

THE STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTY OF FANNIN §

January 10, 2023

**BE IT REMEMBERED THAT the City Council of the City of Leonard, Fannin County, Texas held in the Council Chambers of City Hall on January 10, 2023, a Regular Meeting at 6:30 P.M.**

**Members Present:** Mayor Michael Pye, Mayor Pro Tem Noel Nixon, Councilmembers Billy Wayne Martin, Al Stephens, Debra Wilcox, and Garry Doyle.

**Staff present:** City Administrator George Evanko, City Secretary Melissa Verde, Utility Billing Clerk Kim Davis, Police Chief Brian Meserole, and Public Works Director Woody Patrick.

**Registered Guests:** Rex Womack; Margy Hall; Brent, Seth, & Caleb Humason, Betsy Blevins, Ms. Carol A. Cruse-Dutilly.

### MINUTES

**1. Call Public Hearing to Order, Verification of Quorum**

Mayor Michael Pye called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

**2. Invocation, Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and Texas Flags**

**3. Approval of December 13, 2022 Minutes**

Mayor Pro Tem Nixon moved to approve. Second by Councilmember Martin. Mayor Michael Pye called for a vote – Mayor Pro Tem Nixon and Councilmembers Stephens, Martin were in favor, Councilmembers Doyle, Wilcox abstaining. The minutes were approved.

**4. Department Reports**

- a. Police Department- Chief gave a brief report on the department. Council presented Chief with an appreciative plaque. One vehicle under repair, warranty repairs but parts are hard to get.
- b. Public Works- Director Woody Patrick went over storm clean-up efforts; talked about street repairs in progress, among various projects.
- c. Administrative- George Evanko gave administrative report including status of various grants, funds, applications; addressed staff needs and challenges
- d. Financial Report

**5. Open Forum:**

*This portion of the agenda is the public's opportunity to address the Council about any item listed on the agenda, except public hearings. Comments related to public hearings will be heard when the specific*

*hearing begins. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, unless otherwise required by law. Per the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Council is not permitted to take action on or discuss any item not listed on the agenda. Texas Government Code Sec. 551.007 (Texas Open Meetings Act 2020).*  
No speakers.

6. **Discussion and take action on Ordinance #011023A ordering a general election May 6, 2023, for the purpose of electing three (3) city council members for a two-year term; establishing polling dates and locations; and establishing the process for early voting.** Debra Wilcox moved to order the general election with the changes of the early voting officer. Al Stephens seconded the motion; and the motion passed.
7. **Discussion and possible action on the re-appointment of three (3) members to the Leonard Community Development Corporation for the 2022-2024 term (Oct – Sep).**  
LCDC President Womack mentioned the (3) people whose seats expired September 2022. Councilmember Martin moved to approve the appointment of the (3) members for the new term- Womack, Damesworth, Stanley, expiring September 2024. Seconded by Councilmember Wilcox. Motion carried.
8. **Discussion and possible action on Leonard Community Development Corporation reimbursing the City for Kiwanis Park light poles expense, materials totaling \$14,040.**  
President Womack addressed the LCDC's intent to reimburse the City for unbudgeted expenses associated with replacing light poles at Kiwanis Park. Councilmember Al Stephens moved to approve the reimbursement. Second by Councilmember Doyle. Motion carried.
9. **Discussion and action on approving Resolution #011023B granting a petition requesting annexation by landowner from Pam Stanley Tedder, owner of approximately 3.4854 acres located at 16660 S Hwy 78, setting a public hearing for the annexation; authorizing and directing the city secretary to have notice of hearing published; authorizing staff to negotiate and execute a written services agreement with the property owner; and providing an effective date.**  
Councilmember Al Stephens moved to approve the resolution. Second by Councilmember Martin. Mayor Michael Pye called for a vote. The motion carried.
10. **Discussion and action on approving written services agreement between the City of Leonard and Pam Stanley Tedder, property owner of 16660 S Hwy 78, regarding the provision of municipal services to the property.**  
Mayor Pro-Tem Nixon moved to approve the written services agreement; Councilmember Garry Doyle seconded. Motion passed.
11. **Discussion and possible action regarding a contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund- funded water system improvements.**  
David Perkins mentioned that the plan was to apply in the 2023 cycle, but within weeks of completing the sewer project for the 2022 funding year, TWDB came back and said they still have money from that funding cycle and encouraged the city to apply. So we are working to submit the application by 1/30. Councilmember Doyle moved to approve the contract. Second by Councilmember Martin. Motion carried.
12. **Discuss and consider adoption of a Resolution requesting Financial Assistance from the Texas Water Development Board for water system improvements.**  
Councilmember Stephens moved to approve the Resolution for Financial Assistance to the Texas Water Development Board. Councilmember Wilcox seconded. Motion carried.

## NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

**13. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, the City Council will recess into Executive Session pursuant to the following sections:**

- a. Section 551.071, Attorney Consult: consultation with an Attorney on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter re:*
  - i. Status of negotiations with Hickory Creek Special Utility District regarding dual certified water CCN area and possible exchange of CCN areas.*
- b. Section 551.074, Deliberation regarding the appointment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of public officer or employee: Chief of Police.*
  - i. Citizen complaint against an officer.*

Councilmember Wilcox moved to recess into executive session at 7:26PM. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nixon. Motion passes.

**14. Reconvene into open session 7:46PM.**

**15. Discussion and possible action on matters discussed in Executive Session.**

Councilmember Wilcox moved to take no action on matters a and b. Seconded by Councilmember Stephens. All in favor. Motion carried.

**16. Announcements**

City Administrator George Evanko announced he would be out of the office next week for medical leave. Police Chief Brian Meserole thanked everyone who helped with that week's storm and the citizens; it was great to see everyone come together and help. Mayor Pro Tem Nixon encouraged to do what you can to help those in need. Mayor Michael Pye stated it is great to be a part of something that gives back.

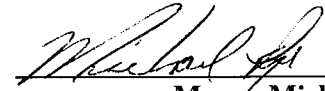
**17. Adjournment**

Councilmember Martin motioned to adjourn. Second by Councilmember Stephens. Mayor Michael Pye called for a vote – all were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:49 P.M.

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**CITY OF LEONARD, TEXAS**

**APPROVED:**

  
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**Mayor Michael Pye**

**ATTEST:**

  
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**Melissa Verde, City Secretary**