

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
RIVER OAKS CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 30, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

MAYOR JOE ASHTON
MAYOR PRO TEM DAN CHISHOLM
COUNCIL MEMBER YOLIE RODRIGUEZ
COUNCIL MEMBER LEIGH ANN TURNER
COUNCIL MEMBER JOHN CLARIDGE
COUNCIL MEMBER STEVE HOLLAND

STAFF PRESENT:

CITY MANAGER MARVIN GREGORY
CITY SECRETARY PAULA LUCK
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR GORDON SMITH
POLICE CHIEF CHUCK STEWART
EMERGENCY MGT JAMES MYRICK
FIRE CHIEF RUSSELL SHELLEY

ABSENT:

NONE

1. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Ashton called the Special Called Meeting of the River Oaks City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at the River Oaks City Hall, 4900 River Oaks Blvd., River Oaks, Texas 76114.

2. INVOCATION

CM Holland delivered the Invocation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE TEXAS FLAG

CM Holland led the Pledges of Allegiance to the United States and the Texas Flags.

4. READING OF PROCLAMATION(S) AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS BY MAYOR.

NONE

5. PUBLIC TESTIMONY: CITIZENS TO SPEAK ON ANY TOPIC OR ANY AGENDA ITEM BEFORE AN DURING THE MEETING BY RAISING YOUR HAND TO BE RECOGNIZED; HOWEVER, UNLESS THE ITEM IS SPECIFICALLY NOTED ON THIS AGENDA, THE CITY COUNCIL IS REQUIRED UNDER THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT TO LIMIT ITS RESPONSE WITH A STATEMENT OF SPECIFIC FACTUAL INFORMATION, RECITING THE CITY'S EXISTING POLICY ON THAT ISSUE, OR DIRECTING THE PERSON MAKING THE INQUIRY TO VISIT WITH CITY STAFF ABOUT THAT ISSUE, AND NO COUNCIL DELIBERATION IS PERMITTED FOR TOPICS NOT SPECIFICALLY LISTED ON THIS AGENDA.

NONE

6. **CONSENT AGENDA** ALL ITEMS UNDER THIS SECTION ARE RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL FOR THE "CONSENT AGENDA". THESE ITEMS ARE OF A ROUTINE NATURE AND REQUIRE ONLY BRIEF DELIBERATION BY COUNCIL. **COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REMOVE ANY ITEM ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR FURTHER DELIBERATION**

A. APPROVE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 23, 2022 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

B. APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH TARRANT COUNTY FOR ROADWAY STRIPING ON ROBERTS CUT OFF ROAD

CM Gregory pulled #B for discussion.

CM Claridge moved, seconded by CM Rodriguez to approve the Consent Agenda Item #A. All voted "Aye".

7. DISCUSSION OR ACTION TAKEN ON ITEMS WITHDRAWN FROM CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE DELIBERATION.

This is a standard agreement but needs to be approved by the City Attorney.

Mayor Pro Tem Chisholm moved, seconded by CM Holland to approve Item #B subject to City Attorney approval. All voted "Aye".

PUBLIC HEARINGS/ACTION FROM PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Item #10 was discussed:

At 7:06 p.m., Mayor Ashton opened the Public Hearing.

The proposed tax rate is \$0.754168/\$100; the no-new-revenue tax rate is \$0.645277/\$100; the voter approval tax rate is \$0.754168/\$100 which is the maximum rate without an election. We will receive \$3,319,345 of revenue from the \$0.754168/\$100. Tarrant County has certified this tax rate. We have collected 100.47% of taxes this year. For 2022, the ceiling tax is \$429,541. We are supposed to adopt the budget first then adopt the tax rate. The tax rate is set around the budget adopted. We will adopt the tax rate on September 6, 2022. Presented to council is two budgets based on different tax rates and a five-year plan. If we adopted the \$0.754168 tax rate, the budget would have an approximate deficit of \$128,000. If we adopted the \$0.732086 tax rate, the budget would have an approximate deficit of \$213,000. Property values increased 14% from last year. The debt rate is \$0.101169 which is to fund the streets and sewer bond. Craig Cunningham was present and briefly discussed the tax rate.

At 7:23 p.m., Mayor Ashton closed the Public Hearing.

Item #11:

Mayor Ashton announced the vote for the 2022 Tax Rate will be September 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

8. PUBLIC HEARING: IN ORDER TO RECEIVE PUBLIC INPUT ON THE PROPOSED 2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR OPERATING BUDGETS FOR THE CITY OF RIVER OAKS THAT WILL RAISE MORE TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES IN THE GENERAL FUND THAN LAST YEAR'S BUDGET BY \$384,188 DOLLARS OR 4.61856% AND OF THAT AMOUNT \$18,771.91 IS TAX REVENUE TO BE RAISED FROM NEW PROPERTY ADDED TO THE TAX ROLL THIS YEAR.

At 7:27 p.m., Mayor Ashton opened the Public Hearing. The main purpose of this budget is to raise salaries. Raising the Police and Fire Department and raising other employees \$2.00 an hour. Also proposed is a \$1,000 sign on bonus/incentive pay. The TMRS rate decreased, and health insurance increased 5%. There is a 14.8% increase in the General Fund in salaries which consists of 54 employees. There is a 17.32% increase in Water Sewer in salaries which includes an additional employee which is mandated by the EPA. The Water Sewer budget is in the black of approximately \$17,000 with no water rate increase but a sewer rate increase of 11.1% effective November 1, 2022 (October 1, 2022 billing). Even with the salary increases, we are still below other cities. Looking at the five-year plan, we will be in the black in a few years. We have decreased the hours for the full-time community center laborer to 24 hours a week.

PWD Smith discussed the EPA mandate in detail. The Chief Operator at the plant will be the coordinator of this project. The inventory must be into the EPA and TCEQ by October 2024.

Presented are the Water Sewer budget in black at \$17,127; EDC in the black at \$99,470; CCPD in the red \$107,879 which can balance using prior year funding; Storm Water in the black at \$1,181; TIRZ in the black at \$79,803; Friends of the Animal Shelter in the black at \$2,800; and Community Center Foundation balanced.

After council comments, Mayor Ashton closed the Public Hearing at 8:32 p.m.

9. ACTION FROM PUBLIC HEARING: CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE #1357-2022 ADOPTING THE RIVER OAKS OPERATING BUDGETS FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2022 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023.

CM Claridge moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Chisholm to approve Ordinance #1357-2022 as presented. All voted "Aye".

Mayor Ashton thanked council for supporting the employees.

10. PUBLIC HEARING AND DISCUSSION: IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CITIZEN COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED AD VALOREM 2022 PROPERTY TAX RATE IN THE CITY OF RIVER OAKS AT A RATE OF \$0.754168 PER \$100 OF PROPERTY VALUE WHICH IS EFFECTIVELY A TOTAL TAX RATE INCREASE OF \$0.033294/\$100 OF VALUE OR 4.61856% FROM THE 2021 TAX RATE OF \$0.720874 PER \$100 OF PROPERTY VALUE. THIS RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.

This item was discussed before Item #8.

11. ACTION FROM PUBLIC HEARING: THE CITY COUNCIL SHALL ANNOUNCE AT THE PUBLIC HEARING THE DATE, TIME, AND PLACE OF THE MEETING AT WHICH IT WILL VOTE ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE.

This item was discussed before Item #8.

CORRESPONDENCE:

12. COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

NONE

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

13. CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE: THE COUNCIL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSIONS(S) FROM TIME TO TIME ON ANY POSTED AGENDA ITEM TO RECEIVE ADVICE FROM ITS ATTORNEY AS PERMITTED BY LAW DURING THIS MEETING. THE COUNCIL MAY CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:

- a. Section 551.071 Pending or contemplated litigation or to seek advice from attorney.
- b. Section 551.072 Discussion regarding possible sale, lease or acquisition of real estate.
- c. Section 551.074 Personnel matters – To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment of duties, discipline or dismissal of a Public Officer or Employee or to hear a compliant or charge against an Officer or Employee.
- d. Section 551.076 Deliberation regarding security devices.

NONE

RECONVENE:

14. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ANY ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

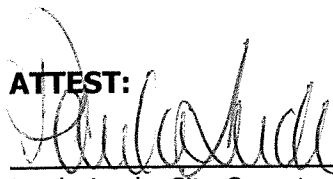
NONE

ADJOURN:

15. ADJOURN


At 8:34 p.m., Mayor Ashton adjourned the meeting. All voted "Aye".

ATTEST:



Paula Luck, City Secretary

APPROVED:



Joe Ashton, Mayor