

**Minutes  
Hurst City Council  
Work Session  
Tuesday, June 23, 2020**

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2020, at 5:48 p.m., the City Council of the City of Hurst, Texas, convened in Work Session at City Hall, 1505 Precinct Line Road, Hurst, Texas, by telephone conference to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) with the following members present:

Henry Wilson	)	Mayor
Jon McKenzie	)	Mayor Pro Tem
David Booe	)	Councilmembers
Larry Kitchens	)	
Cathy Thompson	)	
Bill McLendon	)	
Cindy Shepard	)	
Clay Caruthers	)	City Manager
Matthew Boyle	)	Assistant City Attorney
Rita Frick	)	City Secretary
Sunny Patel	)	Information Technology Director
David Palla	)	Fire Chief
Michelle Lazo	)	Executive Director of Planning and Development

With the following Councilmembers absent: none, constituting a quorum, at which time, the following business was transacted:

**I. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 5:48 p.m.

Mayor Wilson moved the Executive Session to the next item.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION in Compliance with the Provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Law, authorized by Government Code, Section 551.071, Consultation with City Attorney to seek advice regarding Pending or Contemplated Litigation or Settlement Offers (Dakota Place Apartments) and to reconvene in Open Session at the conclusion of the Executive Session**

Mayor Wilson recessed the meeting to Executive Session at 5:49 p.m. in compliance with the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Law, authorized by Government Code, Section 551.071, Consultation with City Attorney to seek advice regarding pending or contemplated litigation of settlement offers (Dakota Place Apartments) and reconvened to work session at 6:10 p.m.

**II. Informational Items**

- **Update and Discussion of upcoming Calendar Items** – City Manager Caruthers noted the upcoming Bulk Trash Days, July 11 (North side Airport Freeway) and 18 (South side Airport Freeway). He stated July 11 is also the Household Hazardous Waste event at the

- Service Center. He stated Council will hold strategic planning and budget meetings on July 31 and August 1.
- **Update and Discussion of State and Local reopening plans due to COVID-19** – City Manager Caruthers briefed Council on facilities reopening and that things have gone smoothly. He stated a few facilities are still not completely open including the Senior Center and some facilities will expand services. He noted the upcoming primary runoff election and that the Recreation Center is an early voting site, staff is prepared, but the County will handle the election process. Mr. Caruthers also noted that Governor Abbott announced the number of Covid-19 cases are increasing in the state and though he did not mandate masks, he strongly encouraged the use of masks. Mr. Caruthers noted he is revising the policy for employees at Hurst, and reviewed safety precautions being taken. He also noted the Governor’s advisory allows local counties and Mayors to implement stricter controls for outdoor gatherings of 100 or more, which changed from 500 or more. Mr. Caruthers noted that although it is disappointing, the City is not conducting the July 4<sup>th</sup> Stars and Stripes event, due to the challenges of enforcing social distancing and managing the gathering. Councilmember Kitchens and Booe stated they had received positive feedback about what the City is doing. In response to Councilmember Kitchens questions, Mr. Caruthers noted that in the last call with the County, masks were not required, but he will ask the question during the scheduled call tomorrow. Mr. Caruthers also reviewed the total cases, hospitalizations and active COVID-19 cases in Hurst noting state wide numbers are increasing, but the City’s cases being monitored were going down. Councilmember Kitchens reiterated his belief the City should do everything they can to encourage citizens to follow all of the recommended safety guidelines.
  - **Update and Discussion of Fire Apparatus replacement** - City Manager Caruthers briefed Council on two fire engines that have reached their service life, and that one needs to be replaced and one will roll into reserve. He stated he is bringing this item forward tonight because he wants to handle the purchase through a private placement instrument, which is similar to a lease to buy acquisition. He stated the rates are very low and it will be helpful to hold on to liquidity with the uncertain economy. He stated if Council has no objections, he plans to start the process with financial advisors Friday and request quotes in the near future. He stated this will be approximately 4 tenths of one cent on the property tax rate and equal to about .50 cents per month for the average residential property owner. Mr. Caruthers stated this is based on current values, which could go up or down, but the tax rate would not deviate much. He also stated staff is trying to keep the plans and purchases to the most critical infrastructure needs. He stated Council will have tax rate discussions during the July 31 and August 1 meetings.

The following item was not discussed in work session.

### **III. Discussion of Agenda Item(s) 3**

Conduct a public hearing and consider the issue of levying civil penalties, possible revocation of the Certificate of Occupancy and status of the repairs for the property located at 450 E. Hurst Blvd, Hurst, Texas; Lot A3, Block 14, of the Holder Estates subdivision (Dakota Place Apartments).

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

**APPROVED** this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Rita Frick, City Secretary

**APPROVED:**

  
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Henry Wilson, Mayor