

**CITY OF SANTA FE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 31, 2010 6:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6
SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Mayor Ralph Stenzel.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Ralph Stenzel
Mayor Pro-tem Joe Carothers
Councilmember Pat McCrary
Councilmember Jeff Tambrella
Councilmember Jim Abney
City Manager Joe Dickson
City Secretary Janet L. Davis
Absent: Councilmember Bubba Jannett, excused
City Attorney Ellis J. Ortego, excused

Public Hearing: Second public hearing on proposed tax increase

City Manager Joe Dickson said this is the second public hearing on the proposed tax increase, and if we stay at the same tax rate of \$0.3114, that will be a 5.4 percent increase to the effective tax rate of \$0.2954. There were no comments by the public. Council will vote on the tax increase and tax rate at their regular meeting on September 9, 2010, at 7 p.m. in the council chambers.

Workshop: Discussion of proposed 2010/11 general fund operating budget

City Manager Joe Dickson reviewed the changes made by Council at the last workshop on August 26, specifically the addition of \$15,000 into the police overtime budget and the addition of \$100 per month for the city attorney retainer fee. He said the appropriated fund balance is approximately \$266,000. Mr. Dickson said Councilmember Jannett could not make the meeting tonight but he did express his opposition to any increase for the city attorney and he is still in favor of a wage freeze if the deficit is not under \$200,000. Councilmembers Abney, McCrary, and Tambrella said they feel comfortable with a wage increase again this year since we are still financially able and we cut expenses as best we could without cutting services. They will readdress the situation again next year. Councilmember Carothers expressed his concern about postponing the purchase of new vehicles for the police department. Mr. Dickson said this budget reflects the economy and hopefully revenues will improve during the next year.

Motion by Councilmember Abney, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

RALPH STENZEL, MAYOR

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary