



**MINUTES SPECIAL
COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday, September 6, 2016 – 7:00 pm
Police and Courts Building, 100 West Main Street
Royse City, Texas

A. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 PM BY MAYOR NICHOL

Announce the presence of a quorum.

- Members Present: Mayor, Janet Nichol
Mayor Pro Tem, Council Member Place 2, Clay Ellis
Council Member Place 3, Bruce Bradley
Council Member Place 4, Matt Wheatley
Council Member, Place 6, Tom Crowley
- Members Absent: Council Member Place 1, Charles Houk
Council Member Place 5, James Branch
- Staff Present: City Manager, Carl Alsabrook
City Secretary, Deborah Sorensen
City Attorney, Jason Day
Director of Finance, Shannon Raymond
Executive Dir. of Development & Community Services, Janet McPherson
Fire Chief, Rickey Bell
Executive Director of Community Development Corp., Larry Lott

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Nichol gave invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. RECESS SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 7:01 PM

D. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Take testimony concerning the proposed tax rate of \$0.6771 per \$100 value for fiscal year 2016-2017.

No one spoke for or against.

Deborah Sorensen stated the vote for the tax rate will take place on September 13, 2016.

E. CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:02 PM

F. RECONVENE SPECIAL CALLED CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 7:02 PM

G. BUSINESS

1. Discussion concerning proposed FY 2016-2017 Budget, and any matters related thereto.

Mayor Pro Tem Ellis stated he would like to maintain the tax rate at \$0.6771. Council Member Crowley stated that he would like to hear from everyone. Mayor Pro Tem Ellis stated it allows us not to raise taxes in the near future. Council Member Crowley confirmed that it is approximately \$75,000 difference between the two tax rates. He also requested more information on how the \$90,000 is determined for a police officer. It is based on salary, benefits, uniform, equipment, and training. Council Member Crowley asked what the dollar amount was for the salary. Carl Alsbrook explained the salary is about half. Carl said the starting pay for an officer is \$45,000-\$46,000.

Council Member Bradley originally hoped to lower the tax rate but looking at the numbers, it doesn't make it much difference. He is not opposed to keeping the tax rate the same; however, he is opposed to City Council receiving a raise.

Mayor Nichol is comfortable with the tax rate staying the same. She would rather keep it the same rather than lowering it and having to raise it later to catch up. Council Member Crowley asked what the cost was to the tax payer. Shannon stated that it was an average of \$73.00 a year.

Council Member Wheatley stated that he would like to keep the tax rate the same. We already have to cut a lot of stuff out of the budget now as it is.

Council Member Crowley asked Shannon about the water and sewer increases. Shannon stated there is an ordinance in place. The base rate for water will increase by \$3.00 and garbage rates will increase less than one dollar in January.

2. Consider and act concerning an Interlocal Agreement with the Community Development Corporation (CDC) regarding reimbursement of the construction of new water line for businesses on the south side of Main Street, not to exceed \$75,000, and any matters related thereto.

Jason Day explained the duties of the Community Development Corporation (CDC) were to promote economic activity and provide for open areas and public spaces. The current 2" water line on the south side of Main Street cannot keep up. The waterlines could not support sprinklers. The CDC wants to enter into an agreement to contract to have a new 8" waterline put in. The City will assist the CDC with \$75,000 or 50% of the cost, whichever is less.

Larry Lott stated there is a need on Main Street; the south side's current 2 inch water line cannot keep with growth. The CDC has determined to put in a new 8 inch water line. The city will assist or participate with the CDC on construction of new water line. This will help out with Main Street infrastructure.

Mayor Nichol stated this was an excellent way to better downtown. It is a great investment.

Council Member Crowley asked if they would be utilizing the crew already working. Carl said yes. Council Member Crowley confirmed that the project is \$75,000 maximum or 50% of the costs, whichever is lower. He also confirmed that the same construction company doing Bell Street is doing this project.

Larry confirmed it was, they have talked to Excel Trenching. They have been given a dollar amount, but have not signed a contract yet. They have also received cost for engineering services and materials. The City's cost will not exceed \$75,000. They are receiving a price break. Larry said they do not need to obtain an easement, as they will be replacing an existing line.

Mayor Nichol asked where the new water line will be. Larry replied on south side of Main Street between Bell Street and Houston Street.

Council Member Bradley made a motion to accept the Interlocal Agreement with the CDC not to exceed \$75,000. Council Member Crowley seconded the motion. **Motion passed 5-0.**

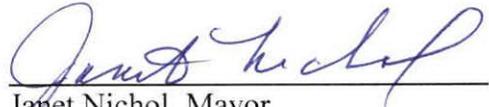
H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Consider and/or action to determine and direct City Staff in scheduling topics for discussion at future City Council Meetings, and any matters related thereto.

Mayor Nichol reminded everyone that High Point Assembly of God is holding a BBQ lunch on September 7, 2016 to honor all first responders. A come and go lunch will be served from 11am - 2pm at High Point Assembly of God. This is the second year they have had the lunch and they plan on doing this every year.

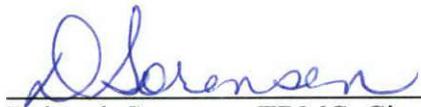
I. ADJOURN AT 7:17 PM

Council Member Crowley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Wheatley seconded the motion. **Motion passed 5-0.**



Janet Nichol, Mayor

ATTEST:



Deborah Sorensen, TRMC, City Secretary

