

City of Milano Called City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 26, 2022 – 6:30 pm
Milano Civic Center 120 West Avenue E Milano, TX 76556

Mayor Westbrook called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mayor Westbrook established there was a quorum present. Councilman Bryan Woods was absent. The meeting opened with greetings from Mayor Westbrook. Gary Westbrook gave the invocation and Mayor Karl Westbrook led the Pledge of Allegiance.

During public comment time, Gary Westbrook requested the council to clarify “taking over the unknown properties within the city limits of the City of Milano” and to explain what plans the city has for maintaining them. He also, expressed to the council his concern that some of these properties have been fenced for many, many years and have any legal avenues have been taken to take over these properties. Mr. Westbrook advised the council that notices should be sent to these addresses advising folks of what was taking place also giving them notice that the status of these properties are marked as “unknown properties”. He also reminded the council to be very cautious of the legal ramifications of assuming these properties and wanted to know what legal representation the city has acquired to move forward. Edward Westbrook commented that he concurred with Gary Westbrook on all points.

During discussion, Councilwoman Glenda Westbrook asked: On what basis is the city taking over these properties and why would the city want to play “hot potato” with the legal issues that abound each of these properties? She noted that the city should look at all five of these properties inclusive. Councilwoman Westbrook noted that property owners could seek legal representation, do surveys, or title research to prove ownership.

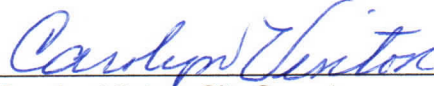
Connor Buchanan, with MVBA Law Firm in Georgetown, Texas and the tax lawyer for Milam County Appraisal District led the discussion with the council. Mr. Buchanan explained these properties are listed as “unknown” because there is no adequate information at the Milam County Appraisal District about these properties within the city limits of the City of Milano. He explained that these properties would be put in the care of the City of Milano and that this does not give the city possession or ownership. The city is not at risk and there are no legal repercussions because only the “care of” address will be changed to the City of Milano until someone shows legal proof of ownership to the Milam County Appraisal District.

The mayor and council members expressed the desire to have all these properties reunited with the legal owners. Mr. Buchanan noted that this is also the desire of the appraisal district.

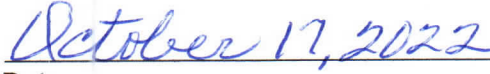
After discussion, Councilman Chad Lagrone made the motion to change the “care of” address to City of Milano on the five properties listed as “unknown properties” including, 12880, 73239, 73241, 73242 and 74070, within the city limits of the City of Milano. Councilman Edward Lenz seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Approved Not approved



Carolyn Vinton, City Secretary



Date