night. Mrs. Newkirk originally requested leaving at noon on Wednesday with the office closing at that time and being closed through Friday; which would mean 2 nights at the hotel. Mrs. Newkirk also offered to stay and leave at noon on Thursday, which would only mean one night at the hotel. After some discussion, Steve Parrish made the motion to approve attendance at the seminar and 2 nights at the hotel, Angie Thornton made the second, Rex Newkirk abstained, and with all other being in agreement, the motion carried.

The last item before the Council was with regard to the police department. An ordinance was ready to be presented and voted on that would establish the police department; but before the ordinance could be presented there were some concerns that still needed to be addressed. The biggest concern had to do with the police department's ability to support itself and based on Brian Corb's remarks at the December 6th Special Called Meeting, the department would be unable to support itself. With that as the biggest concern, Gus Kangos made the motion to dissolve the police department as it stands right now, Steve Parrish made the second, and the vote was 3 in favor of dissolving the police department, 1 opposed to

dissolving the police department, and 1 abstaining from the vote. With the majority in favor, the motion to dissolve the police department passed.

With the dissolving of the police department came the discussion of the inability to enforce the ordinances and the need for the municipal court. Gus Kangos made the motion to dissolve the municipal court, Steve Parrish made the second and the vote was 3 in favor of dissolving the municipal court, 1 opposed to dissolving the municipal court and 1 abstaining. With the majority in favor, the motion to dissolve the municipal court passed.

With funds from ARPA having been pursued specifically for the purpose of starting a police department, the question was asked what will those funds be used for and it was determined to see if the projects that have been discussed for the sewer system would fall within categories allowed for use the funds.

The motion to adjourn was made by Gus Kangos, the second was made by John Whitmire and with all in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Brenda Ford, Mayor



Debra Newkirk, City Secretary