

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
RIVER OAKS CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 19, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

MAYOR HERMAN EARWOOD
MAYOR PRO-TEM STEVE HOLLAND
COUNCIL MEMBER JOANN GORDON
COUNCIL MEMBER JOANN BUTLER
COUNCIL MEMBER JOE ASHTON (Arrived at 7:02 P.M.)
COUNCIL MEMBER BRUCE SCOTT

STAFF PRESENT:

CITY SECRETARY MARVIN GREGORY
EMERGENCY MGT CORD JAMES MYRICK

1. CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mayor Earwood called the Special Meeting of the River Oaks City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at the River Oaks City Hall, 4900 River Oaks Blvd., River Oaks, Texas 76114.

2. INVOCATION

Council Member Holland gave the Invocation.

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

Council Member Holland led the Pledges of Allegiances.

PUBLIC HEARINGS / ACTION FROM PUBLIC HEARINGS:

4. PUBLIC HEARING: FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON 2014 TAX RATE PROPOSAL OF \$0.850351/\$100 OF PROPERTY VALUE.

Mayor Earwood opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 P.M. Mayor stated that property values were up this year. Mayor indicated that if the tax rate was left at the 2013 rate of \$0.850351, taxes would be more for those properties with increased values, but would be less for those whose values went down. Even though the rate of \$0.850351 would be the same as last year, it is considered a tax rate increase due to values going up. Mayor indicated that the City Secretary had noted in his memo that the cities tax rates compared in the chart vary depending on their situation. It is almost impossible to compare cities according to their population or taxable values. Mayor stated he would like to see in the future that CS Gregory provide what each city's average home taxable value is.

Council Member Holland added that he would like to see the sales tax collection for each city also provided. He also surmised that when you spend money to improve property city-wide, if you don't increase taxes you are defeating the purpose.

Council Member Gordon stated that property owners should want their values to increase. This is the 7th year that there has been no capital purchases by the city. Based on

this year's budget proposal, Councilman Holland emphasized that the city should strive next year to put more back to offset capital purchases.

Mayor Earwood noted that the city trucks are currently in good shape and we are continuing to monitor the equipment for future TERP grants, much like the two we received this year.

Council Member Gordon noted that capital purchases should also include infrastructure improvements to the water and sewer system.

Mayor Earwood asked if there were any comments from the audience and with no questions called for, closed the public hearing at 7:20 P.M.

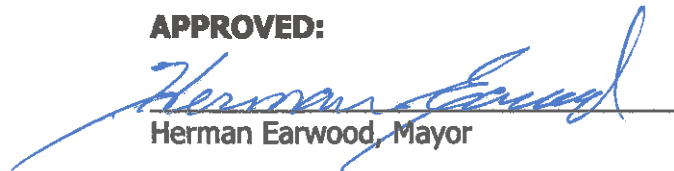
5. **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY MAYOR:** "THE SECOND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2014 TAX RATE PROPOSAL OF \$0.850351/\$100 OF PROPERTY VALUE IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 4900 RIVER OAKS BLVD."

Mayor Earwood stated that the second public hearing on the 2014 tax rate proposal of \$0.850351/\$100 of property value is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 @ 7:00 P.M. in City Council Chambers located at 4900 River Oaks Blvd.

6. **ADJOURN**

At 7:21 pm, Member Holland moved, seconded by Member Gordon to adjourn the meeting. All voted "Aye".

APPROVED:


Herman Earwood, Mayor

ATTEST:


Marvin Gregory, City Secretary