

SPECIAL MEETING

LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 22, 2015

6:30 P.M.

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

Council present:

Councilmember John Castillo

Councilmember Brad Westmoreland

Mayor Pro-Tem Angie Gonzales-Sanchez (arrived at 6:45 p.m.)

Mayor Lew White

Councilmember Juan Mendoza

Councilmember Benny Hilburn

Council absent:

Councilmember Jeffry Michelson

Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council: None.

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Lew White called the special meeting of the Lockhart City Council to order on this date at 6:30 p.m.

ITEM 2. CITIZENS/VISITORS COMMENTS.

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

**ITEM 3-A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2015-22 RATIFYING
A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE OF 3.339910 PERCENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016
FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE CITY OF
LOCKHART.**

Mr. Hinson stated that the budget will raise total property taxes than last year's budget by \$130,301 or 3.826248%, and of that amount \$102,249 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year based on an ad valorem rate of 73.33 cents per each 100 dollars property valuation. The 2015 taxable value on the 2015 certified appraisal roll totals \$507,125,717 compared to \$495,861,062 in 2014. An additional \$6,694,200 of taxable value is still under protest.

Councilmember Castillo made a motion to approve Ordinance 2015-22 ratifying a property tax increase of 3.339910 percent for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 for the use and support of the Municipal Government for the City of Lockhart. Councilmember Hilburn seconded.

RECORD VOTE:

Councilmember Castillo -- in favor

Councilmember Hilburn -- in favor

Councilmember Westmoreland - in favor

Councilmember Mendoza - in favor

Mayor White -- in favor

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

ITEM 3-B. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2015-23 ADOPTING THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING RESOURCES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016, BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2015 FOR THE CITY OF LOCKHART, CALDWELL COUNTY, TEXAS.

Mr. Hinson explained that the Ordinance adopts the official budget of the City of Lockhart for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016. He stated that the total revenue and sources of funds and expenditures are both balanced in the amounts of \$56,659,146.00.

Councilmember Castillo made a motion to approve Ordinance 2015-23 adopting the budget and appropriating resources for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 beginning October 1, 2015 for the City of Lockhart, Caldwell County, Texas. Councilmember Hilburn seconded.

RECORD VOTE:

Councilmember Castillo - in favor
 Councilmember Hilburn – in favor
 Councilmember Westmoreland - in favor
 Councilmember Mendoza - in favor
 Mayor White – in favor

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

ITEM 3-C. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2015-24 LEVYING MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS AND INTEREST AND SINKING PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE DEBT SERVICE OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY OF LOCKHART FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016, BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016.

Mr. Hinson stated that a record vote was taken at a previous meeting to set the tax rate as follows:

- For the maintenance and operations needs of the City of Lockhart, the maintenance and operation (M&O) property tax is hereby adopted as 59.67 cents per each 100 dollars of property valuation. The tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate.
- For the debt service obligations of the City of Lockhart interest and sinking (I&S) property tax is hereby adopted at 13.66 cents per each 100 dollars of property valuation.
- For the property tax rate of 73.33 cents per each 100 dollars of property valuation, which is effectively a 3.339910 percent increase in the tax rate.

Councilmember Castillo made a motion to approve Ordinance 2015-24 and that the property tax rate be increased by adoption of a tax rate of 73.33 cents per each 100 dollars of property valuation, which is effectively a 3.339910 percent increase in the tax rate. Councilmember Hilburn seconded.

RECORD VOTE:

Councilmember Castillo – in favor
 Councilmember Hilburn - in favor
 Councilmember Westmoreland – in favor
 Councilmember Mendoza - in favor
 Mayor White – in favor

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

ITEM 3-D. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE 2015-25 ESTABLISHING THE CLASSIFICATIONS WITHIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN EACH CLASSIFICATION.

Ms. Bowermon stated that with the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 budget, the Council increased the number of police officers in the Lockhart Police Department by adding two police officers effective October 1, 2015. In compliance with civil services, the number of classified police and fire positions are set by an ordinance, which is referred to as the "Strength of Force".

Councilmember Castillo made a motion to approve Ordinance 2015-25 establishing the classifications within the Police Department and authorizing the number of employees in each classification. Councilmember Hilburn seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

ITEM 3-E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO ACCEPT APPLICATION FROM SAGE CAPITAL BANK AS THE BANK DEPOSITORY FOR THE CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS.

Mr. Hinson stated that in July 2015, the City received a notice from the current depository bank (First Lockhart National Bank) that they would opt out of the 5th year of the current contract. The City was thereafter required to seek requests for proposals for a new depository bank. Staff received requests for proposals from three banks, Sage Bank, First Lockhart National Bank and Bank of the Ozarks. After review of the proposals, staff recommends accepting the application from Sage Capital Bank. There was discussion.

Councilmember Castillo made a motion to accept Sage Capital Bank as the bank depository for the City of Lockhart. Councilmember Hilburn seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

ITEM 3-F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER GRANTING CITY MANAGER APPROVAL TO SIGN A FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT FOR TRANSFER OF ENTITLEMENT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000 TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, AVIATION DIVISION TO FACILITATE FUTURE AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr. Rodgers stated that the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, through the Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Division (TxDOT) has requested that the City of Lockhart waive receipt of funds apportioned to it in the amount of \$150,000 for year of 2012 so that the funds can be allocated to future airport improvements. The City of Lockhart did not have a qualifying project during 2012 nor as of today because of 20% to 50% match requirements. If approved funds do not go back to the Federal Government but rather to TxDOT, such funds can be used in Texas for design and engineering future airport associated projects. Additional allocations of the \$150,000 will be forthcoming for future airport projects at Lockhart.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez arrived at 6:45 p.m.

Councilmember Castillo made a motion to authorize the City Manager to sign a Federal Aviation Administration Agreement for transfer of entitlement funds in the amount of \$150,000 to the Texas Department of Transportation, Aviation Division, to facilitate future airport improvements. Councilmember Hilburn seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 4. 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 6:47 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 6th day of October 2015.

CITY OF LOCKHART



Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:



Connie Constancio, TRMC
City Secretary

