

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2025

BE IT REMEMBERED THAT the City Council of the City of Leonard, Fannin County, Texas, held a Special Meeting in the Council Chambers of City Hall at 111 W Collin Street, Leonard, Texas, on January 21, 2025, 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 Al Stephens, Councilmembers Leonard Phillips, Billy Wayne Martin and Bobby Hanson.

Staff present: City Administrator George Evanko, City Secretary Melissa Verde, Utility Billing Clerk Morgan McGary, Public Works Director Woody Patrick, and Police Officer Helms.

Registered Guest: Registered Guest were, Mor McCarthy, Doug Morfeld, Mike Ward and Zinzi Bonilla.

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
Public Works Director Woody Patrick led the invocation, and the group recited pledges of allegiance to the US and Texas flags.
3. Open Forum – Mayor Pye called for speakers; Mor McCarthy came forward and spoke about the Leonard Volunteer Core, which is a group of volunteers that come forward to complete service projects in town. He thanked the High School Beta Club for their volunteer services. The next month's date has not been set yet.
4. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on department reports:
 - a. Chief Meserole was not present for the police department report. George Evanko gave the presentation.
 - b. Public Works Director presented the public works report.
 - c. City Administrator George Evanko presented the administrative report.
 - d. City Secretary opted to give the financial report presentation to the city Auditor Mike Ward.

5. Consent Agenda

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| a. Approve previous meeting minutes- December 17, 2024 |
| b. Approve Order of General Election to be held on May 3, 2025, for three (3) council members |

at large and the reauthorization of ¼% Street Maintenance Sales Tax.

- c. Approve an application to Red River Groundwater Conservation District for a Historical Use Permit No. RHW029 regarding the operation of three (3) wells.

- d. Approve Ordinance No. 250121-01

ORDINANCE NO. 250121-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LEONARD, TEXAS AMENDING THE CITY OF LEONARD CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 11 "TAXATION," ARTICLE 11.04 "HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX," BY AMENDING SECTION 11.04.001 "DEFINITIONS," TO ADD ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 11.04.002 "LEVY; USE OF REVENUE," SUBSECTION (A), TO INCREASE THE TAX RATE TO SIX PERCENT (6%); AND BY REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 11.04.006 "VIOLATIONS; PENALTIES," TO COMPLY WITH TEXAS TAX CODE CHAPTER 351; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION; PROVIDING AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING FOR A MAXIMUM PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500); PROVIDING SEVERABILITY, SAVINGS AND REPEALER CLAUSES; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

- e. Approve Resolution No. 250121-02

RESOLUTION 250121-02

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A CONCURRENT ORDINANCE UNDER SUBTITLE C, CHAPTER 572 OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, CHANGING THE PUBLIC ENTITIES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE FANNIN COUNTY WATER SUPPLY AGENCY.

- f. Approve Resolution No. 250121-03

RESOLUTION 250121-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF LEONARD, FANNIN COUNTY, TEXAS, DESIGNATING AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER AND ALL PUBLICATIONS FOR THE CITY OF LEONARD FOR THE REMAINING FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.

- g. Approve Resolution No. 250121-04

RESOLUTION NO. 250121-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LEONARD, FANNIN COUNTY, STATE OF TEXAS, APPROVING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S LIST OF IDENTIFIED LAWFUL NONCONFORMING BUSINESS OPERATORS LISTED IN EXHIBIT "A" AND AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY FOR SAME; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

- i. Motion was made by Councilmember Martin to approve all consent agenda items, seconded by

Councilmember Hanson, the motion carried.

6. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on the audited financial reports for the September 30, 2024, fiscal year. (Mike Ward)

- i. Mike Ward gave a presentation and explained the city audit results.

7. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on Board and Commission activity reports/requests:

- a. Parks & Recreation Board- (*Minutes*)
- b. Parking Ordinance Committee-
 - i. Review applications, appoint committee members
 - ii. City Administrator George Evanko recommended to table the review of applications, due to only having one applicant.
- c. Planning & Zoning Commission (*Minutes*)
 - i. Commission Report and recommendation on application #PZ2024-014 for the replatting of Property ID 142605 Legal Description LEONARD CROSSING, LOT 1B, COMMERCIAL, also known as 202 S Hwy 69, from 1 to 2 lots.
 - ii. City Administrator George Evanko presented the report and recommendation to approve the replat.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding application #PZ2024-014 for the replatting of Property ID 142605 Legal Description LEONARD CROSSING, LOT 1B, COMMERCIAL, also known as 202 S Hwy 69, from 1 to 2 lots.

- i. Motion was made by Councilmember Hanson to approve the agenda item, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Stephens, the motion carried.

9. NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. 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:
 - i. § 551.071: Consultation with 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: advise council as to City Administrator employment contract.
 - ii. § 551.074: Deliberation regarding the appointment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of public officer or employee, re: George Evanko, City Administrator Employment Contract.
 - A. Motion was made by Councilmember Martin to recess into executive session, seconded by Councilmember Hanson, the motion carried. Executive session began at 7:28pm.

10. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

- a. Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session.
 - I. Motion was made by Councilmember Hanson to reconvene into open session, seconded by Councilmember Phillips, motion carried, and open session resumed at 7:47pm.
 - II. Motion was made by Councilmember Martin to approve the employee contract, seconded by Councilmember Hanson, the motion carried.

11. Announcements

- i. Councilmember Martin made an announcement that the fire department is

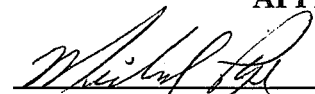
working on design layout for the bay doors. Councilmember Hanson wants the Volunteer Corps next event posted on the Facebook page. Mayor Pye commented on the new lights on the square and how good they good. The City Secretary announced the last day to submit applications is February 14th, and election date is May 3rd.

12. Adjournment

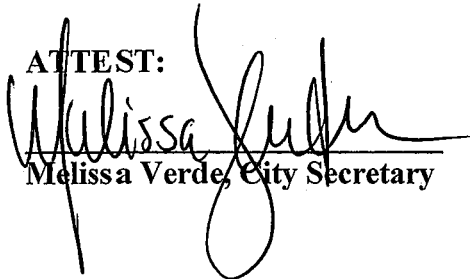
- i. Councilmember Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Hanson, the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm

CITY OF LEONARD, TEXAS

APPROVED:


Mayor Michael Pye

ATTEST:


Melissa Verde, City Secretary

