

**MINUTES
of the
KEENE CITY COUNCIL**

THURSDAY, February 9, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor Lisa Parrish, Ray Johnson, Thomas Gutwa, Rob Foster, James Belz.

ABSENT: Gwen Beeson

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Invocation – Councilmember Gutwa

Pledge of Allegiance & Pledge to the Texas Flag – Council and Public

1. Mayor Comments:

- Mayor Parrish welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Public Comments:

- Paul Gnadl – 107 N Old Mansfield, spoke about corporate ownership of residential homes.
- Troy Smith – 310 Woodlawn Dr, spoke about the Cares Act Fund and sidewalks.
- Kevin Romanelli – 1008 Christine St, spoke about his organization moving.

3. Consideration of City Council Minutes dated January 19, 2023.

- Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve the City Council Minutes dated January 19, 2023. Councilmember Belz seconded the motion.
- Motion carried (4-0-0)

4. Discussion and take possible action authorizing a contract with Strategic Government Resources (SGR) for the Chief of Police interim services.

- City Manager Bernie Parker provided some information about the process.
- Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve authorizing a contract with Strategic Government Resources (SGR) for the Chief of Police interim services. Councilmember Belz seconded the motion.
- Motion carried (4-0-0)

5. Discussion and take possible action approving the CDBG Project CDV21-0089 Change Order No. 1 regarding the additional line items totaling \$64,500.

- Director of Public Works Don Martin provided an update on the project and the issues which were discovered causing the change order requirement.
- City Manager Bernie Parker and the council discussed the location of funds to be used for the change order.
- Councilmember Foster made a motion to approve the CDBG Project CDV21-0089 Change Order No. 1 regarding the additional line items totaling \$64,500 from ARPA Funds. Councilmember Belz seconded the motion.
- Motion carried (4-0-0)

6. Department Report.

- Human Resources Department
- Director of Human Resources / Interim City Secretary Natanael Drambareanu provided an update on the openings within the City of Keene and the steps the organization is taking to attract applicants.
- Fire Chief Warner provided an update on the staffing within the Fire Department.

7. Discussion and take possible action authorizing a contract with an interim service provider for the City Secretary position.
- Director of Human Resources / Interim City Secretary Natanael Drambareanu provided an update on the position and the number of applicants.
 - Council provided staff direction to schedule the current applicants for an interview at the next council meeting.
 - Councilmember Foster made a motion to table authorizing a contract with an interim services provider for the City Secretary position. Councilmember Belz seconded the motion.
 - Motion carried (4-0-0)

8. City Manager report
- City Manager Bernie Parker provided his report.

9. Executive Session: Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, the City Council may convene into a closed, Executive Session in accordance with the following authority:

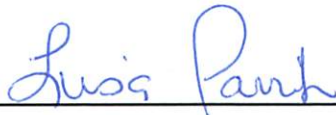
551.071 (consultation with the attorney)	551.072 (real property)	551.073 (prospective gifts)
551.074 (personnel matters)	551.076 (security matters)	551.087 (economic development)

- No executive session was held.

Executive Session may be held, under these exceptions, at the end of the Regular Session, Workshop and/or Special Session, or at any time during the meeting that a need arises for the City Council to seek advice from the City Attorney as to the posted subject matter of this City Council Meeting.

10. Reconvene into Open Session for possible action resulting from any item posted and discussed in Executive Session.
11. Discussion and requests for future items on the agenda.
- Council requested the task force for the staffing conversations with department heads.
 - Sheila Drapiza – 208 Pine St, wanted the city to consider retired firefighters for help and wanted to have the 208 Pine St water issue fixed with Cares Act Funds.
 - Kevin Romanelli – 1008 Christine St, wanted the city to contact the United States military ETS programs.

12. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

By: 

Lisa Parrish, Mayor

Attest: 

Natanael Drambareanu, Interim City Secretary