

**CITY OF SANTA FE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 13, 2015 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6
SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Jeff Tambrella.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Jeff Tambrella
Mayor Pro-tem Bubba Jannett
Councilmember Pat McCrary
Councilmember Joe Carothers
Councilmember Corey Jannett
Councilmember Charles Coleman
City Attorney Ellis J. Ortego
City Manager Joe Dickson
City Secretary Janet L. Davis

The invocation was given by and the pledge of allegiance to the U. S. Flag and to the Texas Flag was led by City Manager Joe Dickson.

Mayor's and City Manager's Report:

- a. The minutes of 7/9/15, 7/28/15, and 7/30/15 were approved as presented.
- b. City Manager Joe Dickson presented the investment report and financial statement for the quarter ending June 30, 2015, with a total restricted and unrestricted funds of \$2,267,892.

Citizens' Comments: Mr. Todd Becker of 1902 Avenue L asked Council to review the noise ordinance and ensure that staff understands the limits and the limits are correct for our community.

Planning and Zoning Business: None

City Business (Other):

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing execution of Agreement for animal control and shelter services

City Manager Joe Dickson said we have been discussing our new animal control and shelter services agreement with Mr. Kerry Payne of Texas Animal Control Services. The other parties to the agreement, the City of Dickinson and the City of Clear Lake Shores, have already approved the agreement effective October 1, 2015. Mr. Dickson said he received an email from a citizen late this afternoon voicing concerns about the new service agreement. He said he will coordinate a meeting with the service provider, the other communities, and the concerned group to address those issues. A representative of the concerned group

said the agreement does not address several items, such as fostering, adoption, spay and neutering, etc. Mr. Dickson said we have already made a substantial financial investment and our partners have already approved the agreement. He said we can address any concerns of the group, and if necessary, amend the agreement. Motion by Councilmember Bubba Jannett, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to authorize execution of the Agreement for animal control and shelter services. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

2. Consideration and possible action: Submission of nominations to the TML MultiState IEBP Board of Trustees for Region 14 for a three-year term beginning October 1, 2015

City Manager Joe Dickson said we received a nomination form from TML IEBP but we have no letters from candidates requesting support. He said our current representative is Jay Stokes, City Manager of Deer Park, and has represented us well. Motion by Councilmember McCrary, seconded by Councilmember Carothers to nominate Jay Stokes, City Manager of the City of Deer Park, to serve on the TML MultiState IEBP Board of Trustees for Region 14 for a three-year term beginning October 1, 2015. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

3. Consideration and possible action: Discussion of proposed tax rate, vote on proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year, and schedule public hearings, if necessary

City Manager Joe Dickson said we discussed the effective tax rate and increases in the effective tax rate at our workshop Monday night and the amount of tax revenue that would be generated. He recommended adopting the effective tax rate amid concerns about substantial increases in appraisal values. Councilmember Coleman said a 3 percent increase in the effective rate will still be lower than our current tax rate and would be a substantial burden on our taxpayers. Councilmember Carothers said we are projecting increased expenses with the addition of the new Justice Center as well as continued wage increases and that is having a substantial impact on our fund balance. He said continuing to operate the city by balancing the budget with fund balance cannot continue over the long term. Mayor Tambrella said we do not usually spend the entire budget appropriations so he would like to see no tax increase this year. Councilmember Bubba Jannett said he is not concerned about his personal taxes but rather the hit on his constituents by all the taxing entities. Mr. Todd Becker of 1802 Avenue L said the value of his property increased considerably and he still has no water, sewer, street lights, or other services typically provided by cities. Mr. Daniel Kitchener of 4th Street said a tax increase to keep up with the rate of inflation, usually 2 to 3 percent, is necessary and appropriate in order to continue to operate and provide the same level of services to residents. Mr. Dickson said in order to consider any increase in the effective rate we must establish the dates and hold two public hearings before we vote to set the tax rate. Motion by Councilmember Carothers, seconded by Councilmember Coleman to consider a 3 percent tax increase and set the dates for public hearings on August 27, 2015, and September 3, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. The motion passed the roll call vote three to two. Those voting for: Councilmember McCrary, Councilmember Coleman, and Councilmember Carothers. Those voting against: Councilmember Bubba Jannett and Councilmember Corey Jannett.

4. Workshop: Discussion of 2015/16 proposed general fund operating budget

City Manager Joe Dickson said we have had three budget workshops to discuss the proposed 2015/16 general fund operating budget. Councilmember Bubba Jannett asked about the police vehicle cost proposals for the Interceptor, Taurus, and Tahoe. Police Chief Kenneth Campbell said he is proposing

purchase of the Interceptor because he believes it will better serve the community. He said we must sometimes drive on unpaved and flooded streets, and rugged property, and this vehicle is higher off the ground. Chief Campbell said the Interceptor is smaller than the Tahoe but larger than the Taurus. City Manager Joe Dickson said he feels that the wear and tear on the vehicle warrants the SUV style with the type of driving we experience.

Announcements: None

Summary of action from this agenda, request for future agenda items, and scheduling future meetings
Special and regular meetings of the Council are scheduled for August 27 at 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., September 3 at 6:30 p.m., and September 10 at 7 p.m. The Economic Development Committee will meet on Tuesday, August 18, at 7 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Bubba Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Carothers to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

JEFF TAMBRELLA, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary