

The Childress City Council met in Called Session Monday December 21, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in the Expo Center, Mashburn Event Center, 1100 7<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Childress, TX 79201.

Mayor	Cary Preston
Aldermen	Marino Rodriquez Gary Clark John Preston Sharon Johnson
City Manager	Kevin Hodges
City Attorney	Steve Bird

Mayor led invocation.

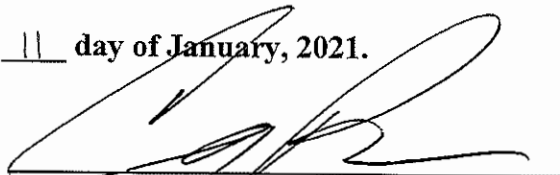
Public Comment.

Review was made of Chapter 3 of the Employment Law Manual for Texas Cities. City Attorney Steve Bird provided his opinion in that a bonus could be paid as other pay but would have to be included in the budget prior to paying for it to be permissible.

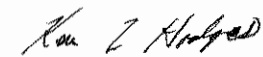
Item 5 of the Agenda was brought to the table. City Manager, Kevin Hodges explained that the staff had worked up two different proposals as amendments to the budget. One amendment included a Christmas bonus package of \$200 per employee that would include taxes. The other Christmas bonus package included \$200 per employee plus an additional \$500 to the Police Department. The \$500 plus taxes would be paid through the General Fund and then reimbursed from the Police Forfeiture Account. The reimbursement from the Police Forfeiture Account would include only \$500 plus taxes. Chief Shade Miller explained that he cannot directly write bonus checks out of the Police Forfeiture Account. A question from Alderman Preston was raised if we have always paid Christmas bonuses across the board and everyone received the same amount. Chief Miller explained that in the past, additional bonuses have been paid within the Police Department because of the ability to use Forfeiture money for that. Alderman Clark and Alderman Rodriguez asked if any other employees would feel slighted by the additional \$500.? It was explained that other employees would understand if they knew where it was coming from. Alderwoman Johnson expressed that Police Officers put their lives on the line everyday for us and that their jobs are more dangerous than most and therefore felt it was merited to include the additional amount. Motion was made by Alderwoman Johnson to accept Budget Amendment 1.3.1. Alderman Rodriguez seconded the motion. All ayes.

With there being no further business, Council adjourned at 6:12 p.m. Motion made by Alderman Preston. Seconded by Alderman Rodriguez. All ayes.

The minutes were read and approved the 11 day of January, 2021.

  
Cary Preston, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Kevin Hodges, City Manager