

Council Minutes May 19, 2020

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF TARRANT §

CITY OF BEDFORD §

The City Council of the City of Bedford, Texas, met in Special Session via videoconference at 5:30 p.m. on the 19th day of May, 2020 with the following members present:

Michael Boyter	Mayor
Tom Burnett	Councilmembers
Dan Cogan	
Ruth Culver	
Rob Gagliardi	
Amy Sabol	
Rusty Sartor	

constituting a quorum.

Staff present included:

Cliff Blackwell	Interim City Manager
Michael Wells	City Secretary
Sean Fay	Fire Chief
Meg Jakubik	Strategic Services Manager
Jerry Laverty	Street and Drainage Superintendent
Kenny Overstreet	Public Works Director
Kelly Snook	Interim Capital Projects Director

SPECIAL SESSION

The Special Session began at 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Boyter called the Special Session to order.

OPEN FORUM

City Secretary Michael Wells read the following emails:

Veronika Lysenko, 2319 L. Don Dodson, Bedford – Ms. Lysenko stated she likes the name change for the Boys Ranch Park and is excited what the park will look like after construction. She asked if the whole park would be closed during construction. She hoped the government would not forget about the other smaller parks, including Harris Ryals Park, as she was disappointed that the water fountains did not work. She stated it would be a good idea to consider long-term solutions to drinking water safely in the parks, including water fountains with sensors.

Council Minutes May 19, 2020

Sallie Smith Hoelzl, 921 Springdale Road, Bedford – Ms. Hoelzl stated the name change for the park should not be undertaken without careful consideration and input from the public. She felt the new name is asinine and not a good name. She stated Council should consider if their smaller perspective is sufficient to change the historical name of the park to something that says nothing about Bedford or the park.

Terry Smith, 3904 Candlewick Court, Bedford – Mr. Smith suggested with the negative comments to the name Generations and exclusion of the name Bedford Boys Ranch, that it be named Generations Park at the Bedford Boys Ranch. He felt communication and messaging are still an issue, including stamping “cancelled” on notifications for cancelling FourthFest and BluesFest and using the new park name in the communication without a clear explanation.

Susanne Patterson, 3105 Green Country Court, Bedford – Ms. Patterson asked why the Bedford Boys Ranch was renamed and stated that it did not even include the name Bedford. She asked if this was a priority with everything going on and if there was nothing more important on which to spend money.

Michael Hoelzl, 921 Springdale Road, Bedford – Mr. Hoelzl asked why the name of the Boys Ranch was changed. He stated it has an historical connection to the City and asked that it either be put to a general vote or it be called Generation’s Park at the Boys Ranch.

Kay Bunker, 4906 Shadowood Road, Colleyville – Ms. Bunker stated she lived in Bedford for 26 years and served as Chairperson of the Park Board in the early 1990’s. She asked that the history of the park not be eliminated by changing the name. She stated it was referenced in the 1983 Park Master Plan so must have been at least 40 years since it was acquired by the City. She stated the name is unique to the area and asked the boys who grew up there be honored.

John Park III – Mr. Park stated he has been a resident since 1962 and his father was the first dentist in the area back in 1955 and his mom is the Honorable Carolyn Park, Texas State Representative for District 92 for 12 years. He expressed his disappointment of the name change. He stated the main issue is the history behind the name of the Boys Ranch and felt that tax paying citizens should have been allowed to put a panel together to come up with an honest citizen opinion. He felt going through a private marketing party was a poor choice. He advised looking at the negative feedback on social media.

Mayor Boyter thanked the commenters for their input and suggestions. He stated Council discussed renaming the Boys Ranch Park for several years, including with the passage of the Phase Next bond package. Council engaged with a marketing firm earlier in the year to help with rebranding and reimaging of the park. A subcommittee of Councilmembers was formed to work with the firm and staff to create new ideas for naming opportunities, which were presented to the rest of Council at their meeting on April 28, 2020. Mayor Boyter stated Council unanimously felt Generations Park was the best of the names presented. He discussed making positive changes and honoring the City’s unique history. He felt there is an opportunity to honor the past and present, and look towards the future, with Phase Next and the name Generations Park. He stated steps can be taken to incorporate the City’s history into the design of the park and the buildings within the park. Mayor Boyter presented an overview of the history of the Boys Ranch.

- 1. Consider a resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Tarrant County for support of local partners funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.**

Council Minutes May 19, 2020

Strategic Services Manager Meg Jakubik presented information regarding this item. She stated the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act sent money to local governments, with direct disbursements going to cities and counties with populations over 500,000. Bedford is receiving its allocation through Tarrant County at \$55.00 per capita, or approximately \$2,700,000. The City is entitled to use that funding to address expenditures related to its response and mitigation efforts for COVID-19. The allocation is expense-based and if the City does not need all the funding, it would be obligated to return the remainder to the County. The funding can be used for the City to reimburse itself for what has already been spent and cover expenses the rest of the calendar year. Ms. Jakubik gave examples of covered expenditures, including personal protective equipment and materials to prepare for reopening facilities. There was discussion on payroll that could be covered under the CARES Act. In response to questions from Council, Ms. Jakubik stated the funds should be dispersed within the month, and the allocation covers March 1 through December 30, 2020.

Motioned by Councilmember Culver, seconded by Councilmember Burnett, to approve a resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Tarrant County for support of local partners funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Boyter declared the motion carried.

2. Consider a resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to enter into a contract with Texacare Urgent Care, PLLC for COVID-19 testing services in an amount not to exceed \$85,000.

Fire Chief Sean Fay stated the President issued a directive to each state to test 100 percent of residents and workers in at-risk facilities. Governor Greg Abbott tasked Nim Kid, the director of the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM), who then turned to the Texas fire service to execute the directive. He stated at-risk facilities are those identified as “hot spots” for the outbreak of COVID-19 and include nursing homes, assisted living centers, long-term care facilities, jails, prisons, and meat packing facilities. The strategy is to get a baseline on these at-risk facilities across the country and with the data, deploy task force responses and localized strategies to contain outbreaks from those hot spots. Chief Fay stated this item is for the first phase of at-risk testing and includes nursing homes, specifically those with licensed, skilled nursing care. He stated Mr. Kid requested this testing be completed by May 25, 2020 and committed to reimbursing the costs associated with the testing. The cities of Bedford, Hurst and Euless sought to hire a third-party service, as the fire departments are not set up to do testing and still face challenges with PPE. The services include testing kits, PPE, testing, and reporting of the testing. The amount of the contract with Texacare for Bedford is not to exceed \$85,000.

In response to questions from Council, Chief Fay stated testing would begin immediately after approval of the contract. The costs associated with the contract are for those facilities in Bedford that have skilled nursing care licenses. He confirmed the contract does not cover rehabilitation, assisted living or memory care facilities. He stated the state has not given any direction on further testing phases. The data from the testing would go directly to the Tarrant County Health Department, while the City would be given a basic matrix, which then would be reported to the state. Chief Fay stated the company is obligated to instruct 100 percent of the population of those facilities to submit to the test, but individuals retain the right to refuse testing, which would be documented and reported. There was discussion on the reasons Texacare was selected, the testing procedures, the reimbursement for expenses from the state, when the next phases of

Council Minutes May 19, 2020

testing would be implemented, the reasoning for the state's request from the Texas fire service, why memory care facilities were not included in the first phase of testing, a testing initiative in the City of McKinney, and the City's relationship with the Tarrant County Health Department.

Motioned by Councilmember Cogan, seconded by Councilmember Sabol, to approve a resolution authorizing the Interim City Manager to enter into a contract with Texacare Urgent Care, PLLC for COVID-19 testing services in an amount not to exceed \$85,000.

Motion approved 7-0-0. Mayor Boyter declared the motion carried.

3. Receive a report on recent Public Works activities for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Public Works Director Kenny Overstreet presented a report on Public Works activities for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. He gave an overview of the Department's organizational chart; the fiscal year budget; statistics and projects from the Fleet, Street, Engineering, Water, Wastewater, and Stormwater divisions; and mandatory reports to the state. There was discussion on the number of vehicles and equipment in the City's fleet; the status of repairs at Brookhollow Park; and the Enterprise vehicle replacement program, including the warranties on the vehicles. In response to questions from Council, Mr. Overstreet stated the number of water main breaks in the City has declined since the City started making improvements through the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas loans. He further stated the number of unscheduled maintenance issues on the City's fleet has declined since the implementation of the Enterprise vehicle replacement program. He explained that a water line below Harwood Road needs replacement prior to improvements being made to the street. There was discussion on the timeframe for improvements to Harwood Road and the impact of those improvements to the Phase Next project.

4. Presentation on the 2020 mosquito control program.

Street and Drainage Superintendent Jerry Laverty presented statistics on mosquito traps, testing, and treatments in 2019 and thus far in 2020. He stated Tarrant County established a different standard in 2020 due to COVID-19, including a reduction in the number of static traps to four as the testing was moved to Austin from Dallas. He presented information on traps at City facilities, and the larviciding program. There was discussion on the City's mosquito treatment program; coordination with neighboring cities; the ineffectiveness of fogging or spraying; the treatment of creeks and storm drains; training; how the West Nile virus is transferred; staffing; and expanding Bedford's program across Tarrant County.

5. Update on Generations Park/CNTR: 100% Design Documents.

Interim Capital Projects Director Kelly Snook stated the 100% design documents from Oxley Williams Tharp Architects (OWT) and the 60% site plans from Halff Associates were submitted to Steele & Freeman, the construction manager at-risk (CMAR), who produced a cost estimate at this phase of just under \$60,000,000. She stated OWT committed to helping reduce that cost. She presented an overview of the schedule for the Phase Next project over the summer, including moving out of the facilities and relocating programs and tenants, abatement contract services, completion of construction documents, relocating a gas line along David Drive paid for by Atmos, the determination of a guaranteed maximum price, a final contract to Council, and the start of construction in October. There was discussion regarding how the estimated cost was calculated; the auctioning of surplus equipment from the park facilities; Council receiving copies

Council Minutes May 19, 2020

of the design documents; determining the costs for information technology; the relocation costs for staff; starting construction of the storage building early; interest on the bond money being put towards the cost of the project; the proposed upstairs restrooms at the Old Bedford School; storage being included in the design documents; the timeframe for bidding the project; and the next steps in the project.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Boyter adjourned the Special Session at 7:37 p.m.

Michael Boyter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Wells, City Secretary