

Reps present flags with special history

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U.S. Rep. Ted Poe, State Rep. Wayne Smith and SchoolBoard Trustee Robert Hoskins presented flags to the Baytown City Council Thursday night — flags that came with a special history.

Hoskins said his son, who serves in the Army, asked for the flags to take into battle. He said Smith and Poe provided the flags, which had flown over their respective capitols in 2007.

He then sent the flags to his son, Sgt. Charles H. Hoskins. Members of the young Hoskins' company took turns carrying the flags with them on missions, as well as flying them over a base in southern Baghdad. The flags stayed with them for 15 months in Iraq and 12 months in Afghanistan.

Poe and Smith presented the flags to the city council on behalf of Hoskins and his family, and in honor of all of those who serve in the military.

Mayor Stephen DonCarlos said the flags will be prominently displayed in City Hall.

The council then approved several items of business with little discussion:

- Formally called an election for May 14. The election will be the regular election for council districts 4, 5 and 6 and a special election to consider the recall of District 2 Council Member Scott Sheley.
- Approved an agreement for the municipal development district to pay up to \$20,000 for a structural evaluation of the Brunson Theater to determine the cost of restoring the building to a useable condition.
- Approved spending about \$12,000 to upsize a water line near the intersection of Interstate 10 and Spur 330 to 10 inches. A developer is required to install an 8-inch line for a project in the area, and the city will pay to have the larger one installed to accommodate future needs. The developer is contributing about \$140,000 to the project.

Earlier in the meeting, Leiper presented the employee and team of the month, as well as years of service awards.

Melinda Foster of the fire department was recognized as employee of the month.

Richard Rodriguez, Maurice Matthews, Robert Orosco, Ryan Guidry and Sonny Rowlett from water meter operations were recognized as team of the month.

Recognized for five years of service were Noah Travis (fire department), Jon Snell (fire department) and Matthew Mitchell (fire department).

Recognized for 10 years of service was August Naumann (fire department), Maria Porche ' (accounting) and Tim Lancon (public works).

Capt. Davis Alford of the police department was recognized for 25 years of service.

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