

**Special Called Meeting
February 10, 2025
5:00PM, Temple Senior Center
MINUTES**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Michael Johnson at 5:00PM.
Council Members Present: Alexis Boles, Richard Bracknell, Hiley Miller, Casey Russom, Howard Walden

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor Michael Johnson

Public Comments: N/A

Approval of Agenda, as presented: There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to approve the agenda as presented, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

Old Business

1. (Tabled 12/02/2024 and 2/03/2025) Receive information on the fiscal year 2023 fund balance with council discussion followed by council action to approve an Ordinance to adopt the City of Temple's 2025 Fiscal Year General Fund Operating Budget

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to take this item off the table, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

Financial Consultant, Scott Akins, was present at the meeting. He went over the highlights of the budget to actuals information that was given to the Council. The General Fund had a net change in fund balance of \$475,000 on the positive side. The current fund balance is just over 5.4 million dollars. The Water and Sewer Fund has a deficit of \$356,000; the bulk of that had to do with the water meter project and other expenditures with Turnipseed Engineers. Mr. Akins explained that he could start providing the budget to actuals information to the Council on a monthly basis. He and Regina plan to have the bank reconciliations caught up by the next Council meeting.

Council Member Miller stated that comparing 2023 to 2025, there are several things that she would have done differently; the bottom line is probably going to be

ok. She thinks that they will end up amending the budget, but that is done every year. She hopes that next year there is a better grasp on this and more timeliness.

There was a motion by Council Member Miller to approve the ordinance to adopt the Fiscal Year 2025 General Fund operating budget, knowing that there will be some changes to it later, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

2. (Tabled 12/02/2024 and 2/03/2025) Approve an Ordinance to adopt the City of Temple's 2025 Fiscal Year Water Fund Operating Budget.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to take this item off the table. Second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

There was a motion by Council Member Miller to approve the ordinance to adopt the 2025 Fiscal Year Water Fund Operating Budget, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

New Business

1. Authorize the Mayor and City Administer to sign the Letter of Engagement with Will Robinson, CPA, LLC for the Fiscal Year 2024 audit preparations.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to sign the Letter of Engagement with Will Robinson, CPA, LLC for the Fiscal Year 2024 audit preparations, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

2. Review of bids received on the Public Works Building Request For Proposals (RFP) with possible action to select a company and award the bid for engineering and construction.

Public Works Director Josh Smith brought shop drawings of the building. Mayor Johnson asked if he had a recommendation of which company to select. Josh explained that both are very reputable companies. He checked a couple of sites that both have constructed on in the last year or two and he spoke to the owners of those facilities. The owners were extremely satisfied. Both have worked on projects he has seen and there have been no issues or concerns. His recommendation is Hurst because of the savings and scope of work. They did a similar facility in Lineville Alabama; Josh talked with the owners there and it was completed within budget and on time.

Mayor Johnson asked if Turnipseed would be providing oversight on this project. Josh explained they would provide some but it will mainly be himself; he was a

project manager and has worked on several large projects so he is familiar. Randall Byess, the construction/development inspector will also be heavily involved. The location of the building will be on the corner of Oak Shade and Steadham. The gates will be upgraded and the site will be secured with cameras. It is estimated that the project will take six months to complete.

There was a motion by Council Member Russom to award the bid for the Public Works building to Hurst Construction and to begin moving forward with this project; second by Council Member Boles. Vote 5-0.

Closing Comments by Mayor and Council

Mayor Johnson- would like to congratulate Richard Bracknell and his debate team for winning the state championship for the 15th time; this is the fifth time they have won consecutively.

Casey Russom- He keeps getting the reoccurring question of why the water bills are randomly going up. His bill has gone up, but his usage hasn't. He is aware that the price has gone up due to the increase by Carroll County, however that doesn't address the fluctuations. He wants to be clear on what is happening. Public Works Director Josh Smith explained that they still read the Carroll County meters and there were a couple of weeks where the meter reads were done earlier. They also had issues with Carroll County switching out some meters and that threw some things off. These are some potential reasons for the increases. City Administrator Lisa Jacobson said that they would look into this further.

Executive Session, if needed: Mayor Johnson stated there was a need to go into Executive Session for a personnel matter, there would be no action taken after.

There was a motion by Council Member Bracknell to go into Executive Session for personnel, second by Council Member Russom. Vote 5-0.

There was a motion to come out of Executive Session by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0.

Adjournment: There was a motion to adjourn by Council Member Bracknell, second by Council Member Walden. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 5:58PM.

Mayor

City Clerk