

## **Minutes**

City Council – Regular Meeting

CITY OF SIMONTON

May 21, 2024

This is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the City Council – Regular Meeting of the Simonton City Council held on May 21, 2024 at 6:34 p.m.

### **1. Call to Order**

Mayor Boudreaux called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

A quorum was present with the following City Councilmembers in attendance:

Laurie Boudreaux, Courtney Cox, Burns Turner, Faith Haley, Justin Boudreau, and Kelli Matula

#### **City Staff present:**

Interim City Secretary Janie Willman  
Olson and Olson Attorney Philip Boedeker

#### **Public Present:**

Angela King  
Erica Molina  
Susan LaDart  
Melissa McCall  
Barbara Minton  
Daniel McJunkin  
Abbie Ferguson  
Dub Sabrsula

### **2. Invocation and Pledge**

Mayor Boudreaux gave the invocation.

Mayor Boudreaux led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3. Public Comments**

*In accordance with Texas Open Meetings Act and Texas Government Code 551.007, City Council may not discuss or take action on any item NOT listed on the Agenda. Each member of the public wishing to speak must sign-up prior to the meeting and is limited to 3 minutes.*

Angela King thanked the Mayor for attending to the flooding gages and deploying the City's new pumping equipment.

Susan LaDart thanked the Mayor for making difficult decisions that must be made.

Barbara Minton informed the City Council about the FEMA lots that need to be cut and trees downed by the recent storms that need to be removed.

#### **4. Consider and take action on the Consent Agenda**

*Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and are generally enacted in one motion. The exception to this rule occurs when a Council Member requests one or more items removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and action.*

*a. Draft Meeting Minutes of:*

Special Joint City Council Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2024,  
Special Joint City Council Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2024,  
Special City Council Election Canvass Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2024

A question was raised regarding the lack of the Meeting Minutes of the Emergency Management Committee Meeting. Mayor Boudreaux informed the City Council that those meeting minutes will be submitted for consideration for approval when the Committee meets again.

*b. City Council Financial Reports*

Council Report, January 2024  
Payment Report, January 2024  
Council Report, February 2024  
Payment Report, February 2024

*c. Consider and take action on A Resolution Of The City Of Simonton, Texas Finding That Centerpoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC's Requested Increase To Its Electric Transmission And Distribution Rates And Charges Within The City Should Be Denied; Finding That The City's Reasonable Rate Case Expenses Shall Be Reimbursed By The Company; Finding That The Meeting At Which This Resolution Is Passed Is Open To The Public As Required By Law; Requiring Notice Of This Resolution To The Company And GCCC Legal Counsel*

*d. City of Simonton Texas Sales and Use Tax Reports*  
March 2024, Ryan Fortner, President  
April 2024, Q2, Ryan Fortner, President

Motion by Council Member Cox to table the City Financial Reports to allow corrections to be made and brought forward to the next meeting. Second was made by Council Member Haley. [City Secretary Note: Corrections were discussed between Council Member Cox and Mayor Boudreaux at the dais.]

Ayes: Five

Noes: None

Motion Passed.

Present and not voting except in the event of a tie: Mayor Boudreaux

Motion by Council Member Boudreau to approve the Consent Agenda without the City Council Reports. Second by Council Member Matula.

Ayes: Four (Boudreau, Matula, Haley, Turner)

Noes: One (Cox)

Motion Passed.

Present and not voting except in the event of a tie: Mayor Boudreaux

#### **5. New Business**

**a.** Consider and take action on a Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Simonton, Texas Canvassing The Returns For, And Declaring The Results Of, The General Municipal Election Held On May 4, 2024, For The Purpose Of Electing A Mayor And Two At-Large Positions To The City Council Of The City Of Simonton, Texas

Motion by Council Member Cox to adopt a Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Simonton, Texas Canvassing The Returns For, And Declaring The Results Of, The General Municipal Election Held On May 4, 2024, For The Purpose Of Electing A Mayor And Two At-Large Positions To The City Council Of The City Of Simonton, Texas. The second was made by Council Member Boudreau.

Ayes: Five

Noes: None

Motion Passed.

Present and not voting except in the event of a tie: Mayor Boudreaux

**b.** Installation of Mayor-Elect and City Council Members-Elect. The newly elected officials will be administered the required Statement of Officer and Oath of Office. Ms. Erica Molina, former City of Simonton Secretary and current Brookshire City Secretary, administered the required Statement and Oath to each newly elected official.

**c.** Mayor makes Welcoming Remarks to New City Council. Mayor Boudreaux extended congratulations to the candidates who were newly elected and are serving their first full term as Council Members. She thanked them for their service completing terms of former City Council Members who resigned.

**d.** Election of Mayor Pro Tem.

Motion by Council Member Matula to nominate Council Member Boudreau as Mayor Pro Tem. Second was made by Council Member Boudreau.

Ayes: Two (Matula, Boudreau)

Noes: Three (Cox, Haley, Turner)

Motion Failed.

Present and not voting except in the event of a tie: Mayor Boudreaux

Motion by Council Member Turner to nominate Council Member Cox as Mayor Pro Tem. The second was made by Council Member Haley.

Ayes: Three (Cox, Haley, Turner)

Noes: Two (Matula, Boudreau)

Motion Passed.

Present and not voting except in the event of a tie: Mayor Boudreaux

**e.** Consider and take action on Simonton Economic Development Corporation (EDC) B, Recommendations for Board Appointments, Dub Sabrsula, former EDC A Board President, Presenter

Dub Sabrsula addressed the City Council with his recommendations for appointment to the EDC B Board to serve as Board Members: Stacey Gootee, Susan LaDart, Barbara Minton, and Jake Strickland, all live within the City Limits. Roberto Molina, Dub Sabrsula, and Sunni McKinney West, all live within the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ). It was reported that the following candidates have agreed to serve, if appointed. A question was raised regarding residential requirements as are now codified in the Texas Local Government Code. City Attorney Boedeker committed to checking on By-Law changes as they now exist in the Texas Local Government Code and reporting back to the City Council.

**f.** Consider and take action on a Contract for Professional Services for Economic Development Director with Mr. Joe Esch.



Mayor Boudreaux informed the City Council that Mr. Esch informed her that he has additional staff who can do some of the work at a lower cost. This will be presented to the City Council at a future meeting.

**g.** Emergency Management Committee Meeting & Brazos River Monitoring Status Report. The Mayor expressed her thanks to the Emergency Management Committee Members who serve as volunteers when the Emergency Operations Center has to be opened and staffed when flooding conditions are imminent. She also expressed her thanks to the Fort Bend County Road and Bridge staff for their support during these potential flooding events along the Brazos River in the City of Simonton.

**h.** Consider and take action on City Hall Building Repairs and Overall Painting. Mayor Boudreaux informed the City Council that Hlavinka-Boettcher asked her to determine a color to paint the new ARPA Grant Expansion for City Hall. Following inspection by potential contractors, it was reported and is visible that the back panels on City Hall are rusted at the bottom attachments to the building and have developed openings which require the City Hall back panels to be replaced to secure the City Hall for current and future use. The Mayor noted that the estimates came in quite a bit higher than she anticipated. Hlavinka-Boettcher suggested replacing the rusting panels with panel sections at the bottom of the City Hall Building back wall. Additional information will be brought forward to the City Council at a future meeting. No action is to be taken on this agenda matter.

**i.** Second Reading of the Resolution to approve the Proposed Project from the EDC A to partially fund an infrastructure improvement project that provides expanded public safety facilities and is a generally municipally owned improvement.

#### Resolution No. 2024-08

A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Simonton, Texas, Authorizing And Approving The City Of Simonton Economic Development Corporation's Project To Expend Funds To Partially Fund An Infrastructure Improvement Project That Provides Expanded Public Safety Facilities And Are Generally Municipally Owned Improvements; Containing Other Provisions Related To The Subject; And Providing For Severability.

Motion by Council Member Matula to adopt a Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Simonton, Texas, Authorizing And Approving The City Of Simonton Economic Development Corporation's Project To Expend Funds To Partially Fund An Infrastructure Improvement Project That Provides Expanded Public Safety Facilities And Are Generally Municipally Owned Improvements; Containing Other Provisions Related To The Subject; And Providing For Severability. The second was made by Council Member Boudreau.

Ayes: Five

Noes: None

Motion Passed.

Present and not voting except in the event of a tie: Mayor Boudreaux

**j.** Consider and take action appointing the Mayor and Two City Council Members to the City of Simonton Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation (SCEFFC).

Mayor Boudreaux informed the City Council that the City has been approached regarding allowing use of its bond rating on what is called a conduit basis of an existing corporation of the City of Simonton. The City of Simonton has engaged in this process in previous years. In preparation for the City Council's consideration to allow use of its bond rating, the Mayor informed the City

Council of the need to take action appointing the Mayor and Two City Council Members to the City of Simonton Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation to update the Board replacing members who moved out of the City of Simonton.

Ayes: Five

Noes: None

Motion Passed.

Present and not voting except in the event of a tie: Mayor Boudreaux

**6. Adjourn to Executive Session**

The City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:29 p.m. pursuant to Section 551.071 – Consultation with Legal Counsel and Section 551.074 – Personnel, regarding the appointment, employment and duties of the City Administrator and City Secretary.

**7. Reconvene to Open Session**

The City Council reconvened into Open Session at 8:33 p.m.

**8. Consider and take action resulting from Executive Session**

No action is required resulting from Executive Session.

**9. Reports**

a. Mayor

Flock Camera Installation Update. The Flock Cameras are installed and available for use by the City as the need arises.

Budget Session Calendar for 2024-2025; Budgeting Season starts in June. Mayor Boudreaux informed the City Council that Fort Bend County forwarded this copy of their budget season calendar. The City Council will receive an updated calendar.

TCEQ Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Water Quality Report Permit Renewal of Permit No. WQ0013089001. Mayor Boudreaux informed the City Council that the Permit was filed by Twinwood.

Miscellaneous. Mayor Boudreaux thanked the Media representative for agreeing to record City Council Meetings for placement on the City's Face Book (Meta) page.

b. City Staff. Interim City Secretary Willman reminded the City Council for the Runoff Election on Tuesday, May 28, arising from the Spring Primaries. The polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and voting will be conducted at Simonton City Hall.

c. City Council

**10. Next City Council Meeting, June 4, 2024, 6 p.m.**

## 11. Adjournment

The Mayor adjourned the City Council Meeting at 8:37 p.m. without objection.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Bondreay  
Mayor

Janie Valiner  
Interim City Secretary

