The Hutto City Council met in a regular session on Thursday, March 3, 2016, in the Hutto City Council Chamber, 401 W. Front Street, Hutto, TX 78634.

CALL SESSION TO ORDER

Mayor Holland called the session to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members of the City Council that were present were Mayor Debbie Holland, Mayor Pro-tem Michael J. Smith, Councilmember Anne Cano, Councilmember Tom Hines, Councilmember Ronnie Quintanilla-Perez, Councilmember Lucio Valdez, and Councilmember Max V. Yeste.

Members of staff that were present were Karen Daly, City Manager, Micah Grau, Assistant City Manager, Charlie Crossfield, City Attorney, Helen Ramirez, Development Services Director, Earl Morrison, Chief of Police, Randy Barker, General Services Director, Mike Hemker, Parks and Recreation Director, and Seth Gipson, City Secretary.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Deacon Lewis with Little Ebenezer Baptist Church.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Holland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION

5A. Proclamation declaring March 5, 2016, as Arbor Day in Hutto, Texas.

Mayor Debbie Holland read and presented the following proclamation to Kelly Gaydos, Parks Advisory Board Vice Chair, Mike Hemker, Parks and Recreation Director, and Anthony Valchar, Parks Supervisor.

Official Proclamation

Whereas, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and
Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska and is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

Whereas, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, can cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide a habitat for wildlife; and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, increased property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, beautify our community, and are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

Now, Therefore, I, Debbie Holland, Mayor of the City of Hutto do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 5, 2016, as:

"ARBOR DAY"

in the City of Hutto as we celebrate by expanding the tree canopy through planting new trees in Fritz Park and educating citizens to increase and support efforts that protect and replenish our trees and woodland areas, which increase the well-being of current and future generations in Hutto.

Proclaimed this the 3rd day of March, 2016.

Anthony Valchar spoke briefly about the upcoming Arbor Day events in Fritz Park.

PUBLIC COMMENT

6A. Remarks from visitors

There were no remarks from the visitors present.

WORK SESSION

Members of the Library Advisory Board present were Camille Baptiste, Chair, Ray Gavit, Vice Chair, Melissa Marek, Board member, Tara Chappell, Board member, and Ramon Mancilla, Board member.

7A. Work session regarding the annual update of the Library Advisory Board.

Randy Barker, General Services Director introduced Camille Baptiste, Library Advisory Board Chair.

Ms. Baptiste provided a brief overview of the evolution of the library services and programs as well as emphasized successes and upcoming plans and goals. During the presentation, Ms. Baptiste provided circulation statistics and survey responses from recent patrons.
Paula Waak, Library Manager, described the future reading garden and the community involvement that made this project possible.

Mayor Debbie Holland and Councilmember Ronnie Quintanilla-Perez thanked the board for all of their hard work and outreach.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

All items listed on the consent agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Council member in which event, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered as a regular agenda item.

8A. Consideration and possible action on a resolution concerning the proposed Star Ranch Gattis School Rd/SH 130 Subdivision Final Plat, 29.99 acres, more or less, of land, 3 commercial lots, located within Hutto’s extraterritorial jurisdiction at Gattis School Road (south boundary) and SH-130 (west boundary).

8B. Consideration and possible action on the meeting minutes for the January 30, 2016 Joint City Council and Hutto Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors Work Session, February 2, 2016 Joint City Council and Hutto ISD Board of Directors Work Session, February 4, 2016 Regular City Council Meeting, February 18, 2016 Regular City Council Meeting, and the February 20, 2016 Joint City Council and Planning and Zoning Commission Work Session.

MOTION: Councilmember Anne Cano moved to approve items 8A-8B on the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Tom Hines seconded the motion. The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

RESOLUTIONS

9A. Consideration and possible action on a resolution concerning a fee waiver for the rental of the City of Hutto Gin facility for a fundraiser benefiting the family of Chuck Murphy.

Micah Grau, Assistant City Manager, gave the staff presentation. A group of citizens approached the City to request the use of the Gin to hold a Celebration of Life event for Chuck Murphy. Murphy, a resident and member of the City’s Planning and Zoning Commission, passed away earlier this year. The group plans to host the event on May 7, 2016. The group has requested that the City waive rental and deposit fees for the use of the facility. The renter will still need to comply with all City guidelines for renting and cleaning the facility.

The City has waived rental fees for Park facilities in the past for non-profits and for other groups holding fundraisers. However, this is the first time the City has been approached about waiving fees at the Gin.
MOTION: Councilmember Tom Hines moved to approve the resolution concerning a fee waiver for the rental of the City of Hutto Gin facility for a Celebration of Life event remembering Chuck Murphy. Mayor Pro-tem Michael Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

Councilmember Ronnie Quintanilla-Perez thanked the Murphy Family for all of Mr. Murphy’s contributions to the City of Hutto through his service on the Planning and Zoning Commission, Chamber of Commerce, and miscellaneous organizations and events.

WORK SESSION

10A. Work session on the Williamson County Emergency Services District #3 and the proposed sales tax election.

Micah Grau, Assistant City Manager, made the staff presentation. On October 21, 2015, the Williamson County ESD#3 Board approved a resolution calling for a special election on the issue of the adoption of a local sales and use tax by the District pursuant to Chapter 775 of the Health & Safety Code. The election would be for the full 2% of local sales tax that is allowed by state law. The election will occur on the uniform election date of May 7, 2016.

As the City annexes commercial developments into its jurisdiction in the future, all local sales tax generated at the location would go to the ESD#3, should the election pass. This could adversely impact the City’s ability to provide services in the future and impact the City’s ability to incentivize any future development through a traditional Chapter 380 Sales Tax agreement.

Mr. Grau emphasized the importance of Sales Tax and a city having a diversified financial portfolio. He included a summary of the City’s current tax structure and the Future Land Use Map, which displayed that the majority of the city’s planned commercial area is still located outside the city limits.

Mr. Grau continued on by outlining the following four options for the City Council’s consideration.

- Option 1 – Pursue Sales Tax Sharing Agreement
- Option 2 –Annexation of priority properties – Challenges, next steps, etc.
- Option 3 – Inform citizens of the impacts of the election
- Option 4 - City evaluate providing Fire Services in the future

With each option, Mr. Grau described a potential framework for execution.

Discussion ensued concerning the presented options and other related topics which include the City-ESD Task Force Meetings, impacts to the Hutto EDC and future Economic Development Agreements, fire service delivery options and operational costs, and fire services in the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction.
It was the consensus of the City Council to investigate and pursue the following options that were presented.

- Option 1 – Pursue Sales Tax Sharing Agreement
- Option 3 – Inform citizens of the impacts of the election
- Option 4 - City evaluate providing Fire Services in the future

EXECUTIVE SESSION

11A. Executive Session as authorized by Section 551.072, Government Code, related to the acquisition of real property; 208 East St. Hutto, Texas.

The City Council recessed into executive session at 8:27pm and reconvened into regular session at 8:42pm.

ACTION RELATIVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

12A. Consideration and possible action on a resolution concerning a real estate contract to acquire real property located at 208 East St. Hutto, Texas.

MOTION: Mayor Pro-tem Michael Smith moved to authorize the City Manager to finalize the real estate contract to acquire real property located at 208 East St. Hutto, Texas. Councilmember Anne Cano seconded the motion. The motion carried with 7 ayes and 0 nays.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43pm.

CITY OF HUTTO, TEXAS

Debbie Holland, Mayor

ATTEST:

Seth Gipson, City Secretary

March 3, 2016 – City Council Meeting Minutes