

MINUTES OF A STUDY SESSION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND PARK, TEXAS, HELD AT TOWN HALL, 4700 DREXEL DRIVE, HIGHLAND PARK, TX, 75205, AT 8:08 A.M. ON TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023.

Present at the meeting were Mayor Will C. Beecherl, Mayor Pro Tem Craig Penfold, Town Council Members Marc Myers, Lydia Novakov, and Leland White. Absent from the meeting was Town Council Member Don Snell.

**Future Agenda Discussion**

*Review, discuss, and consider approval of a contract with Valley View Consulting to provide investment advisory services for the Town.* Karen Kurtin, C.P.A, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, explained that the Public Funds Investment Act requires a contract for investment advisory services to be reviewed and approved no longer than every two years. The contract was renewed most recently in 2021. Valley View Consulting (“Valley View”) has provided investment advisory services to the Town since 2015. Under the agreement, Valley View provides several services to the Finance Department. Valley View does not have custody or investment discretion over the Town’s funds. The Finance and Audit Advisory Committee received the contract on July 11, 2023; no concerns were noted. On a motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Craig Penfold, seconded by Council Member Marc Myers, the Town Council unanimously voted to approve the contract with Valley View Consulting to provide investment advisory services for the Town.

*Review and discuss interlocal agreements with the City of University Park for the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Officer and the School Resource Officer programs.* Chuck McGinnis, Assistant Director of Public Safety, explained that the City of University Park has sponsored the Highland Park Middle School's Drug Abuse Resistance Education ("D.A.R.E") program since 1994. In 2004, the Town entered into interlocal agreements to pay 25% of the cost for a D.A.R.E officer at the Highland Park Middle School and 25% of the cost for a School Resource Officer ("SRO") at the Highland Park High School. These agreements have been renewed annually since that time. The percent cost allocation is based on estimated student populations residing in the Town. The cost of the two programs increased by eight percent based on salary adjustments by the City of University Park. In response to a question raised by Council Member Myers, Assistant Chief McGinnis explained that the D.A.R.E program is helpful, especially in teaching students what to do when they come into contact with drugs and how to counteract bullying. In response to a question raised by Mayor Pro Tem Penfold, Paul Sandman, Director of Public Safety, explained that staff does not receive monthly reports; however, staff does receive information any time there is criminal interaction. Mayor Beecherl asked if there were any questions, to which there were none.

*Review, discuss, and consider the opportunity for a Town Council Member to request an item to be placed on a future Town Council meeting agenda.* The Mayor asked if any Town Council Member would like to request an item be placed on a future Town Council study session agenda for discussion or consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Penfold requested the Town Council and staff to offer location recommendations for park acquisitions, adding that the Town might miss potential opportunities if the Town chose to delay the search. Mayor Pro Tem Penfold also requested a resolution be made to recognize the Rotary Club of Park Cities (“Rotary Club”) for their hard work for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. He suggested the resolution be presented to them at a Rotary Club meeting.

**Reports**

*No items are assigned to this category.*

Mayor Beecherl adjourned the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

APPROVED on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 2023.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will C. Beecherl". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W".

Will C. Beecherl  
Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joanna Mekeal". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Joanna Mekeal  
Town Secretary