

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
City Council
March 14, 2023**

The City Council of the City of Brownwood, Texas, met in a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., in the Upstairs Breakroom of City Hall, 501 Center Avenue, Brownwood, Texas, with the following members present:

Stephen E. Haynes	:	Mayor
H. D. Jones	:	Councilmember Ward 1
Ed McMillian	:	Councilmember Ward 2
Melody Nowowiejski	:	Councilmember Ward 3
Walker Willey	:	Councilmember Ward 5
Emily Crawford	:	City Manager
Christi Wynn	:	City Secretary

with no members absent constituting a quorum of the City Council. Other City Staff in attendance was Deputy City Manager, Marshal McIntosh, and Executive Director of the Brownwood Municipal Development District, Ray Tipton.

Mayor Haynes called the meeting to order.

Discussion regarding the Downtown Master Plan

The Freese & Nichols team consisting of the Principal in Charge, Wendy Bonneau; Project Manager, Caitlin Admire; Project Designer and Planner, Chris Sison; and TXP Market and Financial Advisory, Travis James, lead the discussion. They began by discussing the project schedule and timeline to include three workshop sessions, public engagement (including a table at Cinco de Mayo); two online surveys, as well as on the City of Brownwood website. The team has begun walking the area to gain perspective and begin looking at land use, zoning, parking, streets, sidewalks, utilities, and tree coverage. They will investigate vacant and underutilized land and their values. They will also study our overall goals and vision for the future of our downtown, who we are serving/attracting, what are our values and priorities as a community, what are our big issues; and what we may be missing.

Some suggestions and areas of improvement made by the Council and staff were as follows:

Approving aesthetics.

Connectivity to the Event Center and Coliseum.

Underground utility lines.

Creating additional parking.

Consider making Fisk and Center one-way streets with angled parking.

Cleaning up vacant properties that are an eyesore.

Clean up connectivity locations – consider walking/bike lanes.

Better lighting.

Better sidewalks.

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Consider sustainability – are there enough events to drive tourism and locals to downtown?

Consider asking stores to stay open on Sundays once the Event Center is complete.

There is a large World War II presence – consider making a tour showing what our buildings and town used to look like during that era using QR codes.

Iron archway to match Howard Payne's entrance.

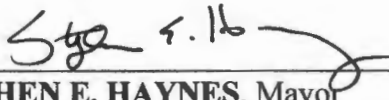
Hotel near downtown.

A nicer way to have dumpsters without making downtown ugly (mural).

Transportation trolley for events.

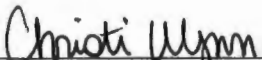
ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Mayor Haynes declared the meeting adjourned.



STEPHEN E. HAYNES, Mayor

ATTEST:



CHRISTI WYNN, City Secretary