



## City of Farmers Branch

Farmers Branch City Hall  
13000 Wm Dodson Pkwy  
Farmers Branch, Texas  
75234

### Meeting Minutes

### City Council

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Tuesday, March 22, 2016

4:00 PM

Study Session Room

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Work Session Meeting to be held at 4:00 PM in the Study Session Room

- Presiding:** 1 - Mayor Bob Phelps
- Present:** 4 - Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Harold Froehlich, Council Member John Norwood, Council Member Ana Reyes, Mayor Pro Tem Kirk Connally
- Absent:** 1 - Council Member Mike Bomgardner
- Staff:** 9 - Charles Cox Interim City Manager, Amy Piukana City Secretary, Braden Metcalf City Attorney, Sid Fuller Police Chief, Deputy Chief Mark Young, John Land Managing Director Operations, Shawna Eikenberry Assistant to City Manager; LaJeana Thomas Executive Assistant Administration

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Phelps called the meeting to order.

B. WORK SESSION ITEMS

- B.1 16-092 Consider approval of minutes of the City Council Work Session meeting held on March 8, 2016; and take appropriate action.

Motion made by Council Member Reyes to approve the March 8, 2016, City Council Work Session minutes, as presented. Motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Froehlich. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye:** 4 - Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Froehlich, Council Member Reyes, Council Member Norwood and Mayor Pro Tem Connally

**B.2**     16-096     Receive an update on the Justice Center Security Upgrades, Expansion and Modernization.

Interim City Manager Charles Cox explained staff has reviewed the numbers and reviewed items that are critical for recommended improvements to secure the Justice Center. Police Chief Sid Fuller stated the projects are broken down by security and operations. Chief Fuller introduced Deputy Chief Mark Young who reviewed the history of the Justice Center noting Municipal Court is also part of this project. He further stated the building has aged, and with evolving security needs since the 911 attacks, renovations are necessary to secure the Justice Center. Deputy Chief Young reviewed a Power Point presentation indicating security needs. The presentation indicated ballistic shielding needs to be installed at the Police Records window, Jail window, and Municipal Court window, and areas located on the south side, noting these employees and areas are more exposed. He noted a masonry screening wall has been added to the request in order to secure the parking area used by Police Officers in the back of the building. He further stated the Municipal Court is in need of a jury deliberation room and a City Marshall office.

Deputy Chief Young explained the proposed plan is to have a bunker with the equipment and gear easily accessible. He noted the SWAT locker rooms could have an adjoining room to accommodate special equipment. Deputy Chief Young stated carrying equipment to the parking lot to load vehicles is not efficient. To be able to preload equipment on the vehicles will allow more efficiency and quicker response.

Deputy Chief Young asked for a more secure crime scene area, allowing a 4 ft. desktop chamber to allow fumigations for processing evidence. He explained the bicycle program is successful, however he stated storage space is tight. He noted the jail workstation and booking area for patrol officers needs to be enlarged to allow for better efficiency of Police Officers.

Deputy Pro Tem Froehlich asked that the funding be utilized more efficiently. He asked what is the difference between the Panel versus Cedar Block wall materials and if security camera surveillance is used on the back side of the building. Chief Fuller replied there is a camera, noting wall details and more specifics can be reviewed at a later time. Chief Fuller further stated he would further review the wall materials.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Froehlich asked if staff has considered co-locating Police and the new Fire Station No. 2 to create a Public Safety building.

Chief Fuller replied at this time, he has not reviewed this idea, noting we need to consider security of storing full automatic weapons with Fire Department, explaining it might not be very cost effective or the best practice to have it located so far away from the Justice Center.

Interim City Manager Charles Cox noted the SWAT vehicle needs to be located near the manpower. He further stated the city met with neighbors originally regarding Fire Station

#2, noting the neighborhood may not want a bigger footprint at that location since the meetings held were in reference to a Fire Station only.

Managing Director John Land explained the Animal Adoption Center could be co-located with the new Fire Station No.2.

Mayor Phelps, asked why the cost was high to construct a Jury deliberation room. Deputy Chief Young explained the building would have to expand beyond the footprint, making it new construction.

Council Member Reyes asked what type of reductions have been made from the prior presentation request. Chief Fuller noted he cut out flooring and carpets and reduced ballistic glass to only unsecured areas in an effort to save on costs.

Council Member Reyes asked if what happened to the Dallas Police Department in the past could happen at Farmers Branch Police Station. Chief Fuller explained once the first layer is secured, the building cannot be penetrated.

Mr. Cox noted Police in Dallas entered the building from the front side, noting Farmers Branch enters from the back. He further stated once the back area is secured, this reduces the risks of penetrating the building.

Council Member Reyes asked for clarification regarding the rating of ballistic glass. Chief Fuller confirmed the UL7 Grade Rated ballistic glass will be used.

Council Member Norwood asked if the jury deliberation room can be considered at a future date noting it's not a critical safety issue at this time.

Council Member Norwood explained the bond committee could review.

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Froehlich asked how the funding would affect the tax rate.

Mr. Cox noted it would raise the tax rate ½ a cent for 20 years.

Mr. Cox reviewed the timeline of issuing the Notice of Intent. City Council advised staff to move forward with the Notice of Intent at the next City Council meeting scheduled for March 29, 2016.

### **C. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Council Member Norwood. Motion seconded by Council Member Reyes. Motion prevailed by the following vote:

**Aye: 4 -** Mayor Pro Tem Connally, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Froehlich, Council Member Reyes, and Council Member Norwood

The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

  
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Mayor Bob Phelps

Attest:

  
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City Secretary