

January 11, 2010

The City Council convened in special session in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Midland, Texas, at 10:02 a.m., January 11, 2010, with the following members present:

W. Wesley Perry,	Mayor
A. Scott Dufford,	Mayor Pro Tem
LuAnn Morgan,	Council member - District 1
Vicky Hailey,	Council member - District 2
John H. James,	Council member - District 3
Michael B. Trost,	Council member - District 4
Jerry F. Morales,	Council member - At-Large

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Mayor Perry called the meeting to order and welcomed all those attending.

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The invocation was voiced by Dr. Gary Dyer, Pastor of First Baptist Church.

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Mayor Perry introduced the Midland Fire Department Honor Guard for the presentation of the colors, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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City Secretary Kaylah McCord introduced The Honorable Robin Malone Darr, District Judge, 385th Judicial District.

Judge Darr asked members of the City Council to think about the legacy they would like to leave at the end of their term. She pointed out that Council decisions have shaped Midland's history and progress, expressing deep appreciation for those with the courage and dedication to serve and to guide those decisions for the betterment of our community. Judge Darr offered words of caution, emphasizing that as public officials, they are held to a higher standard, that they must consider the interests of the entire community in their deliberations, and that they cannot always make everyone happy. She also offered encouragement, asking that Council members listen to their constituents and their peers, that they act with extreme integrity, and that they approach their leadership responsibilities from "a state of discontent" with the status quo. Judge Darr concluded that where we stand is not as important as the direction in which we are moving, and emphasized that our citizens are counting on the members of the City Council to leave a legacy that makes Midland an even greater city in which to live, work and play.

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Following her address, Judge Darr administered the Oath of Office to each newly elected officer, as follows:

W. Jeffrey Sparks,	Council Member, District 1
Vicky Hailey,	Council Member, District 2
Jerry F. Morales,	Council Member, At-Large
A. Scott Dufford,	Council Member, At-Large

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Mayor Perry expressed appreciation to Judge Darr and invited the newly elected and re-elected Council members to take their seats.

Council member Sparks recognized his wife Valerie, parents Don and Gwyn Sparks, and brothers Kevin and Todd, along with their wives Jill and Karen, and expressed appreciation for the support of his family and friends. He advised that he looks forward to serving on the Council and is excited about this opportunity to work for the community.

Council member Morales introduced his wife Meredith, sons Chris and Chase, parents Felipe and Celia Morales, sister and brother-in-law Cindy and Gregg Maes, and aunt Mary Merino. He stated that he is honored to be a part of this body and to represent the citizens of Midland, and

emphasized that he is looking forward to working with his very capable colleagues on the Council.

Council member Hailey expressed appreciation to all the citizens of District 2 for their confidence in her and extended thanks to family members and friends in attendance, including her godmother Barbara Yarbrough, Pastor George Bell, future son-in-law Byron Hopes, Linda Lee and Max Cuellar. She added that she is ready to get back to work with her fellow Council members to make our city better.

Council member Dufford thanked outgoing Council member Luann Morgan for her dedication and service, and expressed gratitude to his wife Beth and his family for their support. He welcomed Council member Sparks and advised that he expects great progress in Midland during the coming three years.

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Mayor Perry asked outgoing District 1 Council member Morgan to come forward. Advising that her dedication and contributions will be very much missed, the Mayor lauded her responsiveness to the concerns of employees and her constituents, her attention to detail, and her thorough research of the issues. Mayor Perry presented Ms. Morgan with her framed City Council portraits, flowers and a plaque expressing appreciation for her outstanding service to the City. The Mayor also presented her husband Charlie with a gift in appreciation for his assistance and support during his wife's years on the Council.

Ms. Morgan advised that her nine years on the City Council have been a tremendously rewarding experience, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve, and declared that Midland's future is in very good hands.

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Mayor Perry advised that the Council looks forward to the challenges of the year ahead and thanked everyone for their attendance.

All of the business at hand having been completed, the special meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.