

**ROCKDALE CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING**

Present:**Councilmembers:**

John King, Mayor
Nathan Bland
Colby Fisher ❖
Denise Wallace
Willie Phillips
Joyce Dalley, Mayor Pro-Tem

Absent:

Doug Calame

City Staff:

Chris Whittaker, City Manager
Terry Blanchard, City Secretary
Sandra Ellis, City Treasurer
Thomas Harris, Chief of Police
Lon Williams, Code Enforcement Officer
Jerry Waggoner, Municipal Court Judge
Melanie Todd, Librarian
Bobby Joe Tindle, Public Works Supervisor
Joseph Montelongo, Public Works Supervisor

Call to Order and announce a Quorum is Present

With a quorum of the Council members present, the Special Meeting of the Rockdale City Council was called to order by Mayor King at 5:33 p.m., August 1, 2017, at City Hall, 505 W. Cameron Ave, Rockdale, Texas

Pledge of Allegiance**Citizen Communications**

Belinda Hillhouse suggested using the "Out of Office" feature on Outlook to reply to emails when unavailable. All emails should receive a response when received.

- 4A. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution declaring certain Police Department property/equipment to be surplus property and authorizing the city manager to dispose of such property in a manner which is beneficial to the City of Rockdale**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Dalley and a second by Councilmember Bland, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

- 4B. Consider and take any necessary action on a resolution approving an Advance Funding Agreement (AFA) between the City of Rockdale and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) for an On-System Local Government Drainage Improvement Project on FM 908; and providing proper notice and meeting**

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Dalley, the Council voted four (4) for and none (0) opposed to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried.

- 5A. Consider and take any necessary action on the proposed 2016-17 amended budget and the proposed 2017-18 budget submitted by the city manager and any related issues**

- Insurance increased by 25%. Proposed budget reflects 2% pay increase with no employee contribution for insurance. City portion of employee-only insurance is \$687.02 per employee. Vision coverage was removed to defray costs.
- Belinda Hillhouse stated that the grounds at the Library and City Hall reflect most on the town and both are in bad shape. Need professionals to take care of grounds. Need to provide maintenance for what we have before adding anything new.
- Capital improvement funds from the Library were moved to the Summer Reading program which was inadvertently unfunded.
- Willie Phillips stated that he would prefer to see the City purchase a dump trailer instead of a dump truck the next time funding is available.
- Nathan Bland requested that funds be moved from 631-117 to 631-101 in order to increase the Chief's salary to \$75,000 per year. He would also like for Chief to have the ability to move funds between salary accounts in the Police Department in order to entice potential new hires.

Council took a short recess.

- To get total water collection revenue, add 533-01 and 533-32
- To get total wastewater collection revenue, add 534-03 and 534-13
- Line 633-301 should be \$14,000 instead of \$1,400. Decrease 633-208 by \$5,000 and decrease 633-311 by \$5,000. Add \$10,000 to 633-301 for a new total of \$11,400.

❖ Councilmember Fisher arrived at 7:13 p.m.

5B. Consider and take any necessary action on the increase in tax revenues for the 2017-18 fiscal year that will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate (if necessary)

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilmember Bland and a second by Councilmember Fisher, the Council voted five (5) for and none (0) opposed to increase the property tax rate by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.9118 which is effectively a 7.99% increase in the tax rate. Motion carried.

5C. Consider and take any necessary action on calling public hearing(s) during August, 2017 on the proposed 2017-18 budget and the proposed increase to total tax revenues (if necessary)


Public hearings will be held on August 21st and August 28th.

Adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

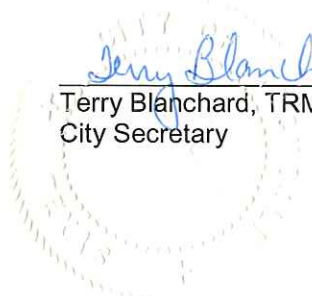
These minutes approved on the 14th day of August, 2017.

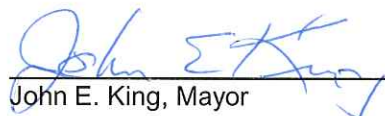
APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Terry Blanchard, TRMC
City Secretary





John E. King, Mayor