

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
City Council
August 13, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Brownwood, Texas, met in a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Adams Street Community Center, Auditorium, 511 E. Adams, Brownwood, Texas, with the following members present:

Stephen E. Haynes	:	Mayor
H. D. Jones	:	Councilman – Ward 1
Larry Mathis	:	Councilman – Ward 3
Draco Miller	:	Councilman – Ward 4
Walker Willey	:	Councilman – Ward 5
Tim Airheart	:	Asst. City Manager Public Works
Emily Crawford	:	City Manager
Walter Middleton	:	Finance Director
Melanie Larose	:	Asst. Finance Director
Ray Tipton	:	Executive Director of BMDD
Christi Wynn	:	City Secretary

with Councilman Ed McMillian absent constituting a quorum of the City Council.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Haynes called the meeting to order.

BUDGET WORK SESSION:

Community Subsidies:

The Mayor, Council, and City Staff discussed Community Subsidies. Council discussed making the following changes to the current subsidies.

Library - \$3,000 one-year increase to match City employee bonuses.

Greenleaf Cemetery - \$10,000 one-time increase to be used towards equipment to be purchased by the City.

Lyric Theater - \$20,000 one-time recipient as COVID relief.

Arts Council – (-\$15,000) decrease, but still subsidize \$20,000.

Good Samaritan - \$2,000 one-time increase.

Council discussed decreasing the list of those who receive subsidies to a minimum and to develop a two-year phase-out plan. The Council requested a special meeting to discuss prior to the next budget planning.

Park Improvements:

Council discussed park improvements including Allcorn Park, Wiggins Park, and a Dog Park. Mrs. Crawford stated that there hasn't been any activity or communication with The ARC of Brown County on the All-Play Park at Allcorn Park. They had submitted a plan and were in the process of raising funds.

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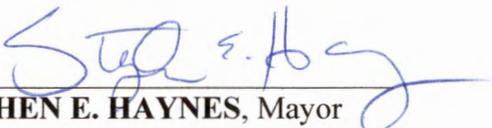
The SALSA group has been actively pursuing changes for the Wiggins Park. Executive Director of BMDD, Ray Tipton, stated that the BMDD has \$100,000 earmarked for park improvements in their coming budget. Council expressed the desire for \$50,000 to be used on Wiggins Park. Councilman Miller expressed interest in purchasing ADA accessible playground equipment for Cecil Holeman Park. Councilman Jones said he would like to fence the rest of Mayes Park. Mayor Haynes suggested the other \$50,000 to be determined at a later date.

The Dog Park project will remain on hold.

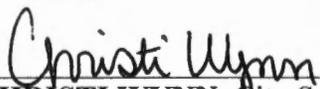
Mr. Middleton requested guidance on an \$85,000 savings from our share of Brown County Water Improvement District bond payments. We received the allocation schedule from the BCWID this week and it showed our share going down by that amount. Mayor Haynes expressed his desire to see \$50,000 of the funds go towards purchasing property around the Event Center project. Mr. Tipton stated that there are seventeen properties that they would like to purchase that would be around \$300,000 and the demolition costs would be around \$100,000. He has had phone calls from three property owners in that area that are ready to sell. City Manager Crawford discussed purchasing the Small Schools Building as this would be a good office building for the Event Center. There is no office space planned in the current layout of the Timmins project. Mr. Tipton asked Council if he could move forward with the property owners that have contacted him. It was the consensus of the Council to allow BMDD to begin making purchases. Council requested \$50,000 be placed in Department 26 – Future incentives fund to be used for purchasing property. The remaining \$35,000 will be moved to the Employee Bonus fund.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Haynes declared the meeting adjourned.


STEPHEN E. HAYNES, Mayor

ATTEST:


CHRISTI WYNN, City Secretary