

Special City Council Town Hall Meeting – Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: City Secretary Roxann Pullin provided the roll call with Mayor Williams, noting a quorum of the following Council members Present: Council Member Joyce Wolfe, Council Member Beverly Felts, Council Member Mike Hale, & Council Member Jeffrey Schlichting

2. Opening: Pledge of Allegiance US Flag & TX Flag led by Mayor Williams. Invocation led by New Berlin Resident.

3. Comments:

a. Mayor Comments – Mayor Williams provided the following:

- **Thanked everyone in attendance for coming to the town hall meeting. Thanked council members and Fire Chief for their hard work. Showed pictures to all in attendance of a Dollar General Market store.**

b. County Commissioner Comments – Commissioner Germann provided the following:

- **There is a potential client that is looking into opening a large RV park in the county.**

c. Fire Chief Comments – Chief Strey provided the following:

- **Fire Department has received 190 calls so far this year. Things have slowed down due to the rain. Currently there is not a burn ban, however the temperature outside is rising. The raffle fundraiser is still open, and tickets are still available for purchase. Looking to sell 500 tickets. In about a week there will be a BC vehicle added to the fire department fleet, which is like a rescue vehicle/truck. Currently monitoring the Dollar General construction and ongoing inspection.**

d. City Marshal Comments – Chief Marshal Hatcher provided the following:

Activity report for the dates April 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025:

- *Total Stops- 153*
- *Total citations issued- 149*
- *Warnings issued- 83*
- *Truck Route Violations- 7*
- *No/Suspended DL- 31*
- *Speeding Violations- 11*
- *No Liability Insurance- 15*
- *Registration Violations- 45*
- *Possession Drug Paraphernalia- 5*
- *License Plate- 6*
- *Call for service/incidents- 6*
- *Arrests- 1*
- *Medical- 1*
- *Fire- 1*
- *Flock Analytics (Total Vehicle Reads)- 129,013.*

e. City Council Members Comments – Alderman Joyce Wolfe provided the following:

- **Thanked Mayor Williams for his hard work as Mayor**

f. **Public Comments:** This time is provided for the public to address the City Council on issues or concerns. NO CITY COUNCIL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME. Please add your name to the sign-up list BEFORE THE MEETING. Public comment(s) may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. You will be called upon by the Mayor during the meeting. Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks while addressing the Council may be directed to leave the meeting.

- Michael Traugott- Topic: City Government- Spoke about Marshal Hatcher's inditement and asked for transparency and accountability.
- Kim Schlichting- Topic: Roads- Spoke about City roads that need repair and asked City to use the money in the road account for these repairs.
- Melvin Strey- Topic: All- Spoke about zoning and accepting more businesses into the area.
- Jackie Schultze- Topic: City map

g. **Planning and Zoning Commission Comments:** Diana Strey, Chair not present: - No comments.

h. **Other Committee Comments**

1. **PARKS and PLAYGROUNDS** – Melvin Strey provided the following:

- GVEC funded grant for walking trail. Need volunteers to maintain and schedule a community workday.

4. **Discussion only Items:**

a. **City Zoning**

Mayor Williams introduced item. Mayor discussed plan to re-zone city to make one area zoned for development/housing, one for commercial, and one for agricultural. As the city continues to grow, a property tax may need to be implemented in the coming years. Asked for input from residents on zoning. Mr. Strey voiced that the 5-acre rule may not benefit the city in the future and asked to possibly change this rule.

Mayor Williams stated the City's Comprehensive Plan will need to be updated. Fire Chief/Marshal Kurt Strey stated concerns about the city's emergency services as the city continues to grow. Right now, the New Berlin Fire Department is a volunteer service, however as the city continues to grow, the volunteer services may need to change to a paid/funded service.

b. **City Roads**

Mayor Williams introduced item. Mayor stated he is continually trying to work with the county on fixing the city roads. Commissioner Germann provided 3 proposals. To rebuild a road, it is approximately \$22 a square foot. The county is currently looking into contract work. Commissioner Germann stated that New Berlin should look at contract work. Mrs. Schlichting stated that the potholes around the city need to be fixed. Council member Jeff Schlichting stated we should have a short-term approach and a long-term approach. Short term approach would be to use the money in the road account for potholes, and the long-term approach is to continue to work with the county on repairing roads that need more than pothole repairs. Mayor asked Jeff to obtain quotes.

c. **State of the City 5-to-10-year plan**

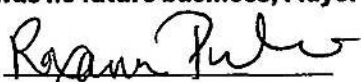
Mayor Williams introduced item. Mayor stated that we should come up with a five-year plan and use the five-year plan to make a ten-year plan.

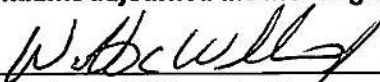
d. **City Hall Building**

Mayor Williams introduced item. Mayor stated that the floor in the hallway by the air conditioner is rotting out. Flooring repaired multiple times. Recommended to look into a metal building for City Hall.

5. **Announcements:** None

6. **Adjournment:** As there was no future business, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Attested by: 
Roxann Pullin, City Secretary


Walter C. Williams Jr., Mayor