



REVISED

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
May 4, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

The City Council of the City of Forest Hill met on the above date at **7:00 p.m.** with Mayor James Gosey presiding. The following Council Members and officials were present: Council Members Damian Dalcour, Lyndia Thomas, Gerald Joubert, Dulani Masimini, Andrew Sanders, Mayor Pro Tem Mustafa Sami, City Manager Sheyi I. Ipaye, Acting City Secretary Grace Edwards, Interim Police Chief Robert Herbert, Public Works Supervisor Roberto Duenes, Director of Economic Development & Community Relations Venus Wehle, Acting City Attorney Alicia Johnson.

Opening Agenda:

A. Call to Order

With a quorum present, Mayor Gosey called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Invocation

The Invocation was delivered by Mr. Don Cecil.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to Flags

Pledge to the United States and Texas flags were recited.

D. Presentation: Mr. Curvie Hawkins, Fort Worth Transportation Authority – Mr. Hawkins gave a brief overview on the services the “T” provides to surrounding cities. The cities that are currently a member are Fort Worth, Richland Hills, Blue Mound, Grapevine (Partner). The “T” Mission Statement – “We will provide quality public transportation to meet the mobility needs of our region.” The “T” is governed by established state laws, as well as a nine (9) member Board of Directors, and it operates as a strong regional voice for mobility. Most of the “T” is financed by a half cent sales tax (60%) and fares (7%). Other sources of finance are through Federal Grant Assistance, Investment Income, Advertising, and other income. Current services that the “T” provides are:

1. Thirty-Two (32) fixed and special service routes
2. One (1) rider request route
3. Eight (8) express routes
4. Trinity Railway Express (TRE) is a commuter railway service and there is an airport route
5. MITS is a handicap door to door service with vanpool and/or carpool

If the City of Forest Hill were to join the “T” the city would have to pass a referendum and contribute sales tax as well. The “T” is financed primarily through sales tax, fares and grants. The mayor, council and residents had several questions for Mr. Hawkins.

- E. **Citizens Presentation:** At this time, any person with business before the Council not scheduled on the agenda may speak to the Council. No formal action can be taken on these items at this meeting.

Mrs. Cora Bennett, 6921 Stonewall Road – Mrs. Bennett came before the mayor and council asking to be considered for the Home Grant Project. Mrs. Bennett wanted to share with the mayor and council that her home is in need of repairs that she cannot afford. Mrs. Bennett has been on the Home Grant Project list since 2007.

Sheyi Ipaye, City Manager – Mr. Ipaye thanked Mrs. Bennett for coming out and requesting assistance. Mr. Ipaye explained to Mrs. Bennett exactly what she should do to accelerate the process of receiving the much needed home repairs. Mr. Ipaye shared with the citizens of Forest Hill that the purpose of the Home Grant Project is assist the elderly, handicap and needy with any necessary home repairs. Mr. Ipaye assured Mrs. Bennett that help is on the way.

Mrs. Pearl Jones, 6417 Evonshire Drive – Mrs. Jones stated that she has two things to speak about this afternoon. First, Mrs. Jones wanted to give a friendly reminder to everyone in attendance that the Parks and Clean City Committee are accepting applications for the Griggs Park Grant Advisory Group. Mrs. Jones is asking the citizenry to please apply. Secondly, Mrs. Jones looked on the agenda and hoped to see the selection of the appraisal service for the Griggs Park Grant. Mrs. Jones is disappointed in the fact that the appraiser has not been selected. Mrs. Jones hopes that the mayor, council and city manager understand the importance of getting the appraisal completed. Thus, moving forward with the process of completing the stipulations for the Grant.

- F. **Consent Agenda:** - All consent agenda items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

1. Consider minutes of the April 20, 2010 regular council meeting.
2. Consider the National League of Cities Trip located in Washington, D.C.

Council Member Thomas pulled consent item #2 from the consent agenda.

Council Member Thomas motioned to approve the April 20, 2010 regular council meeting with the corrections, seconded by Council Member Dalcour, which *passed* as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Masimini, Sanders, Mayor Pro Tem Sami

Nays: None

Abstained: Council Member Joubert

Council Member Thomas gave a power point presentation regarding the National League of Cities Trip located in Washington, D.C. Council Member Thomas enlightened the residents of Forest Hill about the importance of Mayor and Council Training. Council Member Thomas stated that as a city, we should have more representation in Washington D.C., but because of the lack of funds, our city and many other cities cannot afford to have lobbyist in Washington, D.C. There were (4) four members of the city council that attended the Washington, D.C. trip, the names are as follows: Mayor James Gosey, Council Members: Lyndia Thomas, Damian Dalcour, and Dulani Masimini. The purpose of the trip was to meet with congressional leaders to support President Obama's health care bill. Additionally, Mayor and council members attended congressional meetings; which gave training and information sessions on how

the mayor and council could better serve the community. Consequently, Council Member Thomas stated that the Washington D.C. trip was very uplifting and an informative experience.

G. Deliberation Agenda:

3. Discuss and consider possible action regarding Tarrant County Precinct One Interlocal Agreement with the City of Forest Hill to accomplish reconstruction and repairs for various streets in the city.

Council Member Masimini motioned to approve agenda item #3, seconded by Council Member Sanders, which *passed* as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Masimini, Sanders, Mayor Pro Tem Sami

Nays: None

4. Discuss and consider possible action in regards to public transportation service for the residents of Forest Hill provided by the Fort Worth Transportation Authority the "T".

No action was taken on this agenda item. Dick Ruddel, President of Fort Worth Transportation Authority will be asked to attend the May 18, 2010 regular council meeting. Per Mayor Gosey, the city should consider having a transportation committee.

5. Discuss and consider possible action entering into an agreement with Barnett Gathering, LP.

Council Member Thomas motioned to accept the agreement with Barnett Gathering, LP, seconded by Council Member Sanders, which *passed* as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Member: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Masimini, Sanders, Mayor Pro Tem Sami

Nays: None

6. Discuss and consider possible action regarding an update on the City Hall Building located at 3219 California Parkway.

Council Member Thomas motioned to give the City Manager approval to move forward with additional funds needed to complete the new city hall building, seconded by Council Member Sanders, which *passed* as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Sanders, Mayor Pro Tem Sami

Nays: Council Member Masimini

For updating purposes; City Manager has committed to placing this item on every agenda until the new city hall building is completed.

7. Discuss and consider possible action regarding an update on the Public Works Building located at 3101 Horton Road.

Council Member Masimini motioned to authorize the city manager to move forward in locating funds to complete the public works building with stipulations regarding the RFP minority contracts, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sami, which *passed* as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour Thomas, Joubert, Masimini, Sanders, Mayor Pro Tem Sami

Nays: None

8. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the New City of Forest Hill Building and Monument Signs.

Council Member Masimini made a motion authorizing the City Manager to get bids for the signs, seconded by Council Member Thomas, which *passed* as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Masimini, Sanders, Mayor Pro Tem Sami

Nays: None

9. Discuss and consider possible action regarding contract renewal for the City of Forest Hill Senior Citizen Center.

Council Member Joubert motioned to approve the Senior Citizen Center Contract, seconded by Council Member Thomas, which *passed* as follows:

Ayes: Mayor Gosey, and Council Members: Dalcour, Thomas, Joubert, Masimini, Sanders, Mayor Pro Tem Sami

Nays: None

10. Discuss and consider possible action regarding the Home Grant Project.

No action needs to be taken on this item.

11. Discuss and consider possible action in regards to calling a Special Election on the November 2010 Ballot.

Council Member Joubert motioned to put the recall petitions on the November 2010 Uniform Election date, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Sami, which *did not pass* as follows:

Ayes: Council Member Joubert

Nays: Mayor James Gosey, and Council Members: Masimini, Dalcour, and Mayor Pro Tem Sami

Abstained: Council Members: Thomas, and Sanders

After vote was completed, Mayor Pro Tem Sami changed his vote to abstain.

Mr. Jimmie Sanders, 7005 Stonewall Road – Mr. Sanders spoke regarding the recall situation in Forest Hill. Mr. Sanders stated that the citizens, mainly the senior citizens were told incorrect information regarding the reasons for the recent recall petitions. Mr. Sanders goes on to say that every time city officials/citizens recall or terminate an individual, the city has to pay out a substantial amount of money. Mr. Sanders feels that the recent recall petitions for Mayor James Gosey and Dulani Masimini are frivolous and a waste of time. Mr. Sanders encourages the residents of Forest Hill to appreciate what our mayor and council members are trying to accomplish. He also feels that the current mayor and council members are doing a great job in keeping the citizens informed. In the past the mayor and council were not as informative. Mr.

Sanders feels that past situations of misconduct and wrong doing were purposely overlooked. In conclusion, Mr. Sanders says every time someone does not like a decision that is made in the City of Forest Hill, they decide to recall that individual, and this needs to stop. These so-called recalls are costing the citizens of Forest Hill too much money.

12. Discuss the strong mayor form of government.

Council Member Joubert pulled this item from the 05-04-10 agenda.

13. Discuss Tarrant County Sheriff's Department coming in and taking over.

Council Member Joubert pulled this item from the 05-04-10 agenda.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, the Council reserves the right to convene in Executive Session(s) from time to time as deemed necessary during this meeting for any posted agenda item, to receive advice from its attorney as permitted by law.

H. Reconvene into regular session.

I. Take any action necessary pursuant to executive session.

J. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the council adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Grace Edwards, Acting City Secretary

James Gosey, Mayor