

# HEWITT TEXAS

**MINUTES OF A CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
HEWITT CITY HALL – 200 PATRIOT COURT  
May 4, 2020 – 7:00 PM**

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Charles D. Turner (presiding)	Mayor, Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Wilbert "Walky" Wachtendorf	Mayor Pro Tem, Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Bill Fuller	Council Member, Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Vacancy	Council Member, Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Michael S. Bancale	Council Member, At-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Steve Fortenberry	Council Member, Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Erica Bruce	Council Member, Ward 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

**Staff present:**

City Manager Bo Thomas  
City Secretary Lydia Lopez  
Fire Chief Lance Bracco  
Library Director Waynette Ditto  
Police Chief Jim Devlin

In accordance with social distancing guidelines, the City Council meeting was not opened to the public; however, the meeting was live-streamed for view by the public on the city's website at [www.cityofhewitt.com](http://www.cityofhewitt.com).

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.** Mayor Charlie Turner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. City Secretary Lydia Lopez polled the Council for attendance.  
**ALL PRESENT:** Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG.** Mayor Charlie Turner led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. HEAR VISITORS ON MATTERS PERTAINING TO CITY BUSINESS.** Under the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Council is prohibited from discussing, responding, or acting on any comments or items that have not been properly posted on the agenda. NOTE: The public was offered the opportunity to submit written comments on items listed on the agenda or under the hear visitors. **No public comment forms were submitted.**

**4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2020.**

**MOTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf moved approval of the minutes as presented but to allow for corrections.

**SECOND:** Council Member Bill Fuller

**AYES:** Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

**5. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF A CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE.**

City Manager Bo Thomas prefaced this item by summarizing previous discussions and recommended Council move forward with the appointment process of the Charter Review Committee. Mayor Charlie Turner suggested that each Council member submit their appointment without the Council voting on approval of the appointees. The appointments were made as follows: Mayor Charlie Turner – Johnny Stephens; Council Member Michael Bancale – Julie Lastrape; Mayor Pro Tem Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf – Betty Orton; Council Member Erica Bruce – Brad Turner; Council Member Steve Fortenberry - Traci Crain; and Council Member Bill Fuller – J.D. Copeland. (**NOTE:** Council Member Steve Fortenberry changed his appointee to Rusty Smith after the meeting via email to City Manager/City Secretary as Ms. Crain had a scheduling conflict.) General discussion was held concerning the timeline for the Committee to begin work and bring forth recommendations to the Council. Mr. Thomas advised that timing would be centered around the November election date and estimated September would be ample time to place on the ballot the proposed amendments on the Charter. Mayor Charlie Turner suggested that the appropriate time be taken to review the Charter amendments even if that meant waiting until May 2021.

**6. Briefing and discussion concerning Council priorities for FY 2020-2021 Budget.** City Manager Bo Thomas presented a summary of the Budget Calendar, Sales Tax History, and Preliminary Tax Roll. He further asked the Council to provide guidance on any priorities as the staff begins to prepare their budgets.

**7. DISCUSSION AND BRIEFING CONCERNING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND ANY ACTIONS NECESSARY THERETO:**

- Declaration of continuation of state of disaster and public health emergency and extension thereof, for ratification by the City Council, through May 15, 2020. City Manager Bo Thomas presented a summary of the necessary actions required of Council.
- Consideration and action on **Ordinance No. 2020-08** ratifying the Mayor’s continuation of the state of disaster and public health emergency in Hewitt, Texas due to the COVID-19 Pandemic; declaring the existence of a state of disaster and public health emergency in Hewitt, Texas due to the COVID-19 Pandemic; and adopting the substantive provisions of the Order of McLennan County dated April 29, 2020 as the City’s regulation. City Manager Bo Thomas presented the ordinance and stated that the County’s order would be an exhibit of the ordinance.

- Amended and restated Order of the County Judge and Commissioner’s Court of McLennan County, Texas directing all individuals living in the County to shelter at their place of residence.

**MOTION:** Council Member Steve Fortenberry moved to ratify declaration and approve Ordinance No. 2020-08.

**SECOND:** Council Member Michael Bancale

**AYES:** Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

8. **Executive Session:** A closed meeting will be held pursuant to *Section 551.071 of the Government Code (V.C.T.A.)* so that the City Council can seek and receive legal advice and counsel from its attorneys regarding pending or threatened litigation, settlement offers, resolution of claims, or other matters for which the attorneys’ duties to their client under the Texas State Bar Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct conflicts with the Open Meetings Act (Ch.551, Gov. Code).

**MOTION:** Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the Regular meeting and convene the Executive Session at 7:35 PM.

**SECOND:** Council Member Steve Fortenberry

**AYES:** Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

**ADJOURN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENED THE REGULAR SESSION.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting at 8:00 PM.

**SECOND:** Council Member Michael Bancale

**AYES:** Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

9. **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE SUBJECT MATTER SET FORTH IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Erica Bruce moved to authorize the City Attorney to take legal action against the property owner of the unfinished duplexes on Hilltop Drive.

**SECOND:** Council Member Michael Bancale

**AYES:** Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

**10. ADJOURN.**

**MOTION:** Council Member Bill Fuller moved to adjourn the Regular meeting at 8:02 PM.

**SECOND:** Mayor Pro Tem Wilbert “Walky” Wachtendorf

**AYES:** Fuller, Bancale, Wachtendorf, Fortenberry, Bruce, and Turner

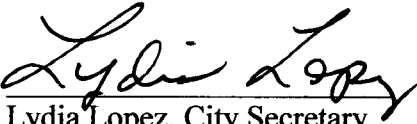
**NAYES:** None

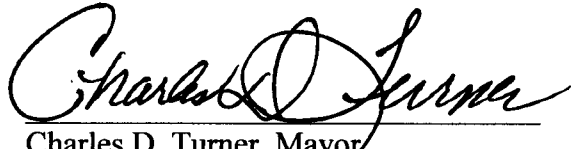
**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION PASSED.**

Approved: 05-04-2020

ATTEST:

  
Lydia Lopez, City Secretary

  
Charles D. Turner, Mayor