

Eric Hunter Mayor  
City Council:  
John Basham Mayor Pro Tem  
Ken Parnell PI# 1  
Kerry Jenkins PI# 3  
Larry Trammell PI# 4  
Billie Steele PI #5



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## MINUTES

### Regular City Council Meeting

March 19, 2018 - 7:00 pm

**1. Call to Order and Announced a Quorum was Present.**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Eric Hunter; Mayor Pro Tem John Basham, Council Members: Billie Steele, Ken Parnell, Larry Trammell and Kerry Jenkins.

**2. Invocation was given by Harry Harris**

**3. Pledge of Allegiance to the American and Texas Flags.**

*"Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas,  
One state under God, One and Indivisible"*

**4. Mayor's Announcements**

Mayor Hunter said the city Easter Egg Hunt will be on Wednesday March 28<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 pm with Walnut Creek Baptist Church and Solid Rock Bible Church.

**5. Proclamation: Mayor Eric Hunter**

PROCLAIMING SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018, AS:

*AARON TRICE CASTLEBERRY DAY*

*IN THE CITY OF RENO AND URGING ALL CITIZENS TO JOIN ME IN RECOGNIZING THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS AND HONORING THE CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS A. T. CASTLEBERRY AT THE NELSON CEMETERY ON SATURDAY, 03-24-2018 AT 10:00 AM.*

**WHEREAS, THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS (DRT) IS THE OLDEST PATRIOTIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION IN TEXAS AND ONE OF THE OLDEST IN THE NATION AND; WHEREAS, THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION ARE TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY AND SPIRIT OF THE PEOPLE WHO ACHIEVED AND MAINTAINED THE INDEPENDENCE OF TEXAS AND TO ENCOURAGE HISTORICAL RESEARCH INTO THE EARLIEST RECORDS OF TEXAS, ESPECIALLY THOSE RELATING TO THE REVOLUTIONARY AND REPUBLIC PERIODS AND; WHEREAS, THE FRANCES COOKE VAN ZANDT CHAPTER OF FORT WORTH IS HONORING A CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, AARON TRICE CASTLEBERRY A CITIZEN OF WISE AND PARKER COUNTIES AND;**

March 19, 2018 Regular City Council Meeting

WHEREAS, A.T CAME TO TEXAS AS A CHILD WITH HIS FAMILY AND MADE HIS WAY FROM VAN ZANDT COUNTY TO WISE COUNTY BY 1860, HE MARRIED INDIANA TENNESSEE NIX IN DECATUR AND THEN MOVED TO PARKER COUNTY AND; WHEREAS, A.T PASSED AWAY IN RENO, TEXAS AND WAS BURIED IN THE HISTORIC NELSON CEMETERY ALONG WITH MANY PIONEERS OF THE AREA AND A NUMBER OF HIS FAMILY MEMBERS NOW, THEREFORE, I, ERIC HUNTER, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF RENO, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018, AS:

*AARON TRICE CASTLEBERRY DAY*

*IN THE CITY OF RENO AND URGE ALL CITIZENS TO JOIN ME IN RECOGNIZING THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS AND HONORING THE CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS A.T CASTLEBERRY AT THE NELSON CEMETERY ON SATURDAY, 03-24-2018 AT 10:00 AM.*

Mayor Hunter said we have with us Celia Brannon, President of the *Daughters of the Republic of Texas*.

Celia Brannon said she is related to Aaron Trice Castleberry. He was her 2<sup>nd</sup> Great Grandfather. She said it was an honor hearing the words about her ancestor. She said one of their goal is to memorialize their historic site. She said Aaron Trice Castleberry was born in Alabama in 1829. In 1935 he was part of three (3) generation family that came by ox wagon to Texas together and they settled in the present day Van Zandt County. The Castleberry family were instrumental in establishing Churches and Schools. In 1860, he married Indiana Tennessee Nix in Decatur and then they moved to Parker County. She said they would love to invite everyone to attend the ceremony on Saturday morning. Ms. Brannon told Mayor Hunter they have a Certificate thanking the City of Reno from the Frances Cooke Van Zandt Chapter in support for the Mission of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

**Mayor Hunter moved Citizen Comments up on the agenda.**

**6. Action Item:**

A. Discussion and/or action on Article 21 Ordinance.

Shelli Swift said she likes the one sign that is gone.

Zach Stokes said to put the signs back up. He said they need to be up.

Brenda Spradlin said it is a three (3) way intersection.

Motion was made by Councilman Trammell to Table Article 21 Ordinance until a study can be completed because there are seven (7) or eight (8) intersections like this one. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Basham, motion carried 5-0.

7. Executive Session - The City Council for the City of Reno has the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matter as authorized by Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), and 551.086 Economic Development). The City Council for the City of Reno may act on any item listed in Executive Session in Open Session or move any item from Executive Session to Open Session for action.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Basham to go into Executive Session at 7:19 pm. Motion was seconded by Council Person Steele, motion carried 5-0.

- A. Legal advice on claims and disputes involving – City Administrator Joe Polino.  
(Section 551.071 consultation with City Attorney)

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Basham to reconvene in Open Session at 8:23 pm.  
Motion was seconded by Council Person Steele, motion carried 5-0.

8. Action as a result of Execution Session.

- A. City Administrator Polino pending claims or disputes.

Mayor Pro Tem Basham said he would like to make a motion and an explanation of that motion. He said on October 23, 2017 Mr. Joseph Polino who he the Director of Public Safety was officially notified by Chief of Polino Timothy Holzschuh that he was officially suspended from Active Duty with the Reno Police Department. Chief Holzschuh further, that ordered, as the administrative head of the Police Department, that this suspension would continue “pending the outcome of a criminal complaint in which you have been named as a suspect.” He said at that time and in that written notice, Chief Holzschuh issued the following lawful orders to you Officer Polino as a peace officer of this state, and subordinate to his command;

1. “You are hereby prohibited from any activities as a City of Reno Police Officer and from representing yourself as a Reno Police Officer in any level of command to included Director of Public Safety.”
2. “You are prohibited from accessing directly any information captured or retained in the City of Reno Police Department files or logs.”
3. “You are prohibited from accessing directly or indirectly any information captured or retained in the City of Reno Municipal Court files or logs.”

He said on October 23, 2017 it was Mr. Polino’s duty as the Director of Public Safety, as a sworn peace officer to lawfully follow the commands of the “Agency Chief Administrator” as Chief Timothy Holzshuh is designed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement for the City of Reno Police Department.

He said deviating from or ignoring a lawful order given by Chief Holzschuh in his capacity would be considered insubordinate and in certain limited cases criminal in nature. After receiving the lawful orders of Chief Holzschuh it was Joe Polino’s duty as a police officer, to surrender all electronic devices that contained any police or court logs or files. It was Mr. Polino’s duty to surrender his police officer’s badge along with city identification that represented himself as a police officer. He said to this day Mr. Polino continues to ignore the lawful orders of the department’s Chief Holzschuh and retains property which clearly belongs to the City of Reno and information that belongs to the Reno Municipal Court, the Police Department and to the City itself. He said this information is key to the investigation and criminal complaint against Mr. Polino and the internal review. This has in fact delayed in ending this process probably clearing Mr. Polino. He said pursuant to both a contractual agreement with the City of Reno and more directly; City Ordinance Number 2012-0-17, “The City Administrator shall be the administrative assistant to the Mayor and SHALL only perform those duties the Mayor SHALL delegate at the Mayor’s discretion or by law or ordinance.”

Mayor Pro Tem Basham said on December 1, 2017 Mayor Eric Hunter sent Mr. Polino a letter directing his to take a number of actions among these was to return the computer city owned property in his possession for proper storage during the investigation. Pursuant to Ordinance 2012-9-17, the Mayor had the authority to direct any and all actions that Mr. Polino must take. Again Mr. Polino deviated from those directives given to him by the Mayor. The Mayor also directed quote, "You MUST return the city owned computer currently kept at your home in Hood County to the Mayor, Chief of Police, or their designee no later than 5 pm on December 5, 2017. As of today, Mr. Polino has not replied by any portion of the directives give to him by Mayor Hunter or by Chief Holzshuh. This Council, Members of our Legal Team, the Mayor and third parties have worked at length to bend to the will of Mr. Polino in these matters that clearly, he is not following his contract and he is certainly it seems he is not following the State Law in returning City information.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Basham because of this and because of advice by Legal Counsel he would ask that the Mayor place on the next available meeting time a Public Hearing for the termination of Mr. Joseph Polino as Director of Public Safety and as the City Administrator for cause which will be given to him in written notice. He said that was his motion. Motion was seconded by Councilman Trammell, motion carried 4-1. Councilman Parnell abstained.

The motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Basham to direct the Mayor on the next agenda to designate a Public Hearing for the termination of Joseph Polino for cause and provide him with written notice and to notify him of that.

9. Citizen Presentation and Public Input for Future Agenda Items.


The "citizen participation" period is a time slot set aside on the agenda for citizens to address the council on any subject for up to three (3) minutes. The Council is not permitted to take action unless it has been posted on the agenda.

10. Adjourn

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Basham to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion was seconded by Councilman Trammell, motion carried 5-0.

**APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF RENO, PARKER COUNTY, TEXAS THIS 9th Day of April 2018.**

ATTEST:

  
**Ramah Burns**  
City Secretary

  
**Eric Hunter**  
Mayor

