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## CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**April 9, 2024**

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT the City Council of the City of Leonard, Fannin County, Texas, held a Regular Meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall at 111 W Collin Street, Leonard, Texas, on April 9, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was broadcast live on the city's Facebook page. A video recording of the meeting is available to members of the public at <https://www.facebook.com/CityofLeonard>.

**Members Present:** Mayor Michael Pye, Mayor Pro Tem Noel Nixon, Council members Billy Wayne Martin, Leonard Phillips, Al Stephens, and Peyton Webster

**Staff present:** City Administrator George Evanko, City Secretary Melissa Verde, Court and P&Z Secretary Kim Davis, Public Works Director Woody Patrick, and Police Chief Brian Meserole.

**Also Present:** Also present were Mark Blackerby, Roger Boyd, Darrell Grintz, Matthew Harvey, Jeremy Jay, Deborah Milbern, Mica Owens, Wade Pence, David Perkins, David Shechtman, Sheryl Stanley, and Gary Stanley.

**1. Call Meeting to Order, Verification of Quorum**

Mayor Pye called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM after confirming a quorum was present.

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

Woody Patrick led the invocation and then the group recited the pledges of allegiance.

**3. Open Forum – Mayor Pye called for speakers, no one came forward to speak.**

**4. Discussion and action to approve the previous meeting minutes.**

Mayor Pro Tem Noel Nixon moved to approve the minutes from the council meeting on March 12, 2024. After a second from Council member Martin, the motion passed 4-0, 1 member abstaining.

**5. Department Reports**

Mayor Pye called for the department reports.

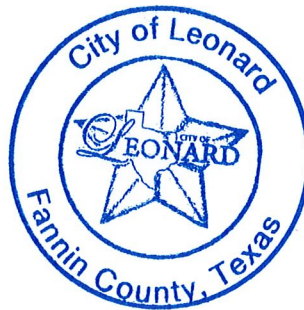
- a. Police Chief Brian Meserole presented the police department report.
- b. Public Works Director Woody Patrick presented the department report.
- c. City Administrator George Evanko presented the administrative report.

- d. City Secretary Melissa Verde presented the progress of the financial report.
6. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on Board and Commission reports:
- a. Parks & Recreation Board President Mark Blackerby gave an update regarding the park and playground. No action.
  - b. Sheryl Stanley presented a proposal for new downtown lights to the Council on behalf of Leonard Community Development Corporation. No action was taken.
  - c. There was no activity to report for the Planning & Zoning Commission due to the meeting being canceled for lack of business items.
7. Guest Presentation/ Agenda Request: TEXSTAR and LOGIC Participation Request (David Shechtman, Hilltop Securities, Inc.)
- a. After David Shechtman presented some options for the city investments, the council thanked him for the information and took no action.
8. Guest Presentation/ Agenda Request: Discussion and Possible action regarding Event Permit Application #2024-048: 145th Annual Leonard Picnic (Matthew Harvey, Chamber of Commerce)
- a. Mr. Harvey presented the permit request on behalf of the Chamber. Mr. Evanko brought up the matter of a comparable replacement to the tree that was removed before the last picnic. The Chamber would coordinate the replacement timing, location, and product. Changes to the permit request included a new cooler fee. Outstanding question of wine sales. The council mentioned that we would have to review the alcohol sales ordinance each year. Upon a motion from Council Member Al Stephens and a second from Council Member Billy Wayne Martin, the motion passed 5-0, and the permit was approved with no permit fee.
9. Guest Presentation/ Agenda Request: Permission to install a sign along US Highway 69 (Yagi Pipe & Steel)
- a. Upon a motion from Council Member Peyton Webster to table the item, and seconded by Council Member Billy Wayne Martin, the item was tabled until the City can conduct more research on the legalities surrounding the request.
10. Guest Presentation/ Agenda Request: Review of information, discussion, and vote regarding a variance to the adopted building code for pending Building Permit Application #2024-053: Remodel at 101 N Pecan St. (Jeremy Jay, Contractors4U)
- a. After a motion by Council Member Webster to deny the variance with no effect on the building permit application, and a second from Council Member Al Stephens, the motion passed 5-0.
11. Discussion and possible action selecting a service provider for planning and management services under the Resilient Communities Program 2023, and approving Resolution #240409-1 awarding the bid.
- a. After a motion by Council Member Webster to approve the resolution, and a second from Mayor Pro Tem Noel Nixon, the council approved the resolution unanimously.
12. Discussion and possible action approving Resolution #240409-2 Approving pay application phase II-

number 1 to Atkins Bros. Equipment Co.

- a. After a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Nixon to approve the resolution, and being duly seconded by Council Member Phillips, the council approved the resolution unanimously.
13. Executive Session – In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq., the City Council will recess into Executive Session (closed meeting) to discuss the following:
  - a. §551.072: Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property
  - b. Upon a motion from Council Member Webster to enter executive session at 8:24 PM, and being duly seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Nixon, the council voted 5-0 to enter executive session.
14. Reconvene Regular/ Open Session
  - a. Upon a motion from Council Member Webster and being duly seconded by Council Member Martin, the council voted 5-0 to reconvene the open session at 8:41 PM.
15. Discussion and possible action on items discussed in Executive Session
  - a. No action was taken on matters discussed in the Executive Session.
16. Announcements
17. Adjournment
  - a. There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Nixon moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 PM, and Council Member Webster seconded, getting full unanimous approval, the meeting adjourned.

CITY OF LEONARD, TEXAS



ATTEST:

Melissa Verde  
Melissa Verde, City Secretary

APPROVED:

Michael Pye  
Mayor Michael Pye