

**MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL
BRIEFING SESSION
MINUTES
February 23, 2021**



The City Council convened in regular session in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Midland, Texas, at 9:45 AM, February 23, 2021.

Council Members present: Patrick Payton, Spencer Robnett, Michael Trost, Scott Dufford, John Norman, Jack Ladd, Lori Blong

Council Members absent: None

Staff members present: John Ohnemiller, Robert Patrick, Morris Williams

The meeting was called to order at 9:46 a.m.

These items, as well as any other items on the regular posted agenda for the City Council Meeting on this date, may be discussed:

1. Receive an update from representatives of the Midland Downtown Park Conservancy

Scott Kidwell, Downtown Park Conservancy President, provided an update on the park noting that construction is done and was under budget. The park opened on November 23rd. It was a soft opening due to COVID. They have no real operational, security or theft issues. The community has treated it like the gem it is. They made it through the storm in good shape. They continue to work on punch work. Attendance has been fabulous. They had no idea this would be a sledding park because of the hill they built. He thanked Council on behalf of the conservancy for being a partner and seeing the vision. This park is something special and we are just scratching the surface on what it can be.

Stephanie Martin, Executive Director, reported they have been blessed to have had no real incidents take place. COVID safety protocols are in place with hand sanitizing stations and an electrostatic sprayer. She handed out a FAQ and rate sheet noting they will be added to their website. She shared the rate sheet for those who wish to rent the park. They have some bookings and events taking place. They have had as many as 400-500 people in the park on weekend or school holiday nice weather days. They have several parking agreements in place within 1 ½ blocks of the park that provide 640 parking spaces. They continue to tweak things such as adding a dog bag dispenser on the south side of the park. Dogs are allowed on the perimeter of the park, in the concession area or in the dog park. They coordinate with the convention center to book events to ensure that the events

they each have are appropriate for each other. She thanked Council for their support.

All the business at hand having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED March 23, 2021.

Patrick Payton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy M. Turner, City Secretary