

**MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 17, 2023**



The City Council convened in regular session in the Barbara & George H.W. Bush Convention Center, Ballroom A, Midland, Texas, at 10:00 a.m., October 17, 2023.

Council Members present: Amy Stretcher Burkes, Dan Corrales, Robin Poole, Lori Blong, Scott Dufford, Jack Ladd, John Norman

Council Members absent: None

Staff members present: City Manager Tommy Gonzalez, City Attorney John Ohnemiller, Deputy City Manager Morris Williams Jr., Assistant City Manager Tina Jauz, Assistant City Manager Jose Ortiz, First Assistant City Attorney Stephen Gates

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The City Council will hold public hearings on the following items:

1. HOLD A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIDLAND AT 10:00 A.M. ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023, IN BALLROOM A, BARBARA AND GEORGE H.W. BUSH CONVENTION CENTER, 105 N. MAIN STREET, MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701 TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE XI, "PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT", BY ADDING CHAPTER 1A, "CENTENNIAL ENTERTAINMENT OVERLAY DISTRICT", SO AS TO ESTABLISH AN OVERLAY ZONING DISTRICT AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT WITHIN SAID OVERLAY DISTRICT AND TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP ACCORDINGLY. PUBLIC HEARING ONLY (DISTRICT: ALL) (DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)

Interim Development Services Director Rolandrea Russell gave a brief overview of the Centennial Entertainment Overlay District by providing information on the downtown location, purpose (which is to elevate Downtown), permitted uses, such as: alcoholic beverage sales for on-premises consumption (one example), a list of definitions and parklets.

After questions about notices, Council Member Corrales explained that having the joint public hearing is in lieu of sending out a lot of paper notices.

Mayor Blong opened the public hearing at 10:10 a.m.

Shirley Howard, Midland, asked about the monitoring of alcoholic beverages downtown in which it was explained citizens will not be allowed to walk around with open containers and businesses would still need to operate under TABC guidelines.

Mayor Blong expounded further on the TABC guidelines that will need to be followed.

Natalie Shelton, Executive Director of Downtown Midland Management District, reported they would like to be more involved.

Planning and Zoning Chair Lucy Sisniega inquired about churches and schools in the area with regard to the sale of alcohol. Interim Development Services Director Rolandrea Russell reported that even though there is an SUD, they would still need to comply with TABC rules regarding proximity to churches and schools.

Sharla Hotchkiss, Midland, inquired about policing alcohol in the park. Council Member Ladd reported it will be the same as it is now but they would like to be able to add more staff such as police, parking and sanitation to the area.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Blong closed the public hearing at 10:14 a.m. Planning and Zoning Chair Lucy Sisniega closed the Planning and Zoning public hearing at 10:14 a.m.

All the business at hand having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED November 14, 2023.

Lori Blong, Mayor

ATTEST:

Marcia Bentley-German
City Governance Officer/City Secretary