

June 22, 2020

**Working Session**

Mayor McNinch called the Working Session of the Denton Town Council to order at 6:30 PM on this date.

Council and Staff met in person in the Council Chambers for the first time since March when COVID-19 restrictions went into place. Online public access to the meeting was made available using Microsoft Teams.

**Attendance:**

Mayor McNinch conducted roll call -at which time each Councilmember announced their presence. The record reflects that all Councilmembers were present.

A roll call of staff was also held, and those in attendance included Mr. Don Mulrine, Town Administrator, Chief Rodney Cox, Lt. George Bacorn, Karen Monteith, David Renshaw, Phil Clark, and Eric Knapp.

**Discussion was held on the following items:**

**Denton Police Department Policies**

Chief Cox provided Councilmembers with a copy of the Police Department's Mission Statement and Police Policies for review.

Discussion was held pertaining to the policies and required training practices, the Departments involvement in the community and accessibility.

Councilmembers will review the policies and plans to schedule a future Working Session to discuss any questions or recommendations with the Chief.

**Parking Ordinance Amendments**

Chief Cox proposed some parking amendments for Chapter 120 of the Town Code, and discussion was held with the Council.

Staff will move forward with drafting legislation with the proposed amendments and make a recommendation for adjustments to the parking fees.

**Residential Waste Collection**

Mr. Eric Knapp, Property Maintenance Inspector for the Planning & Codes Department, presented the Council with information on the Town's Waste Collection Policy.

Discussion was held pertaining to violations occurring, the efforts being taken by Staff to help the residents become more familiar with the policies, available bulk collection services available and recycling opportunities, the Contractor's responsibility to collect the trash per the Town's Policy and the Town's responsibility to handle public relations.

The Council and Staff will work on preparing an updated public notice to be distributed to residents.

**Sharp Road Park**

Mr. Don Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided an update on the Sharp Road Park and will schedule to meet with Councilman Lister and Staff to go over the proposed plans in more detail to work toward finalizing the next phase.

**Election Policy Review**

Mrs. Karen Monteith, Clerk-Treasurer, provided the Council with proposed amendments to the Town Charter and Town Code pertaining to the Election Policies.

Discussion was held on the proposed changes as they apply to Write-Ins, Violations and Penalties, Uncontested Elections, Absentee Voting, Poll Watchers and Vote by Mail.

Staff will move forward with drafting legislation on the proposed amendments.

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**Miscellaneous**

*Discussion pertaining to the process to begin the Town Administrator's Annual Performance Evaluation was held.*

*The Council reviewed a letter received from Compass Regional Hospice seeking the Town support in gifting Compass all or a portion of the Town's fee associated with preconstruction of the new Hospice Center proposed to be built in Town.*

*Discussion was held on the requests and the Town's need to see the building plans to be able to determine what types of fees will apply and what fees the Town may or may not be able to waive.*

*Mr. Mulrine shared an inquiry received from a N. Fourth St. Property Owner interested in purchasing an adjoining vacant lot owned by the Town. Since the lot was previously purchased using Community Legacy Grant Funds, Mr. Mulrine will contact the State to see if any grant restrictions apply.*

*Chief Rodney Cox announced that after 33 years in Law Enforcement, with about 25 years of service with the Town of Denton, that he will be retiring in August.*

*The Mayor and Council expressed how grateful they are for his commitment to the Town and for his many years of service.*

*Councilman Johnson requested Chief Cox give the Council and the Town Administrator a good idea of what to look for in his replacement.*

*Mr. Mulrine mentioned for the July agenda there will be a request from His Hope Ministries submitted seeking to amend the previous CDBG Grant Application approved to purchase 908 Market St., changing the location to 214 Market St.*

*Councilman Lister mentioned he has made arrangements for a Steel Drum Band to perform during an upcoming Third Thursday Event, and the Pub is planning to have a beer truck available. He is hoping to bring in some food trucks for July & Aug. As the Town continues looking for ways to help businesses in the COVID-19 recovery phase and to also help some of the non-profits that will be affected by the cancelation of Summerfest.*

*Mayor McNinch received an inquiry about whether the Town would possibly allow for painted basketball courts on the streets. Everyone will explore some options.*

*Mayor McNinch reminded everyone to support the Farmers Market being held on Tuesday's from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM.*

*With no further comments, McNinch adjourned the June 22, 2020 Working Session at 8:54 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Karen L. Monteith,  
Clerk-Treasurer*