



CITY OF COLLEGE STATION

Mayor
Ben White
Mayor Pro Tem
Lynn McIlhaney
City Manager
Glenn Brown

Councilmembers
John Crompton
James Massey
Dennis Maloney
Lawrence Stewart
David Ruesink

Minutes
City Council Workshop Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2009 4:30 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers, 1101 Texas Avenue
College Station, Texas

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor White, Mayor Pro Tem McIlhaney, Council members Crompton, Maloney, Massey, Ruesink, Stewart

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Brown, Assistant City Manager Merrill, Assistant City Manager Neeley, City Attorney Cargill Jr., Deputy City Secretary McNutt, Management Team

Workshop Agenda Item No. 1 -- Call meeting to order.

Mayor White called meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Workshop Agenda Item No. 2 -- Presentation, possible action, and discussion regarding Tree Preservation in College Station.

Bob Cowell presented two outlines of possible policy that could be developed into an ordinance for the Tree Preservation in College Station. Staff requested Council consider two policies on tree preservation, and provide policy direction and clarification on policy options.

Mayor White opened the floor for public comments.

Citizens in favor of Tree Preservation:

Jerry Cooper, 602 Bell, CS
Jacqueline Gramann, 11 Finney, CS
Marian Stroustup, 1405 Frost Dr., CS
Sara Ragland
Bill Welsh, Stonebriar Circle, CS
Kay Youngblood, Foxfire resident

Citizens against Tree Preservation:

Dick Birdwell, 3 Forest Dr., CS
Diane Goodman, 281 Peach Creek, CS
Keith Jones
Doug Becker
Kimberly McAdams, Foxfire resident
Steve Arden

Citizens in favor of current ordinance with revisions

Buck Prewitt, 2302 Scotney Ct., CS
Michael Davis, 729 S. Rosemary, Bryan
Dudley Smith, 1810 Shadowwood, CS
Blanche Brick, Foxfire, CS
Alan Pepper
Blake Kathy
Hunter Goodwin
Alan King
Bob Ruth
Randy French

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Council member Crompton stated this presentation and comments from citizens has been informative. He expressed support on preserving as many trees that we can but excluding the post oaks. He requested putting language in ordinance and requested staff to include cost in their staff report. Also, would like to see an ordinance that will help everyone in the City of College Station, with preservation of trees, no cutting down or replacing.

Council member Maloney stated we all want to save the trees but feel for the developer. He expressed interest in the landscape architects' offer to work with staff to develop a better plan. Council member Maloney suggested an increase of incentives and the need to hold firm on protecting buffers. Wind Watts provides money for trees and the City should participate with developers on working within current landscape ordinance.

Mayor ProTem McIlhaney stated we need flexibility that will be encouraging rather than regulates the citizens. Current ordinance needs improvements, instead of developing new one. Mayor ProTem expressed appreciation to offer from landscape architects.

Council member Massey stated we need to know what our goals are, so we can best meet the needs of College Station. He requested staff to meet with landscape architects and use their expertise.

Council member Stewart thanked the citizens and developers for their input and stated he is partial to idea of requiring 2 trees in every front yard.

Council member Ruesink supports using the current landscape ordinance but with revisions.

Mayor White stated that the current ordinance needs to be refined and would like to switch from enforcement to incentives.

Council requested staff to draft language within the current ordinance addressing the needs of developers, homeowners and the interest of the City of College Station.

Workshop Agenda Item No. 3 -- Adjourn.

Hearing no objection, Mayor White adjourned the meeting at 6:25 pm.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 11th day of June, 2009.

ATTEST:


City Secretary Connie Hooks

APPROVED:


Mayor Ben White *Mayor Pro Tem*