

CITY OF SANDY OAKS, TX

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2014

INTRODUCTION

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jim Clement at 6:30 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The invocation was given by Mayor Jim Clement, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Present for the meeting were Mayor Jim Clement, Alderman David Tremblay, Earnest D. Gay, Doug Tomasini, Joel Ortega and Micki Ball. Others present City Attorney Art Martinez de Vara.

AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Clement stated the reason for this meeting was to set a tax rate for the city. A discussion was held on the valuation of the property in Waterwood. The actual total is not known as of this date. The tax appraisal office is having to evaluate individually because of the way land sales were set up here. The first amount was an estimated at 84 million. We won't have the final taxable value until they finish the hand count. Any exemptions given by the city will affect the total. Every taxing entity sets up its own exemptions. The adopted budget is a living document and needs to be followed and adjusted at quarterly meetings in order to pass the audit. The budget tonight does not include any sales tax revenue. A decision needs to be made on when to start collecting taxes. If we don't collect for the end of 2013 there will be no money to operate in 2014 the property taxes are set by the council. The sales tax rate is voted on by the citizens. Alderman Ball asked where the .38 came from and Mayor Clement said it was the median in Bexar County. And was just a number he proposed. Up to the council to change. Alderman Tremblay stated since the evaluation would be different we needed to lower it. Discussion was held about exemptions and zoning. Before a tax rate can be set, the budget needed to be passed. Alderman Gay made a motion to accept the .00 balance on the Fiscal Year 2014 budget and Alderman Ball seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal year 2015 Alderman Tremblay once again requested to lower the rate. A discussion was held on when to start collecting these taxes. If we don't collect for 2014, there will not be any money for the city, except franchises fees. This needs to be voted on. As citizens spoke, all the problems we are having out here came up, especially animal control. Alderman Ball asked that we have a special meeting on animal control and get back to the budget. Adjust the budget after the tax is set.

Alderman stated she would like to see the \$100.00 for Fireworks Stand Permits be changed to \$10,000.00. Discussion on the fireworks stand put in at the entrance. Discussion on the budget

Brought up the money allocated to the fire dept. We already pay .10 to ESD 6. A decision needs to be made on whether we stay in the ESD or not. The amount of the reserve fund also was debated.

The budget was prepared by Mr. Martinez de Vara and Mayor Clement on the conservative side.

Alderman Gay made a motion to accept the budget at \$301,400.00. Alderman Ortega seconded. Alderman Gay, Ortega and Tomasini voted for and Aldermans Ball and Tremblay against.

Tax Rate proposed at .38. Alderman Tremblay made a motion to set the ad valorem tax set at .30 per \$100. And Alderman Ball seconded. Another discussion on which year would be taxed, followed. A roll call vote was called for by Alderman Ball. Alderman Gay seconded. A unanimous vote was taken to not collect the 2014 taxes. Alderman Gay made a motion to reconsider the 2014 budget. Seconded by Alderman Ball. Motion passed unanimously. Alderman Gay made a motion to accept the 2015 budget, without the ad valorem taxes included, at \$51,400.

Alderman Ball seconded, adding the need to zero out all the expenses and put the money in the general fund to be used as needed. Alderman Gay seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

As time was a factor, Alderman Gay made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Approved by Sandy Oaks City Council on October 9, 2014