



**MINUTES SPECIAL JOINT
COUNCIL MEETING WITH RCISD**

Thursday, March 18, 2021 – 6:00 pm

Summers Middle School Cafeteria
2050 CD Boren
Fate, Texas

A. CALL TO ORDER 6:08 PM BY MAYOR ELLIS

Announce the presence of a quorum.

City Council

- Members Present: Mayor, Clay Ellis
Mayor Pro Tem, Council Member Place 5, James Branch
Council Member Place 2, Ed Nichol
Council Member Place 3, Bruce Bradley
Council Member, Place 6, Tom Crowley
- Members Absent: Council Member Place 1, Mike Holder
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, Council Member Place 4, Matt Wheatley
- Staff Present: Finance Director, Shannon Raymond
City Secretary, Deborah Sorensen
Assistant City Secretary, Camille Johnson
Executive Director of Community Development Corp., Charles Houk

RCISD

- Members Present: President, Scott Muckensturm
Vice President, Christina Carrion
Board Secretary, Mike Anderson
Board Member, Eric Fort via ZOOM
Board Member, Julie Stutts
Board Member, Bobby Summers
Board Member, Brian Zator
- Staff Present: Superintendent, Kevin Worthy
Asst. Superintendent, Kenny Kaye Hudson
Asst. Superintendent, Julia Robinson
Chief Technology Officer, Zach Allen
Chief Communications Officer, Adi Bryant
Chief Financial Officer, Byron Bryant
Executive Director of Cultural Development, Taryne Dismuke
Admin. Assistant., Paty Weeks
Summers Middle School Principal, Richard Pense

Others Present: Rockwall County Commissioner, Janet Nichol

**B. WELCOME MESSAGE FROM MAYOR CLAY ELLIS AND SCHOOL
BOARD PRESIDENT SCOTT MUCKENSTURM**

C. INTRODUCTIONS OF CITY COUNCIL AND STAFF AND SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND STAFF

D. INVOCATION

Board Member Summers gave invocation.

E. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion items from Royse City ISD:

a. District Report

Presenter: Superintendent Kevin Worthy

Superintendent Worthy spoke about how critical property growth has been. He stated in 2018 the voters passed a \$60,000,000 bond by 79.2% with a zero-tax increase. The bond is now complete. RCISD accomplished everything on time and on budget.

RCISD graduation rate is 98%. In 2020 RCISD was named National Showcase District. Superintendent Worthy added the current enrollment is 6,980 students and reviewed the projected enrollment figures through 2030-2031. They are experiencing a growth of approximately 10 to 12 students a week. He reviewed the Master Facilities Plan that was passed in July 2016. They have already achieved the majority of the plan.

b. Bond 2021 Presentation

Presenter: Superintendent Kevin Worthy

Superintendent Worthy stated the Bond Steering Committee, which was comprised of 40 members, support the 2021 \$230,000,000 Bond, with no tax increase. The Bond Projects are for Cherry Elementary replacement (Verandah Estates), Early Childhood Center renovation (existing Cherry Elementary), Elementary #7 and Elementary #8, and Royse City High School expansion. The breakdown of the bond is; \$8,000,000 for safety and security, \$3,294,000 for land purchases, \$5,900,000 upgrades to existing schools, \$203,826,000 for new construction and school expansions, and \$8,980,000 for student program growth. There are two ballot propositions. Proposition A is for all education and Proposition B is for all athletics. The bonds will be funded with anticipated new residential and commercial growth. Early voting is April 19-27th and election day is May 1st.

2. Discussion items from Royse City, City Council:

a. Infrastructure Update

Shannon Raymond reported the City is working on new road projects. Crenshaw is a critical project for the city and the school district. FM 2642 utilities relocation is taking place now. Construction will take place in 2022. The City is doing utility relocation design for I-30 project now. It will probably be about two years before you see any action. The outer loop is back on the radar.

b. Residential Development

Shannon Raymond reported the City had a record year last year in permits. There were almost 900 new homes. The average value was \$270,000 and now the average value is \$300,000. We are now issuing over 100 permits a month. We have to plan and prepare for the growth. Waterscape and Union Square subdivisions continue to build. Parkside Village is newly released so they are now building. Stone River

has the golf course lots but is now looking at building a new section across the street and providing for a school site. Verandah and Valor Farms are continuing in their many phases. Creekshaw and DeBerry Estates will be building soon. There is no end in sight.

c. Commercial Development

Charles Houk stated when the pandemic hit, the CDC came up with a Disaster Relief Fund, which was based on employees. The CDC was able to inject almost \$300,000 into the economy by putting cash into the business owners' hands. They helped 43 businesses since last April. That represents 275 jobs. All businesses that were helped have remained open. Wing Stop and Starbuck have opened. Taco Bueno is under construction. Main Street has been booming. Smoke Sessions is set to open on April 10th. Native Station and Thirsty Bros. are due to open in the summertime. There is a new retail building on Elm Street that is Hair Junkie. Alejandro's and Faustino Cigars is now open and a pediatric therapy business is due to open next month. The Flower Truck is out and about. The CDC is focusing on a stand-alone grocery store, big box home improvement store, sit down restaurants, and family entertainment. Charles added that sales tax is down in Texas by 7.5%, however, it is up 30% in Royse City.

F. ADJOURN AT 7:15 PM

Mayor Ellis adjourned the meeting.

Clay Ellis

Clay Ellis, Mayor

ATTEST:

Deborah Sorensen

Deborah Sorensen, TRMC, MMC, City Secretary

