



City of Wimberley

221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas 78676

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

WIMBERLEY CITY HALL – CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
221 STILLWATER, WIMBERLEY, TEXAS 78676

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023 - 6:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

December 7, 2023, at 6:00 PM

Mayor Gina Fulkerson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. CALL OF ROLL

Council Members Present:

Gina Fulkerson, Mayor
Rebecca Minnick, Place 1
Chris Sheffield, Place 3
Jim Chiles, Place 4
David Cohen, Place 5

Staff Members Present:

Tim Patek, City Administrator
Tammy Heller, City Secretary
Nathan Glaiser, Director of Planning & Public Works
Leanne Kirby, Tourism Director

Council Members Absent:

Teresa Shell, Place 2

3. INVOCATION

Jim Denham, Chapel in the Hills

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/SALUTE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

Mayor Fulkerson led the pledges of allegiance.

5. CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS

Lon Bozarth, owner and manager of the Purple Barn, provided his background in music and stated the Purple Barn is a music venue that he operates in his backyard. He stated this venue promotes music in the community, has operated successfully for three years and noted that all donations go back to the artist. He expressed concern about the visit he received from city staff regarding his venue and the request to shut it down due to city ordinance violations. He would like to see the promotion of Wimberley as a music destination.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Chiles, seconded by Council Member Sheffield to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously (4-0).

- 6.1. Consider approval of the November 2, 2023 and November 16, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. (*Tammy Heller, City Secretary*)

7. PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- 7.1. Receive an update from Hays County Environmental Health Specialist, Eric Van Gaasbeek, regarding Floodplain Administration. (Nathan Glaiser, Director of Planning and Public Works).

Nathan Glaiser, Director of Planning and Public Works, introduced Eric Van Gaasbeek, Hays County Floodplain Administrator, to provide updates on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain maps and to provide an overview on the process and how we issue floodplain permits. Mr. Van Gaasbeek stated the FEMA floodplain maps released preliminary flood maps in 2017, 2019, and 2022 and as it stands right now, there is no date scheduled when final maps will be ready. They are hopeful it will be within the next few months and once they are ready, the City will have about 30 days to adopt new floodplain regulations that will include these updated maps.

Next, Mr. Van Gaasbeek explained the process and importance of floodplain permitting because un-permitted uses could cause future damage to other structures if the city were to see another flood event.

Mr. Van Gaasbeek suggested the city enter into the Community Rating System (CRS) program through FEMA as it could potentially help citizens get cheaper flood insurance premiums.

The Council posed questions related to the delay in receiving updated maps and Mr. Van Gaasbeek explained that some delays were caused by COVID and there were also appeals when maps were released in 2017 and 2019 which caused further delays.

The Council inquired about the impact citizens would see if the city were to adopt a more stringent ordinance. Mr. Van Gaasbeek stated there could be increased costs for homeowners to elevate their home.

Upon completion of discussion, Mr. Van Gaasbeek, suggested amending the floodplain ordinance so when maps are ready they can be brought back to council for approval. The document would then be sent to the Texas Water Development Board for review.

- 7.2. Receive an update from Gilpin Engineering regarding the proposed crosswalk on Old Kyle Road. (Tim Patek, City Administrator)

Tim Patek, City Administrator, introduced Ryan Bell with Gilpin Engineering to discuss the proposed crosswalk on Old Kyle Road. Mayor Fulkerson and Mayor Pro Tem Minnick suggested a crosswalk on Old Kyle Road be considered due to safety concerns. A survey was completed by Gilpin Engineering and Mr. Bell presented this to the Council and outlined the accessibility and features that would be included.

The Council wants to ensure there is safety lighting and proper accessibility at this crossing. Upon completion of discussion, consensus was to move forward with the project, but no action was taken this evening.

- 7.3. Receive a presentation from the Wimberley Valley Arts and Cultural Alliance regarding the Oak Park Mural, and consider possible action. (Leanne Kirby, Tourism Director)

Leanne Kirby, Tourism Director, introduced Don Minnick of Wimberley Valley Arts and Cultural Alliance. Mr. Minnick provided an update regarding the call for artists for the mural project at Oak Park and stated the process began in September and ended in November. Four submissions were made by four different artists and the committee selected two projects. After further review and follow up with both artists, one project stood out to the committee and the recommendation was to select the mural proposed by Wade Woehrmann.

Mr. Minnick stated the proposed mural incorporates the Texas Cultural District, our Film Friendly designation,

Dark Sky designation and Music Friendly designation in his design.

After deliberation and proposed design elements, council approved the proposed mural and consensus is to move forward with this project. Council Member Sheffield will work with the Tourism Director to ensure the desired design elements are incorporated into the project.

- 7.4.** Receive an update from Ted Gartner, regarding the 2024 Solar Eclipse Event. (Leanne Kirby, Tourism Director)

Ted Gartner, Community Liaison, introduced himself and provided his personal and professional background. He expressed his enthusiasm for the upcoming eclipse event and stated a safe, orderly and fun experience for all involved is the top priority. He wants to ensure the community is informed about the impact this event will have on everyone. He will ensure businesses and residents understand what will happen on the weekend leading up to the eclipse and the day of the eclipse. Mr. Gartner provided data related to the number of people that were in Wimberley last year on the weekend of April 8th and noted that during the eclipse next year the community could see two to five times this number, so communication will be important. Mr. Gartner will provide another update in early January.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- 8.1.** Discuss and consider action to amend Chapter 1, Section E of the Historic District Design Guidelines. (Nathan Glaiser, Director of Planning and Public Works)

Nathan Glaiser, Director of Planning and Public Works, proposed postponement of this item to the second meeting in January. This will allow the Planning and Zoning Commission an opportunity to review and provide a recommendation.

- 8.2.** Discuss and consider action on the Personnel Policy for the City of Wimberley. (*Tim Patek, City of Wimberley*)

Tim Patek, City Administrator, provided updates to the council regarding the personnel policy. This policy was reviewed by the legal and city staff and was presented to council at the last meeting. Minor edits and spelling corrections were made, but no major changes since the last discussion. This policy, if approved by the council, would go into effect January 2, 2024. A motion was made by Council Member Sheffield, seconded by Council Member Minnick, to approve the updated personnel policy. The motion carried unanimously (4-0).

9. CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

- 9.1.** Announcements

The following announcements were made:

1. The Winter's Eve event is scheduled for Saturday, December 9th in downtown Wimberley.
2. No City Council meeting on December 21st

- 9.2.** Future Agenda Items

1. Flood Prevention Ordinance update
2. Music Friendly Presentation

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Cohen, seconded by Council Member Minnick to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:06 p.m. The motion carried unanimously (4-0).

RECORDED BY:

Tammy Heller, City Secretary

APPROVED BY:

Gina V. Fulkerson, Mayor

