

**BUDGET WORKSHOP
SPECIAL MEETING
LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL**

JULY 28, 2016

6:30 P.M.

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

Council present:

Mayor Pro-Tem Angie Gonzales-Sanchez
Councilmember Juan Mendoza
Councilmember Jeffrey Michelson

Mayor Lew White
Councilmember John Castillo
Councilmember Benny Hilburn
Councilmember Brad Westmoreland

Staff present:

Vance Rodgers, City Manager
Peter Gruning, City Attorney
Sandra Mauldin, Economic Dev. Director
Sean Kelley, Water/Wastewater Superintendent

Connie Constancio, City Secretary
Jeff Hinson, Finance Director
Dan Gibson, City Planner

Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council: Eduardo Montana, Juan Pena, John Smith and Oscar Fogle of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority.

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER..

Mayor Lew White called the budget workshop/special meeting 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 NAMING AN INDIVIDUAL AS THE CITY OF LOCKHART'S NOMINEE TO FILL A VACANT POSITION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CALDWELL COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT.

Councilmember Michelson made a motion to nominate Jimmy Bertram as the City of Lockhart's nominee to fill a vacant position to the Board of Directors of the Caldwell County Appraisal District. Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

ITEM 3-B. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 BUDGET BY THE GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY (GBRA) FOR THE LOCKHART WATER TREATMENT PLANT AND THE LOCKHART WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS.

Mr. Rodgers announced that the following Representatives of GBRA were present to explain the budgets and to answer any questions: Eduardo Montana, Juan Pena, John Smith and Oscar Fogle.

Eduardo Montana, John Smith and Oscar Fogle provided information and there was discussion about the Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant budgets.

ITEM 3-C. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING THE CALDWELL COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT'S FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET.

Mr. Hinson stated that Mary LaPoint, Chief Appraiser is ill and that she requested that the Caldwell County Appraisal District's budget be presented during the August 4, 2016 meeting.

ITEM 3-D. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 PROPOSED BUDGET AND RELATED INFORMATION.

Staff provided information and there was discussion about the following in regards to the proposed budget:

Mayor/Council

- Funds added to Mayor/Council budget for downtown promotions (\$7,000)

Economic Development

- Transfer costs in the amount of \$169,139 to Lockhart Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) and LEDC to reimburse general fund for office space, utilities, staff time, etc. Staff proposes, as approved by LEDC Board on July 27, 2016, to move the Economic Development budget into the Lockhart Economic Development Corporation. The reason for this action is due to legal issues pertaining to the City of Lockhart not being able to continue to legally maintain operations of the LEDC free of charge. There was discussion.

Community Facility

- Building maintenance - \$1,888

Police

- Reduce budget in the amount of \$24,990. Cameras and software were removed from budget.

Fire

- Reduce budget in the amount of \$13,816. Additional equipment can hold off to be purchased in the FY 17-18 budget.

Library

- Increase budget in the amount of \$32,000 to hire a security guard/monitor that is contracted. Mr. Rodgers stated that he believed a security guard would assist the library staff in keeping order at the Library and for their safety.

Streets/Drainage

- Reduce budget by \$4,800 for equipment.
- Increase by \$35,000 for a grant through Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for Town Branch environmental work.

Non-Department

- Increase in TML general liability coverage in the amount of \$11,032.

Mr. Rodgers stated that a 3% pay increase is proposed to all non-civil service employees.

General Fund Revenue

- Less transfers: Electric \$26,947
- Less transfers: Solid Waste \$4,371
- Less transfers: Electric \$83,922
- Revenue from property taxes: \$83,922

Electric Distribution

- Increase budget in the amount of \$60,000 to build a structure for electric distribution materials.
- Increase budget in the amount of \$23,992 for contract services.
- Replace bad line on South Main - \$160,000.

Solid Waste

- Central Texas Refuse increased their garbage collection rate by 2.5% plus the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for June totals a 3.5% increase which is reflected in the budget.

Airport

- Budget increased in the amount of \$51,711 for repairs.

EMS

- Funds budgeted in the same amount as last year. Seton EMS expressed their desire to continue the EMS service as currently in place.

ELECTRIC RATE INCREASE

Mr. Rodgers stated that he proposes an electric rate increase which would be based upon the Kwh used each month. The higher the electric usage, the higher the percentage that will be added to the utility bill.

TAX RATE

Mr. Hinson provided information and there was discussion regarding the proposed tax rate.

There was discussion about setting the 2016 interest and sinking property tax rate at 13.00 cents per \$100 and the 2016 maintenance and operation property tax rate at 60.33 cents per \$100. These recommendations will result in a 2016 property tax rate of 73.33 cents per \$100 for the City of Lockhart.

The proposed 2016 property tax rate would increase the City of Lockhart's revenue by \$83,922.

If approved, two public hearings would be held on September 6, 2016 and September 20, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers, Clark Library Annex, 217 South Main Street, 3rd Floor, Lockhart, Texas.

There was discussion.

ITEM 3-E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING MAINTENANCE, OPERATIONAL AND CAPITAL BUDGETS AND FUNDING POSSIBILITIES.

There was no discussion.

ITEM 3-F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING BUDGET AND TAX RATE ADOPTION CALENDAR, IF NECESSARY.

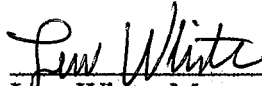
CONSENSUS: After discussion, the consensus of the Council was to cancel the August 11 and August 18 budget workshops.

ITEM 4. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Mendoza seconded.
The motion passed by a vote of 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 16th day of August 2016.

CITY OF LOCKHART



Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:



Connie Constancio, TRMC
City Secretary

