

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE  
CITY OF HAMILTON, TEXAS  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2023**

A regular Council Meeting of the Governing Body of the City of Hamilton, Texas was held on the 14th day of September, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall, 200 East Main St., Hamilton, Texas.

The City Council meeting was open to the public. To allow for remote participation, people could view and listen to the meeting live via Zoom or Facebook. Citizens could also provide a citizen's presentation and address the council via Zoom connection. Instructions were given during the meeting about how to address the Council. Citizens could sign in prior to the meeting date from their computer, tablet or smartphone at <https://tinyurl.com/2p826rww>

Present for the meeting:

Mayor Rodney Craddick  
Mayor Pro Tem Todd Jordan  
City Administrator Ryan Polster  
City Attorney Connie White

Council Member Doug Baker  
Council Member George Beard  
Council Member Richard Buchanan  
Council Member Gary Haggard

Absent: City Secretary Brooke Tomlinson

Others present: Hamilton Police Chief Brad Boulton, Ronnie McKinzie, Jeffrey Donahoo, Hamilton Historic Mainstreet Kayla Schraub, Pris Woodrich, Sandy Varner, Renee M. French, Teresa Clepper, Johnny Clepper, Debbie Grieve, Heather August, Jamie Laduke, Karen Krueger

**Item No. I:** Mayor Craddick opened the meeting with a Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item No. II:** Public Hearings.

- Mayor Craddick opened the first Public Hearing at 6:01 p.m. for citizen comments on the proposed 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget. Mayor Craddick closed the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m.
- Mayor Craddick opened the second Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m. for citizen comments on the proposed 2023 City Property Tax Rate. Mayor Craddick closed the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m.
- Mayor Craddick opened the third Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m. for citizen comments on the Repeal of City of Hamilton Ordinance Establishing Curfew Hours for Persons Under Seventeen Years of Age. Mayor Craddick closed the Public Hearing at 6:03 p.m.

**Item No. III:** Public Comments. None.

**Item No. IV:** Consent Agenda.

Jordan made a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Baker seconded the Motion, and it passed unanimously.

1. Approving the August 3, 2023 Called Council Meeting Minutes.
2. Approving the August 10, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.
3. Approving the August 22, 2023 Called Council Meeting Minutes.
4. Resolution #57-23, Approving the Resolution designating Hamilton Herald News as the Official Newspaper for City publications.
5. Resolution #58-23, Approving the Resolution for contract and authorizing Mayor to execute contract as approved by City Council for community services through the United Care.
6. Resolution #59-23, Approving the Resolution for contract and authorizing Mayor to execute contract as approved by City Council for public library services with Hamilton Public Library.
7. Resolution #60-23, Approving Resolution for contract and authorizing Mayor to execute contract as approved by City Council for Child Safety Funds by the Hamilton Municipal Court for services provided by Court Appointed Special Advocates.
8. Resolution #61-23, Approving Resolution for contract and authorizing Mayor to execute contract as approved by City Council with Community Foundation of Hamilton County. DBA Hamilton Community Center.
9. Resolution #62-23, Approving Resolution reviewing the City of Hamilton's Investment Policy as complies with the requirements of the Texas Public Funds Investment Act.
10. Resolution #63-23, Approving road closure time extension for events hosted by Hamilton Historic Mainstreet on a portion of E Henry St. from El Jardin to Companion and a portion of N Bell St. from El Jardin to Wenzel Lonestar Meat on October 31, 2023.
11. Resolution #64-23, Approving road closure time extension for events hosted by Friends of Hamilton on a portion of S Bell St. from Hwy 36 to E Leslie St. on October 14, 2023.

**Item No. V:** The following agenda deliberations were discussed and/or action taken:

1. Jordan made a Motion to approve the August 2023 Financial Report. The Motion was seconded by Baker and passed unanimously.
2. Ordinance #07-23, Approving the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget. Jordan made a Motion, Baker seconded the Motion, and it passed with a roll-call vote of 4-0, with Haggard abstaining.
3. Ordinance #08-23, Levying a Tax Rate for Year 2023. Polster stated that the new tax rate will effectively be raising the tax rate by 7%. He said that this is only a 2.6% increase in revenue over the previous year. Baker made a Motion to approve the property tax rate of .4777. The Motion was seconded by Haggard, and it passed with a roll-call vote of 5-0.

4. Ordinance #09-23, Amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget (Amendment #2), passed unanimously with a Motion from Jordan and a second from Buchanan.
5. Resolution #65-23, Approving the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget for the Hamilton Economic Development Corporation. Jordan made a Motion to table the item until the next Regular Council Meeting on October 12, 2023. Haggard seconded the Motion, and it passed with a 3-2 vote, with Beard and Buchanan opposing.
6. Ordinance #10-23, Repealing curfew hours for persons under seventeen years of age, passed unanimously with a Motion from Haggard and a second from Baker.
7. Resolution #66-23, Approving a three-year annual road closure for the Chamber of Commerce for Dove Festival events on Labor Day Weekend, passed unanimously with a Motion from Baker and a second from Beard.
8. Resolution #67-23, Authorizing the appointment of Debbie Grieve to the Hamilton Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors, completing a two-year term, passed unanimously with a Motion from Jordan and a second from Beard.
9. Resolution #68-23, Authorizing the reappointment of Mary Owen, Cody Lain, Mary Ann Ward, and Elizabeth Graves to the Hamilton Historic Main Street Advisory Board, passed unanimously with a Motion from Baker and a second from Jordan.
10. Resolution #69-23, Receiving and accepting a Change Order for SH-36 14-inch AC waterline replacement for highway expansion, passed unanimously with a Motion from Baker and a second from Buchanan.
11. Ratifying the City Administrator's action for termination of the EDC Director. This item was addressed during the October 12, 2023 called meeting and was therefore removed from the agenda.

Ryan Polster presented the City Administrator's Report.

- Mayor Craddick presented the August 2023 Community Center Report.
- Chief Boulton presented the August 2023 Police Report.
- Ronnie McKinzie presented the August 2023 Road Repair and Maintenance Report.
- Polster presented project updates.

**Item No. IV:** Future Agenda Items. None.

**Item No. V:** Mayor Craddick adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

---

Rodney Craddick, Mayor

---

Brooke Tomlinson, City Secretary