

**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**September 19, 2024**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Multipurpose Room, 209 Hudson St.,**

**1. Call to order and announce quorum is present.**

Mayor Pro Tem Raines called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and announced a quorum was present. Those present were Mayor Pro Tem Christopher Raines, Councilmember Nathaniel Butler, Councilmember Jennifer Hill, Councilmember Richard Sidebottom, Councilmember Melanie Payne, City Secretary Jenni Moore, Director of Public Works William Allen, City Admin Staff Brittany Mayhue, and Code Enforcement Officer Devon Kennedy.

**2. Pledge of allegiance and invocation.**

Mayor Pro Tem Raines led the invocation and Councilmember Hill led the invocation.

**3. Mayor Update.**

There was no Mayor update.

**4. Public Comments.**

Laura Pixler at 612 Berke presented the council with a donation for the library.

**5. Consider and act on the following items:**

**A. Council Meeting Minutes for August 14, 2024**

**B. Budget Meeting Minutes for August 22, 2024, September 9, 2024, and September 11, 2024**

**C. Accounts Payables for August 2024**

**D. Financial Statements for August**

**E. Staff Reports- Municipal Court, Building Permits, Code Enforcement, and Public Works for August**

Councilmember Hill motioned to approve A through D as a whole. Councilmember Butler second the motion. All approved. Motion was passed.

**6. Presentation from Mayor Rodey Holmes regarding the city's participation in the Wise Regional Water District.**

This item was tabled to next month.

**7. Discussion, consideration and possible action for joining Wise Regional Water District.**

This item was tabled to next month.

**8. Discussion, consideration and action on Ordinance No. A-558, an ordinance approving the negotiated settlement between the Atmos Steering Committee and Atmos Energy.**

City Secretary Moore opened the discussion informing council that the manager could not be there tonight and this was an annual agreement. She also went over the rates for residential and commercial customers. Instead of residential customers paying \$6.77, they

will pay an average of \$5.52. Instead of \$17.42 for commercial customers, the rate is \$13.39, and in small towns, most commercial rates are closer to residential rates. Councilmember Hill made a motion approved Ordinance No. A-558, an ordinance approving the negotiated settlement between the Atmos Steering Committee and Atmos Energy. Councilmember Sidebottom second the motion. All approved, and the motion passed.

**9. Discuss, consider, and act on an agreement with Excel Knights Baseball Club for field access at the ballfield located on Rogers. Rd.**

James Sims was in attendance to the meeting to review the contract with council. He requested Monday, Tuesday, Friday and possibly Wednesday for days the field will be used. The term of the agreement will begin in February 2025 and end November 30, 2027. Council and Mr. Sims discussed the maintenance of the fields, and as per our current mowing contract, the outside of the fields will be mowed one time per month, and Excel will upkeep the fields. Mr. Sims asked if the water well is usable, and the Director of Public works William Allen stated it needed a pump. Mayor Pro Tem Raines stated he would donate the pump and Mr. Allen will work on the utilities to get the well running. At this time the usage of the lights was removed, as they are not currently working. A fee schedule was set for this agreement of one dollar per year, due to the amount of upkeep and improvements Excel has been doing. Councilmember Payne made a motion to approve the agreement with the amendments discussed. Councilmember Hill second the motion. All approved, the motion passed.

**10. Discuss, and consider on the purchase of a new vehicle for the Public Works Department.**

City Secretary Moore presented the council with the price and terms of finance contract for the purchase of a vehicle for the Public Works Department. Council discussed the interest rate and loan terms.

**11. Consider and act on Resolution No. 369, a resolution regarding a contract for the purpose of financing a vehicle.**

Councilmember Jennifer Hill made a motion to approve Resolution number 369, approving the purchase of the vehicle for the Public Works Department. Councilmember Butler second the motion. All approved, the motion passed.

**12. Discussion, consideration, and action on allocating the funds received from Rolling V for water well project.**

Director of Public Works William Allen discussed the project, and requested use of funds to work on the electrical portion of the project. He stated we have ten months to complete this project, and working on the electrical portion will speed the process. Councilmember Sidebottom made a motion to approve fund allocation up to three hundred thousand dollars to service the four well projects, and giving the Mayor discretion to approve expenses. Councilmember Butler second the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

13. Discuss, consider and act on Ordinance A-559, an ordinance of the City of Newark, Texas, making findings of fact; the city budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022; and providing a savings clause, severance clause, and effective date.

City Secretary Moore explained the budget amendment was needed due to the unexpected revenue that was not included on the original budget. Councilmember Payne made the motion to approve Ordinance number A-559, an ordinance amending ordinance number A-557, the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget. Councilmember Hill second the motion. All approved. The motion passed.

14. **Meeting Adjourn.**

Mayor Pro Tem adjourned the meeting at 7:57pm.

  
Crystal Cardwell, Mayor

  
Date

  
Jenni Moore, City Secretary

