

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

JULY 7, 2020

STATE OF TEXAS *
COUNTIES OF DALLAS AND ELLIS *
CITY OF GLENN HEIGHTS *

On the 7th day of July 2020, the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights met in a Regular Called City Council Meeting via video conference with the following members present:

CITY COUNCIL:

Harry A. Garrett	*	Mayor
Sonja A. Brown	*	Mayor Pro Tem
Emma Ipaye	*	Council Member
Jeremy Woods, Sr.	*	Council Member
Ron Adams	*	Council Member
Shaunte L. Allen	*	Council Member
Machanta Newson	*	Council Member

STAFF:

David Hall	*	City Manager
Brandi Brown	*	City Secretary
Phillip Conner	*	Finance Director
V.E. Dooley	*	Chief of Police
Marlon Goff	*	Economic Development Administrator
Byron Hardy	*	IT Administrator
Lauren Lewis	*	Community Engagement Administrator
Keith Moore	*	Fire Chief
Jaynice Porter-Brathwaite	*	Human Resources Director

CONSULTANT:

Victoria Thomas	*	City Attorney's Office
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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harry A. Garrett called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:07 P.M. with a quorum of the City Council present.

INVOCATION

Keith Moore, Fire Chief, delivered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Harry A. Garrett led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Shenita Cleveland, 365 Uptown Blvd, Cedar Hill, TX – expressed her feelings related to the June 24, 2020 protest at 1210 E Bear Creek Road, Glenn Heights, TX, and confirmed why she became involved.

Robert Rodriguez, 137 Milas Ct, Glenn Heights, TX – expressed his concerns related to the road conditions in the Mesa Community. Stated he believed the area was being overlooked and requested immediate improvements.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 3. Discuss and take action authorizing the City Manager to expend an amount not to exceed ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$164,000) from the Telecommunications Fund for the City’s High-Speed Internet and Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) service through AireSpring for a three (3) year term. (Byron Hardy, IT Administrator)

David Hall, City Manager, introduced this item.

Council Member Shaunte L. Allen made a motion to table Consent Agenda item 3. Council Member Ron Adams made the second. The motion carried with the following vote:

VOTE 7 Ayes – Garrett, Brown, Ipaye, Woods, Adams, Allen, and Newson

- 1. Discuss and take action to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of the June 16, 2020, Regular Called City Council Meeting. (Brandi Brown, City Secretary)
- 2. Discuss and take action to approve Resolution R-15-20, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, affirming the appointment of a shared Board Member with the cities of Garland and Rowlett to serve on the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Board as provided in Section 452 of the Texas Transportation Code; and providing for an effective date. (Mayor Harry A. Garrett)

Council Member Ron Adams made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 1 and 2. Council Member Shaunte L. Allen made the second. The motion carried with the following vote:

VOTE 7 Ayes – Garrett, Brown, Ipaye, Woods, Adams, Allen, and Newson

AGENDA

- 1. Discuss and take action to approve Resolution R-16-20, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, condemning racism and racist hate

speech, and encouraging a commitment to fair and equal treatment for all.

Council Member Machanta Newson introduced this item to Council. Council Members expressed their thoughts related to how City Council and City Staff responded to recent incidents involving racism and racist hate speech in the City of Glenn Heights and confirmed that dialogue between citizens and City leaders will continue.

Council Member Ron Adams made a motion to approve Resolution R-16-20, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Glenn Heights, Texas, condemning racism and racist hate speech, and encouraging a commitment to fair and equal treatment for all. Council Member Emma Ipaye made the second. The motion carried with the following vote:

VOTE 7 Ayes – Garrett, Brown, Ipaye, Woods, Adams, Allen, and Newson

2. Discuss and take action to approve a Social Justice Public Art Project.

Mayor Harry A. Garrett introduced this item. Lauren Lewis, Community Engagement Administrator, and David Hall, City Manager, discussed the search for an artist, possible funding sources, and possible locations. Council Members expressed their thoughts related to funding for a Social Justice Public Art Project and possible locations as well.

Council Member Ron Adams made a motion to approve a Social Justice Public Art Project, to be funded with unused travel funds, and that would require City Council to have final approval of any renderings. Council Member Machanta Newson made the second.

Prior to Council Members voting on this item, a Public Comment was made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Rodriguez, 137 Milas Ct, Glenn Heights, TX – expressed his approval of a Social Justice Public Art Project and his confidence in City Staff in planning this project. Mr. Rodriguez also stated that it is difficult to watch the divisiveness he has observed between races and how current events are portrayed in the media, and that he empathizes with the struggle and pain experienced by African Americans.

Mayor Harry A. Garrett moved forward with Council action:

The motion carried with the following vote:

VOTE 5 Ayes – Garrett, Brown, Woods, Adams, and Newson
2 Nays – Ipaye and Allen

3. Update on June 24, 2020 protest at 1210 E Bear Creek Road, Glenn Heights, TX, 75154.

David Hall, City Manager, introduced this item to Council. He discussed the roles and obligations of City Council and City Staff, as those determined what actions were taken by Staff during the protest. V.E. Dooley, Chief of Police, discussed the role of the Glenn Heights Police Department throughout the protests, strategies used, and provided information regarding other Law Enforcement Agencies that were on stand-by had assistance been needed. Mr. Hall and Victoria Thomas, City Attorney, clarified that if a business within the City of Glenn Heights is operating in compliance with the City's Codes and Ordinances, they may remain operational.

Moustafa Shawky, Owner, Discount Auto Care, 1210 E Bear Creek Road, Glenn Heights, TX – provided his personal sentiments related to the June 24, 2020 protest and his thoughts regarding racism and racist hate speech. He also discussed his heritage and how he and his family have been impacted by his actions. Mr. Shawky apologized for his actions and discussed how he planned to move forward from this situation.

Council Members expressed their thoughts related to how City Council and City Staff responded to the recent protests in the City of Glenn Heights. They also expressed the need for a more thorough vetting process for companies wanting to do business in the City, the meaning and impact of racial slurs and statements, in what ways they agreed and/or disagreed with statements made by Mr. Shawky, and commended the Police Department and David Hall on how they handled the protests

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Rodriguez, 137 Milas Ct, Glenn Heights, TX – expressed his thoughts on a more thorough vetting process, how recent events surrounding racism have impacted the City, and commended the Police Department on how they handled the protests. He also requested that City Council make themselves more available.

4. Update and overview of Glenn Heights Police Department operations.

David Hall, City Manager, introduced this item.

Council Member Shaunte L. Allen made a motion to table Agenda item 4. Council Member Machanta Newson made the second. The motion carried with the following vote:

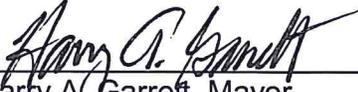
VOTE 7 Ayes – Garrett, Brown, Ipaye, Woods, Adams, Allen, and Newson

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Ron Adams made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Sonja A. Brown made the second. The motion carried with the following vote:

VOTE 7 Ayes – Garrett, Brown, Ipaye, Woods, Adams, Allen, and Newson

Mayor Harry A. Garrett adjourned the meeting at 9:05 P.M.



Harry A. Garrett, Mayor

Attest:



Brandi Brown, City Secretary
Passed and approved on the 21st day of July 2020