

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING****City Council****May 11, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Brownwood, Texas, met in a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 4:00 p.m., in the upstairs breakroom of City Hall, 501 Center Avenue, Brownwood, Texas, with the following members present:

<b>Stephen E. Haynes</b>	:	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>H. D. Jones</b>	:	<b>Council Member Ward 1</b>
<b>Ed McMillian</b>	:	<b>Council Member Ward 2</b>
<b>Melody Nowowiejski</b>	:	<b>Council Member Ward 3</b>
<b>Draco Miller</b>	:	<b>Council Member Ward 4</b>
<b>Walker Willey</b>	:	<b>Council Member Ward 5</b>
<b>Emily Crawford</b>	:	<b>City Manager</b>
<b>Melanie Larose</b>	:	<b>Finance Director</b>
<b>Christi Wynn</b>	:	<b>City Secretary</b>

with no members absent constituting a quorum of the City Council.

Mayor Haynes called the meeting to order.

**WORKSHOP:**

**Pre-Budget Workshop Session, including, without limitation, projects review, goal setting, staffing, economic development, revenue and expenditure projections, and other related issues.**

Items discussed were as follows:

- Veterans War Memorial Mural
- Discussed the Brownwood tax roll estimated increase of 3.09% and the City of Brownwood decreasing the rates the last two years for No New Revenue. Council requested tax revenue increase be capped at 2%.
- Discussed increasing the City budget by 2.5% due to increasing costs of doing business. Increase fees as staff found necessary.
- Texas Coalition of Affordable Power (TCAP) passing along a service fee of \$270,000 due to ERCOT disaster during the winter freeze. Council discussed payment options – 1 time at \$270,000 or 3-year payments with interest fee.
- Consider bonuses of 2.5% for City employees at the City Manager's discretion on whether they are merit based or across the board.
- Discussed the potential increase in employee health insurance cost of around 3%.
- Discussed outside City limits fire response and the MOU with Brown County.
- Discussed illegal dumping and possibly looking at ways to control.
- Council requested staff assemble all MOU's or agreements with the County to review and amend as needed.
- Spoke briefly about subsidies.

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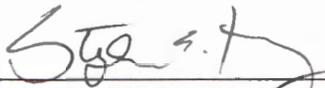
- Spoke briefly about additional street repairs but decided a future street bond would need to be considered for major areas in need of repair. One area in particular was Milam Drive from the Indian Creek Town Homes to the Ball Parks.

**Parks and Downtown discussion:**

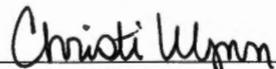
- Several parks were discussed including requested items for Wiggins pavilion and pool repairs, and Trigg Park pavilion and merry-go-round.
- Council discussed park ideas (no particular park) of adding trees and irrigation at parks and BNSF, batting cages, additional restrooms, and murals.
- Council briefly discussed a dog park.
- Council may consider downsizing the number of parks taken care of by the City. Currently there are nineteen. This will require voter action.
- Council Member McMillian requested a gate at Fabis Park.
- Council Member Miller requested shrubs to be trimmed at the Bennie Houston Center.
- Discussed Downtown landscaping, underground utilities, streetscaping on Fisk Street, sidewalks, Carnegie island landscaping, a restroom trailer for events, purchasing a downtown building for restrooms, that could also be used for first aid, lost and found, etc.
- Discussed additional demolition of houses near the Coliseum, and Library and Adams Street renovations.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Mayor Haynes declared the meeting adjourned.

  
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STEPHEN E. HAYNES, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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CHRISTI WYNN, City Secretary