

**VERNON CITY COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
AUGUST 16, 2016**

Mayor Joe Rogers called the Special Meeting of the Vernon City Commission to order at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall, and a quorum was declared present.

Present: Mayor Joe Rogers

Commissioners: Guy Spears, Ruben Hinojosa, Travis Taylor, and Britt Ferguson

Staff Present: City Manager Joseph Jarosek, Police Chief Tom Wilson, Fire Chief J.J. Oznick, Finance Director Anne Garmon, Community Development Director Monica Wilkinson, Public Works Director Darell Kennon, Tourism & Main Street Director Brandy McIntyre, Municipal Judge Lori Adams and City Secretary Linda Byers.

Commissioner Spears led the group in the Invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. and Texas flags.

**ALL LIVES MATTER COMMITTEE**

Robert Thomas proposed to the Commission that the committee be composed of two citizens from each precinct, a police representative and a school representative. Following discussion, staff was directed to place an item on the August 23 Regular City Commission Meeting to adopt a structure for the committee and the members would be named at the September 6 Special Meeting.

**WORK SESSION - BUDGET FOR FY2016-2017**

Main Street Board Member Jamie Chapman encouraged the Commission to fund the Main Street program, and asked that they reconsider the Main Street budget and restore funding for dues & license, conference and training and advertising.

Linda Shivers asked that the commission lower the water bill for citizens.

City Manager Jarosek noted that a preliminary budget must be on file by August 26. He also explained that the budget scenarios "C" is a combination of "A" and those items in "B" which the commission agreed upon at the August 2 Special Meeting. A two-percent salary increase was still included, but the different options that were requested are listed separately.

City Manager Jarosek also noted that General Fund currently estimated a net loss of \$345,715 and the Utility Fund estimated a net income of \$1,156,638. Transfers between funds and debt service both decreased.

City Secretary Byers explained the cost of salary and benefits in the four options requested:

1. With a 2% increase and without the furlough (\$122,472).
2. With a 2% increase, without the furlough and without the directors receiving a raise (\$86,145).
3. With a 2% increase, with the furlough in place (\$81,417).
4. With a 2% increase, with the furlough and without the directors receiving a raise (\$68,276).

Commissioner Spears noted that the City needs to cut expenses for at least one more year and endorsed the least expensive salary option to keep the furlough in place and the directors not getting a raise. Commissioner Ferguson and Mayor Rogers agreed. The furlough will remain in place and the directors will not get a raise.

Mayor Rogers questioned the Municipal Court Revenue and Judge Adams explained revenue from municipal fines. The Audit recommendation to correct the fines and court tax should be corrected in the next budget scenario.

Following discussion the following items were also noted for change:

- Add back Main Street Dues & License \$1130
- Add back Main Street Conference & Training \$1600
- Add back Main Street advertising \$2500
- Remove Street Department Seal Coat \$248,474
- Remove the Police Department vehicle \$33,500
- Reduce Fire Department Wearing Apparel to \$19,000
- Remove Parks Department Heating & Cooling \$2035
- Appraisal District expense should be set according to the Appraisal District estimate.
- TMLIRP workman's comp and insurance costs will be changed to reflect actual costs when amounts are received.
- Revenue and Expense will be added to Fund 28 (Court Technology) and Fund 29 (Court Security).

### **PROPOSAL TO ADOPT A TAX RATE**

Commissioner Ferguson made the motion to approve placing a proposal to adopt a tax rate of \$0.56471 on the agenda of the Regular City Commission Meeting on September 27, 2016.

Commissioner Hinojosa seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and Commissioner Ferguson, Commissioner Taylor, Commissioner Hinojosa, Commissioner Spears and Mayor Rogers all voted aye. There were no nay votes. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE**

Commissioner Hinojosa made the motion to approve holding public hearings on the proposed tax rate on September 6, 2016 and September 13, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in City Hall.

Commissioner Taylor seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Taylor made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.



Joe Rogers  
Mayor

ATTEST:



Linda Byers  
City Secretary