

**MINUTES OF JOINT SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING**

**Call to Order**

The City Council of the City of Katy, Texas, convened in special workshop session Thursday, July 28, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas. The following City Officials were present:

**City Council**

Fabol Hughes, Mayor  
 Chuck Brawner, Mayor Pro Tem  
 Durran C. Dowdle, Councilmember  
 J. Gary Jones, Councilmember  
 Jimmy Mendez, Councilmember  
 Steve Pierson, Councilmember  
 Leah Hayes, City Attorney  
 Byron Hebert, City Administrator  
 Becky L. McGrew, Assistant City Secretary

The following City Officials were absent:

Art Pertile, III, City Attorney  
 David Leyendecker, City Engineer  
 Missy Bunch, City Secretary

The City Planning & Zoning Commission convened in special workshop session Thursday, July 28, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas. The following Commissioners were present:

**City Planning and Zoning Commission**

Paul Redmon, Vice Chairman  
 Kenneth Berger, Commissioner  
 Dusty Thiele, Commissioner  
 Larry Gore, Alternate Commissioner  
 Raymond Boothe, Alternate Commissioner  
 Clint Stockdick, Alternate Commissioner

The following City Planning and Zoning Commissioner was absent:

Eric Paulsen, Chairman  
 Dan Burris, Commissioner

The Keep Katy Beautiful Board convened in special workshop session Thursday, July 28, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas. The following Commissioners were present:

**Keep Katy Beautiful Board**

Julia Barta, Board Member  
 Debbie Berger, Board Member  
 Brad Barnes, Parks & Recreation Director  
 Kay Callender, Vice Chairman  
 Sharon Rhoads, Board Member  
 Sandy Schmidt, Chairman

**Keep Katy Beautiful Board (cont'd)**

Jennifer Stence, Board Member  
Albert Thompson, Jr., Board Member  
Jacalyn Warner, Board Member  
Kathy Wiesner, Board Member  
Jamie Wolman, Board Member

The following Keep Katy Beautiful Board Members were absent:  
Patti Hanson, Ex-Officio Member

The Landscape Appeal Board convened in special workshop session Thursday, July 28, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas. The following Commissioners were present:

**Landscape Appeal Board**

Debbie Berger, Keep Katy Beautiful Board Member  
Ricky Burch, Chairman  
Sandra Byrd, Board Member  
Nevelynn Melendy, Board Member  
Steve Pierson, Councilmember

**Discuss Landscaping Ordinance**

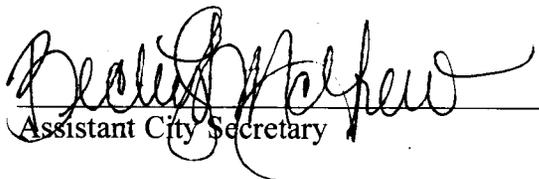
Council discussed desire to keep a Landscaping Ordinance in place, but provide a better process for contractors as it affects project costs, submittal deadlines and planning. Mayor made opening statement that we are not here to do away with this ordinance, merely to make it better and address complaints from contractors and the public. Permitting process was addressed as part of the issues that arise in relation to the Ordinance and exceptions for contractors was proposed, with disclaimers and alternate deadlines for this phase of their project. The Keep Katy Beautiful Board voiced concerns about giving leeway on an already lax ordinance. They believed that this would be the next step toward exceptions allowing people to not comply with the ordinance. The right tree in the right place was discussed and how our ordinance should be updated to include this option to developers. Moreover, that planning for cost of irrigation and landscaping was critical in the beginning of planning to ensure it didn't get overlooked. They were unanimous in the standing that the landscaping was part of what makes Katy community a great place to live and draws people to the area. The Landscape Appeal Board was discussed and how since after creation it was seven years before the board was even called to meet; in addition, has only had occasion to meet three time since then. Both the Keep Katy Beautiful Board and Landscape Appeal Board felt this was a reflection of the system working. The City Planning and Zoning Board discussed issues from the developer's viewpoint, including cost of small business owner to acquire professional plans, review time for permits and other general complaints about private property owners rights to develop. The necessity of being aware of these requirements, the expense and full project planning was also discussed. City Attorney Leah Hayes addressed all the Boards that the purpose of the workshop was to address the Landscaping Ordinance and not the permitting process or that department. All boards discussed the impact of changing the permitting process, including the impact on staff. Options like adding preferred species to the ordinance were also made. The recent addition of staff to the building department and reduction of plan review to within two weeks was also mentioned in regards to time line impact of the ordinance, which was an improvement from past complaints.

Adjourn

Mayor motioned to adjourn the meeting. All voted Aye, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Assistant City Secretary