

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF POLK §
CITY OF LIVINGSTON §

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
AND PUBLIC HEARING
CITY COUNCIL
MAY 17, 2022
5:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Livingston, Texas convened in special session in Council Chambers at City Hall at 5:00 P.M., May 17, 2022, with the following members present:

Judy B. Cochran)	Mayor
Alan Cook)	Councilmembers
Raymond Luna)	
Elgin Davis)	
Clarke Evans)	
Marion 'Bid' Smith)	
Billy S. Wiggins)	City Manager
Ellie Monteaux)	City Secretary/Assistant City Manager
James Wright)	City Attorney

and the following others present:

Grant Keller)	Vaquero Ventures
Chief Corky Cochran)	Livingston Volunteer Fire Department

Mayor Cochran called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. and called on Alderman Smith to open the meeting with prayer and the pledges.

Mayor Cochran recognized Corky Cochran, Fire Chief of Livingston Volunteer Fire Department. Members of the Council have received their annual payment for meeting attendance and have chosen to contribute these payments to the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department. Chief Cochran accepted the contributions on behalf of the Livingston Volunteer Fire Department and thanked the City Council for their service to the City of Livingston.

(Corky Cochran retired from the meeting.)

The City Secretary administered the Oath of Office and presented Certificates of Election to Mayor Judy Cochran, Alderman Alan Cook and Alderman Marion 'Bid' Smith.

Mayor Cochran advised Council that at the first meeting of the Council following the General Election each year, the Council elects a Mayor Pro-tem to serve for a one-year term of office. It was moved by Alderman Evans and seconded by Alderman Smith that Alderman Alan Cook be nominated to serve as Mayor Pro-tem for the 2022-2023 term. All present voted aye.

The City Attorney advised Council that the City's Sign Code, Chapter 10 - Buildings and Structures, Article XII. - Sign Code, Sec. 10-316 regarding sign permits provides for either approval or denial of sign permits when a denial of a permit is appealed to the City Council. At present there is no provision for granting of variances in appropriate circumstances. The City Attorney presented a proposed ordinance to amend the Sign Code to provide for variances. Discussion ensued relative to amending the sign code and the need to review the City's sign code in its entirety. It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Evans that the ordinance be approved and adopted. All present voted aye. The ordinance, as approved, is captioned as follows:

"ORDINANCE NO. A-831

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 10 - BUILDING AND STRUCTURES, ARTICLE XII. - SIGN CODE. SEC. 10-316(c)(5) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON, PROVIDING FOR THE GRANTING OF VARIANCES FROM PROVISIONS OF THE SIGN CODE; PROVIDING FOR CUMULATIVE EFFECT, AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY THEREOF."

Mayor Cochran opened a Public Hearing at 5:12 P.M. regarding the appeal of Coast 2 Coast Signs of the denial of issuance of a sign permit for an off-premise pylon sign at 1620 W. Church Street for Panda Express and Starbucks and their request for variance. Grant Keller was present on behalf Vaquero Ventures. Mr. Keller provided Council with a handout including a rendering of the proposed sign and the proposed location of the sign. Discussion ensued relative to the proposed location of the sign and agreement between Panda Express and Starbucks regarding the cost of the sign. The City Attorney advised Council that, considering the action taken in the previous item to amend the sign ordinance to allow for variance, should Council grant the variance request then the appeal would be moot.

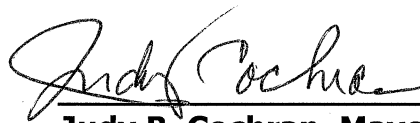
Mayor Cochran closed the Public Hearing at 5:22 P.M.

It was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Evans granting a variance for the off-premise pylon sign at 1620 W. Church Street for Panda Express and Starbucks as requested by Coast 2 Coast Signs. All present voted aye.

(Grant Keller retired from the meeting.)

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was moved by Alderman Cook and seconded by Alderman Smith that the meeting be adjourned at 5:25 P.M. All present voted aye.

SIGNED:



Judy B. Cochran, Mayor

ATTEST:



Ellie Monteaux, TRMC, MMC, CPM
City Secretary/Assistant City Manager

