

**MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
November 13, 2018**

The City Council convened in a Special Session in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Midland, Texas, at 8:00 a.m. on November 13, 2018.

Council Members present: Mayor Pro Tem Spencer Robnett (At-Large), Council Member Scott Dufford (At-Large), Council Member Jeff Sparks (District 1), Council Member John B. Love III (District 2) (arrived at 8:08 a.m.), Council Member Sharla Hotchkiss (District 3), and Council Member J.Ross Lacy (District 4).

Council Members absent: Mayor Jerry F. Morales.

Mayor Pro Tem Robnett called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

SPECIAL SESSION

1. Consider a resolution in opposition of the consolidated interim or permanent storage or disposal of radioactive waste in West Texas and New Mexico or the transportation of high-level radioactive waste through or around the corporate limits of the City of Midland for said purposes.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018 - 467

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF THE CONSOLIDATED INTERIM OR PERMANENT STORAGE OR DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE IN WEST TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO OR THE TRANSPORTATION OF HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE THROUGH OR AROUND THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF MIDLAND FOR SAID PURPOSES

Council Member Lacy moved to adopt Resolution No. 2018 - 467; seconded by Council Member Hotchkiss.

City Attorney John Ohnemiller reported the proposed resolution was prepared in conjunction with the folks from Fasken.

Mayor Pro Tem Robnett opened the floor for brief public comment.

Tommy Taylor, 4100 Timberglen Circle, spoke in support of the resolution noting it tells the nuclear regulatory agency that the City of Midland does consent for storing of nuclear waste in Andrews County including the transportation through Midland. He thinks what people will hear from WCS is that it is safe, but there are many rail accidents and it is not worth the risk. This region is too important for Texas, the country and the world. He has also collected over 800 Midland signatures and 600 Andrews signatures in support of the protest.

Mayor Pro Tem Robnett invited a represented from WCS, Waste Control Specialists to speak.

Elicia Sanchez, Andrews, Texas, noted the main thing to focus on is she lives in Andrews and has been with WCS for 18 years. They have been operating for over 20 years. WCS is an extremely safe and good corporate citizen and the project is environmentally sound. She has a 15-year-old daughter, a couple of grandkids and a mother who all live in Andrews. No amount of money would cause her to harm her family. When they say it is safe, they believe 100% that it is safe. They have done studies on transportation and a chance of an incident is 1 out of one billion. The technology is proven, and the systems are currently used around the United States including Texas. Texas has two nuclear power plants and needs a solution. As Texans we must take care of ourselves, which is one thing Governor Perry focused on and came up with this temporary solution.

Mayor Pro Tem Robnett reported there are 14 cards that have been submitted, 13 cards are in favor and one in opposition. He opened the floor for Council comments.

Council Member Sparks stated that even with a very remote possibility of danger it is not worth putting oil and gas reserves at risk. The Permian Basin has increased its production and it is fueling our country and national defense. He was not in support of risking the country's national defense.

Council Member Love whole heartedly agreed with Council Member Sparks in protecting national defense as well as public health.

The motion carried by the following vote: AYE: Hotchkiss, Love, Sparks, Dufford, Lacy, Robnett. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Morales.

All the business at hand having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 8:12 a.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED the 20th day of November 2018.

Jerry F. Morales, Mayor

ATTEST:

Amy M. Turner, City Secretary