

The City of Castle Hills, Texas

ORDINANCE 2020-02-11-A

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL CURRENT CHAPTER 30, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES AND TO ADOPT A NEW CHAPTER 30 TO CREATE ONE PERMANENT COMMISSION TO BE NAMED THE PARKS AND PROJECTS COMMISSION, TO DEFINE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARKS AND PROJECTS COMMISSION, TO SET RULES AND PROCEDURES, AND TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Castle Hills currently has a Parks Commission and an Ad Hoc Project Committee, each currently composed of the same people, with the two entities having somewhat overlapping areas of focus; and

WHEREAS, this results in duplicated effort and inefficient operation; and

WHEREAS, both the Parks Commission and the Ad Hoc Project Committee met on Saturday, January 11, 2020 and voted unanimously to recommend combining the Parks Commission and the Ad Hoc Projects Committee by making the Ad Hoc Projects Committee a permanent part of the Parks Commission and renaming the Parks Commission as the Parks and Projects Commission; and,

WHEREAS, the City will benefit from having the two entities combined under one name and the establishment of a permanent entity with focus on parks and project discovery, vetting, and development.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF CASTLE HILLS, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1. Current Chapter 30 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Castle Hills is hereby repealed.

Section 2. New Chapter 30 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Castle Hills is hereby adopted to read as follows:

Section 30.1(a) There shall be a Castle Hills Parks and Projects Commission (the "Commission") consisting of 5 members and one alternate who shall be residents of the City of Castle Hills. Each alderman shall appoint one member whose place on the Commission shall correspond to the place of the appointing alderman. The Mayor shall appoint one alternate to the Commission. There shall be no general vote of the City Council on the appointments of members of the Commission. The Mayor shall nominate and the Council shall approve one Alderman to serve as Council Liaison to the Commission. The minimum quorum for meetings of the Commission shall be four members or alternates.

Section 30. I(b) Members and the alternate shall serve two-year terms after the initial appointments. Any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term. The term of the initial appointments shall end June 1, 2022 for places 1, 4 and 5 and on June 1, 2021 for places 2, 3 and the alternate. Members of the

Commission whose terms have expired shall hold over until their replacement has been appointed. In the event that an alderman fails or refuses to make a timely appointment to the Commission by the second regular council meeting following the first time the City Council meeting agenda for a regular meeting has an agenda item for such an appointment to the Commission, then, in that event, the Mayor may make the appointment or may accept an appointment from any council member.

Section 30.1 (c) Members of the Commission shall elect their own chair and officers annually, and may set their own rules and procedures for efficient operation of Commission activities, consistent with applicable law, the City Code of Ordinances, and guidance which may be provided from time to time by action of the City Council. The Mayor and the City Manager shall insure that new members are informed generally of the statutes, laws and ordinances applicable to activities of the Commission.

Section 30.1 (d) It is not anticipated that the city will provide any budgeted funds for the Commission. However, reasonable and necessary expenses may be compensated at the discretion of the City Manager. Recommendations or actions which require budget expenditure or approval by City Council shall be presented, by either the Commission Chair or Council Liaison, to City Council for consideration. The Commission has no authority to direct the activities of City staff or the City Manager, but may request information and assistance from the City Manager and staff as needed to accomplish the duties of the Commission.

Section 30.1 (e) Members may be removed for cause by action of the City Council on written charges after notice and hearing before the City Council. Charges may be brought by the Mayor or Council liaison to the Commission, or by a majority vote of the commission itself. The following constitute cause for removal under this section:

1. Malfeasance;
2. Failure to maintain reasonable familiarity with statutes, ordinances and rule governing the Commission or failure to be governed thereby;
3. Failure to disclose a conflict of interest under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 171;
4. Failure to recuse himself or herself in the event a vote on any matter where there may be a conflict of interest or in any situation in which the member has a direct pecuniary interest in the outcome of a vote; or,
5. Member fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Commission without reasonable excuse or prior notice or coordination with the Commission Chair or the City Manager.

Section 30.2 - Parks- Commission scope and duties shall include preparation of a Parks Inventory of existing parks and preparation of a plan for future parks, both to be updated annually. The Commission is encouraged to explore and negotiate for any grants or other funding that may benefit the city parks. The Commission is authorized to explore and negotiate regarding future parks projects and joint use projects with third party entities. All proposed third-party agreements and budget expenditures in excess of City Manager authority will be submitted to the City Council for final review and approval.

Section 30.3 - Projects- Commission scope and duties shall include exploration and preparation for future city projects as well as joint projects with nearby cities and state and local agencies which further the goals and objectives of the City of Castle Hills as set out in city plans. The Commission shall also seek out, explore and vet proposed projects in furtherance of the City Master Plan, the Capital Improvements Plan, the Streets and Drainage Plan, the Comprehensive Plan and other city plans as may be developed, as well as projects which benefit the general wellbeing and economic development of the city. The Commission is authorized to explore and negotiate regarding future projects and joint use projects with third party entities. Projects which may involve third party agreements or budget expenditures in excess of City Manager authority shall be submitted to the City Council for review and approval. The Commission shall prepare and submit an annual summary report to the City Council of project activities and status of projects still under consideration.

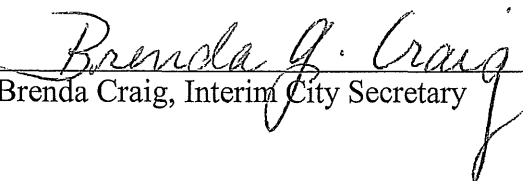
Section 3.

The effective date of this ordinance shall be May 1, 2020

Passed and adopted the 11th day of February, 2020.


JR Trevino, Mayor

ATTEST:


Brenda Craig, Interim City Secretary

