

**SPECIAL MEETING
BUDGET WORKSHOP
LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL**

JULY 27, 2017

6:30 P.M.

**CLARK LIBRARY ANNEX-COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 217 SOUTH MAIN STREET,
3rd FLOOR, LOCKHART, TEXAS**

Council present:

Councilmember John Castillo
Councilmember Benny Hilburn
Councilmember Brad Westmoreland

Mayor Lew White
Councilmember Juan Mendoza
Councilmember Jeffry Michelson

Council absent:

Mayor Pro-Tem Angie Gonzales-Sanchez

Staff present:

Vance Rodgers, City Manager
Jeff Hinson, Finance Director

Connie Constancio, City Secretary
Sean Kelley, Water/Wastewater Superintendent

Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council: Grace Davis of the Hays-Caldwell Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse; and, Eduardo Montana of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority.

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Lew White called the special meeting/budget workshop of the Lockhart City Council to order on this date at 6:30 p.m. He announced that Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez would not attend tonight's meeting.

ITEM 2. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor White gave the invocation and led the pledge of allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

ITEM 3. CITIZENS/VISITORS COMMENTS.

Mayor White requested citizens to address the Council. There were none.

ITEM 4-A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ALLOCATIONS TO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS REQUESTING FUNDS FROM THE CITY OF LOCKHART FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET.

Mayor White stated that he requested the City Manager to include a 10% increase to the total amount allocated to the non-profit organizations in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget. The total of the non-profit allocation increased from \$25,276.02 to \$27,804. There was brief discussion.

Councilmember Hilburn made a motion to allocate funds as listed below. Councilmember Michelson seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

CARTS	\$ 5,548.80
Hays-Caldwell Women's Center	\$ 3,898.80
Hays-Caldwell Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse	\$ 2,248.80
Combined Community Action-Sr. Nutrition	\$ 6,098.80
Lockhart Area Senior Citizen Center	\$ 3,310.85
CASA of Central Texas	\$ 3,348.80
Caldwell County Christian Ministries	\$ 3,348.80
TOTAL	\$27,803.65

Grace Davis of the Hays-Caldwell Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse thanked the Council for their generosity.

ITEM 4-B. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 BUDGET BY THE GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY (GARB) FOR THE LOCKHART WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND THE LOCKHART WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS.

Eduardo Montana of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority provided information and there was discussion regarding the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant budgets.

Mr. Montana invited the Council to schedule a tour of the water and/or wastewater treatment plants. He provided information about the water filtration system. Mr. Rodgers stated that the expenses for the filtration system would be funded through certificates of obligation funds.

Mr. Montana explained the process and there was discussion regarding the temporary switch to free chlorine at the Water Treatment Plant. The free chlorine burn helps to prevent bio-film development and to burn off excess ammonia in the distribution system. The free chlorine burn requires the treatment plant to switch from a total chlorine disinfectant residual or chloramines residual to a free chlorine residual.

Councilmember Michelson made a motion to approve the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's Water and Wastewater Treatment budgets. Councilmember Castillo seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 4-C. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE CALDWELL COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT'S FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET.

Mayor White announced that Mary LaPoint, Chief Appraiser, had a family emergency and she would not be able to attend to make the presentation. He stated that the presentation will be made during the August 1, 2017 meeting.

ITEM 4-D. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION AFTER PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 GENERAL FUND, ENTERPRISE FUND, DEBT BUDGETS, PROPOSED FUNDING SOURCES.

Mr. Rodgers stated that the Utility fund is balanced yet the General fund remains unbalanced in the amount of \$144,450. The top three priorities of the Council goals are addressed in the presented budget. He recommended to raise the tax rate by 3 cents to cover the General Fund deficit. He also recommended a \$2.00 per month increase in the transportation infrastructure fund (TIF) to cover deficit funding for street maintenance materials. He stated that if additional revenues were not approved by the Council in the General Fund, he would cut items from the FY 2017-2018 budget such as employee wage increases and the Victims Assistance Team Coordinator position and other police department expenses. There was discussion.

Mr. Hinson provided information and there was discussion regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2017-2018 property tax revenue and different tax rate assumptions. He stated that a public hearing will be held regarding the budget on September 5, 2017.

Mayor White stated that the tax rate and transportation infrastructure rate increase would be placed on the August 1, 2017 council agenda for consideration.

ITEM 4-E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING BUDGET AND TAX RATE ADOPTION CALENDAR, IF NECESSARY. REMINDER: DATE TO SET TAX RATE IS AUGUST 15, 2017 AND PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET/TAX RATE IS SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 AND IF NECESSARY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017 REGARDING THE TAX RATE.

There was no discussion.

Mayor White announced that the City Manager's evaluation would be on the August 15, 2017 council agenda. He requested that the Council provide him with their evaluation forms soon.

Mayor White announced summer events for city employees. He thanked the Texas Department of Transportation for hosting the Highway 183 ribbon cutting ceremony this week.

ITEM 5. ADJOURNMENT.

Councilmember Mendoza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Westmoreland seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 15th day of August 2017.

CITY OF LOCKHART



Lew White
Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:

Connie Constancio
Connie Constancio, TRMC
City Secretary