

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF GLENN HEIGHTS, TEXAS**

NOVEMBER 21, 2023

STATE OF TEXAS *

COUNTIES OF DALLAS AND ELLIS *

CITY OF GLENN HEIGHTS *

On the 21st day of November 2023, the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, met in a Regular Called City Council Meeting in the City Hall, City Council Chambers, located at 1938-C South Hampton Road, Glenn Heights, Texas, 75154, with the following members present:

CITY COUNCIL:

Sonja A. Brown	*	Mayor
Sherron Mosley	*	Council Member, Place 1
Travis Bruton	*	Council Member, Place 3
Stephanne Hale	*	Council Member, Place 4
Laymon Lightfoot	*	Council Member, Place 5
Cornel Benford, II	*	Council Member, Place 6

STAFF:

Clifford Blackwell	*	City Manager
Brandi Brown	*	City Secretary
Barrett Albright	*	Parks & Recreation Superintendent
Nick Bristow	*	Chief of Police
Parviz Pourazizian	*	Director of Planning & Development Services
Sherry Roberts	*	Director of Finance
Nick Williams	*	Fire Chief

CONSULTANT:

Victoria Thomas	*	City Attorney's Office
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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sonja A. Brown called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:01 P.M., with a quorum of the City Council present.

INVOCATION

Council Member Travis Bruton delivered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Sonja A. Brown led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no Public Comments.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Sonja A. Brown read the following Proclamation:

- Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2023

EVENTS

Mayor Sonja A. Brown announced the following events:

- Christmas Tree Lighting and Holiday Celebration, December 8, 2023, 5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M., City Center, 1938 S Hampton Road, Glenn Heights, Texas 75154

STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Cliff Blackwell, City Manager, made the following Staff Introductions:

- Patrick Gipson, Paramedic
- Stefanie Zarate, Communications Officer
- Wesley Alford, Dispatch Supervisor
- Barrett Albrights, Parks & Recreation Superintendent

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Discuss and take action to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of the November 7, 2023, City Council Meeting.
2. Acknowledge receipt of the October 2023 Financial Reports.

Mayor Sonja A. Brown requested to pull Consent Agenda Item 2 for discussion.

Council Member Travis Bruton made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item 1. Council Member Cornel Benford, II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 6 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Hale, Lightfoot, and Benford

Clifford Blackwell, City Manager, introduced Consent Agenda Item 2 and requested that it be tabled until the December 5, 2023, City Council Meeting.

Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made a motion to table Consent Agenda Item 2 until the December 5, 2023, City Council Meeting. Council Member Cornel Benford, II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 6 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Hale, Lightfoot, and Benford

AGENDA

1. Discuss and take action on Resolution R-35-23, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, approving a Funding Agreement between the City of Glenn Heights and the Red Oak Area Chamber of Commerce; authorizing the City Manager to execute the same; providing an effective date.

Clifford Blackwell, City Manager, introduced this item and requested that it be tabled until the December 5, 2023, City Council Meeting.

Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made a motion to table Agenda Item 1 until the December 5, 2023, City Council Meeting. Council Member Cornel Benford, II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 6 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Hale, Lightfoot, and Benford

2. Discuss and take action on Resolution R-36-23, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, approving the terms and conditions of the Ellis County American Rescue Plan Act Community Grant Agreement between Ellis County, Texas and the City of Glenn Heights, Texas and the Acknowledgement of Responsible Party related thereto; authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement, the acknowledgement, and all other related and necessary documents; and, providing for an effective date.

Clifford Blackwell, City Manager, introduced this item and completed a presentation regarding the Ellis County ARPA Community Grant, the agreement, timelines for obligating and expending funds, and Glenn Heights' responsibilities.

Mr. Blackwell answered Council questions related to project prioritization, where the City will expend funds to cover costs not covered by the grant, and what other projects are needed in the City.

Council Member Travis Bruton made a motion to approve Resolution R-36-23, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, approving the terms and conditions of the Ellis County American Rescue Plan Act Community Grant Agreement between Ellis County, Texas and the City of Glenn Heights, Texas and the Acknowledgement of Responsible Party related thereto; authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement, the acknowledgement, and all other related and necessary documents; and, providing for an effective date. Council Member Cornel Benford, II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Lightfoot, and Benford

VOTE 1 Nay – Hale

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

1. City Manager's Office

A. City Logo

Clifford Blackwell, City Manager, introduced this item and completed an overview of the City Logo.

2. Utility Billing

A. New Water Bill On-line Payment Site

Clifford Blackwell, City Manager, introduced this item and completed a detailed step-by-step instructional on the City's new on-line Utility Billing payment site and how this information had been previously disseminated.

Mr. Blackwell answered Council's questions related to placing the "How-To Video" online, auto-drafts, fees, timeframes for returning customer calls and emails, access to OpenGov information, and the possibility of installing a payment kiosk.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. The City Council shall convene into closed, Executive Session:
 - A. pursuant to Texas Government Code section 551.071 - Consultation with City Attorney - to seek legal advice of its attorney about pending litigation to wit: David Jackson v. City of Glenn Heights, Texas and David A. Hall, Cause No. DC-23-17686 in the 116th Judicial District Court of Dallas County, Texas.
 - B. pursuant to the Government Code, Section 551.087, Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations to discuss or deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect to wit: B Southwest Energy Storage, LLC.

Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made a motion to convene into closed, Executive Session. Council Member Cornel Benford, II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 6 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Hale, Lightfoot, and Benford

Mayor Sonja A. Brown announced that Council convened into closed, Executive Session at 7:51 P.M.

2. The City Council shall reconvene into open Session and take any action resulting from closed, Executive Session:
 - A. pursuant to Texas Government Code section 551.071 - Consultation with City Attorney - to seek legal advice of its attorney about pending litigation to wit: David Jackson v. City of Glenn Heights, Texas and David A. Hall, Cause No. DC-23-17686 in the 116th Judicial District Court of Dallas County, Texas.
 - B. pursuant to the Government Code, Section 551.087, Deliberation Regarding Economic Development Negotiations to discuss or deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect to wit: B Southwest Energy Storage, LLC.

Council Member Travis Bruton made a motion to reconvene into open Session. Council Member Cornel Benford, II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 6 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Hale, Lightfoot, and Benford

Mayor Sonja A. Brown announced that Council reconvened into open Session at 8:45 P.M.

Regarding item 2A:

Council Member Cornel Benford, II made a motion authorizing the City Manager to execute an engagement letter with the attorney Darrell Noga and the lawfirm of Fee, Smith & Sharp, LLC to provide defense to the defendants in the lawsuit filed by David Jackson, Cause No. DC-23-17686 in the 116th Judicial District Court in Dallas County. Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 6 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Hale, Lightfoot, and Benford

Mayor Sonja A. Brown announced then announced that no action was taken on Executive Session Item 2B.

AGENDA

3. Discuss and take action on Resolution R-34-23, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, approving and authorizing the City Manager to execute a Chapter 380 Economic Development Agreement with B Southwest Energy Storage, LLC; and providing an effective date.

Council Member Laymon Lightfoot made a motion to table Agenda Item 3 until the December 5, 2023, City Council Meeting. Council Member Cornel Benford, II made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

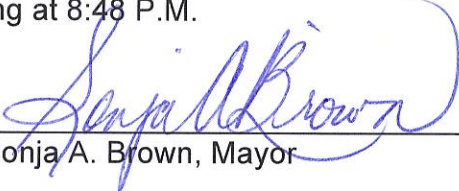
VOTE 6 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Hale, Lightfoot, and Benford

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Cornel Benford, II made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Travis Bruton made the second. The motion carried with the following record vote:

VOTE 6 Ayes – Brown, Mosley, Bruton, Hale, Lightfoot, and Benford

Mayor Sonja A. Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:48 P.M.



Sonja A. Brown, Mayor

Attest:

Brandi Brown
Brandi Brown, City Secretary
Passed and approved on the 5th day of December 2023