

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF SPRING VALLEY VILLAGE, TEXAS
FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022 AT 1:00 P.M.
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF CITY HALL
1025 CAMPBELL ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS**

1. CALL THE ROLL AND ANNOUNCE A QUORUM IS PRESENT

With a quorum of the Council Members present, the Special Called Meeting of the Spring Valley Village City Council was called to order by Mayor Vajdos at 1:02 p.m.

Members Present:

Mayor Marcus Vajdos
Mayor Pro-Tem Allen Carpenter
Council Member Bo Bothe
Council Member Tom Donaho
Council Member Joy McCormack

Members Absent:

Council Member David Dominy

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

2.1 Section 551.071. Consultation with Attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation or a matter in which the duty of the City Attorney requires to be discussed in closed meeting.

Council adjourned into the Executive Session at 1:03 p.m.

The City Council meeting reconvened at 1:17 p.m.

Mayor Vajdos read the following statement:

“The origin of this situation for which this special meeting is being called was a special meeting which occurred on Feb 22nd of this year to discuss proposed job alignment and salary ranges for City employees. As a result of that meeting and discussion, additional information was provided later which revealed that in both 2020 and 2021 very substantial amounts of overtime had been paid by the City to an exempt employee. It is only in the rarest of occasions and under specific conditions that city policy permits overtime for exempt employees. This single exempt employee over the course of a nine-month period in 2020 received \$189,038 in overtime plus base salary. In 2021, these overtime payments continued for an additional \$96,040 plus base salary.

This information was not well received by your city representatives. The lack of openness, transparency, or even awareness by the individual responsible for the distribution of these overtime funds (who was also the recipient of these funds) has left your city representatives questioning the judgement and their trust in this individual to continue their role with the City.

As a result, Spring Valley Village’s duly appointed Police Commissioner and reserve Assistant Police Chief was asked by the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem to meet with this individual to initiate a discussion regarding the willingness of this individual to engage with Council to formulate a retirement/separation agreement with the

City. Unfortunately, this meeting did not go well or have the intended result.

Not too long after this meeting, the Police Commissioner was contacted by phone by this individual. During this conversation, the individual made threatening statements to the Police Commissioner. Following the threatening statements, and based on guidance of the City Attorney, this individual was immediately placed on administrative leave by the Mayor and all access to the City's non-public spaces (to include the Police Department) were revoked.”

Council re-adjourned into the Executive Session at 1:20 p.m.

- 2.2 Section 551.074 – Personnel Matters to deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of the Chief of Police.

3. RECONVENE

The City Council meeting reconvened at 3:58 p.m.

4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING: Matters Discussed in Executive Session.

Mayor Vajdos advised that no action would be taken and advised that comments could be made at this time. The following attendees commented:


- Lisa Rogers, who lives at 1 Martin Lane, advised that she appreciated Loyd Evans' thirty years of service and his accomplishments. She asked why the overtime was discovered in February when it occurred eighteen months ago, if Mr. Evans was the only employee that received overtime, and requested that an outside agency investigate this issue.
- Tommy Leman, who lives at 8706 Cedardale, asked if this was a precedence with overtime, if there was a lingering issue or if this issue had to do with COVID, when this was discovered, if there was a lack of oversight, who signed off on the time cards, and if there was a contingency plan.
- Douglas Knutzen, who lives at 8620 Westview, asked if discussion would be held on Agenda Item 2.2. He also asked if the City Administrator issues a monthly report and if overtime expenditures are listed in the financials.
- Beth Walsh, who lives at 2623 Tudor Manor, advised that she is the sister of Loyd Evans. She asked how many hours of overtime Mr. Evans received, She advised that everyone at Spring Valley Village was family to Mr. Evans, that Mr. Evans had honor and integrity, and that the City should not beat someone when they are down.
- Michael Autenreith, who lives at 7930 Hilshire Green, advised that Loyd Evans was given a raise in October 2021 and that Mr. Evans had an employment contract. Mr. Autenreith advised that Mr. Evans should be celebrated. He also advised that there were procedures in place that were not followed.
- Jennifer Hohman, who lives at 8614 Lanell Lane, asked if there was a still a threat on their street. She also asked if David Dixon was currently the Assistant Chief.
- Christi Parker, who lives at 6 Woodsborough Circle, asked what David Dixon's role was, and why Mr. Dixon put Loyd Evans on administrative leave instead of the Mayor or Council. Ms. Parker advised that procedures were not followed.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Donaho made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:14 p.m., and Council Member Carpenter seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Signed: 

Marcus Vajdos
Mayor

Attest: 

Roxanne Benitez, TRMC, CPM, SMCC
City Secretary