

**CITY OF SANTA FE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 23, 2013 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6
SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Ralph Stenzel.

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

Also in attendance: Street Superintendent Chris Beanland, Library Director Brenda Cheatham, and Community Services Director Diana Steelquist

The invocation was given by Street Superintendent Chris Beanland.

Workshop: Discussion of 2013/2014 general fund operating budget

City Manager Joe Dickson said the effective tax rate calculation is not expected to be received from the county until the first week of August, so the property tax revenue in the proposed budget is just an estimate based on last year's property tax rate. He said the revenue from sales tax and development fees have increased slightly. Expenses include a 3 percent increase in wages, a 3 percent increase in medical insurance premiums, and additional laborer. Because we are service oriented, we have only \$1,360,389 in proposed expenditures for all items other than personnel and benefits. Mr. Dickson said he cut a new computer and a phone system to replace the 17 year old system from administration's original proposed budget. Additionally, he is proposing to skip ordinance codification this year, and no funds were budgeted for election services as this is our off year for the election cycle.

Library Director Brenda Cheatham said no new capital expenditures are proposed and maintenance is status quo. She requested additional funds for training for attendance at the annual conference since the state cut library funding, including professional development. Ms. Cheatham also proposes to replace the expiring Xerox copier lease with a new, less expensive copier purchased outright. She also said that we hope at some point to be able to expand the library facility, and she is working with county personnel to facilitate a 6,000 square foot expansion design. We hope to use funds in reserve and trust funds from Mrs. Bruce's estate and apply for a matching grant.

Community Services Director Diana Steelquist said that substandard structure abatement funds have been reduced, funds have been added for a new computer with graphics for the code enforcement officer and for the newer edition of the IBC code books. Other areas in community services remain the same. She said that the parks department budget includes funds to make lease purchase payments on a new zero-turn mower. They plan to keep the current mower as a spare. Basic maintenance funds remain unchanged. She also reported that there is \$28,321 in deferred community park fees as of May 31, 2013. Ms. Steelquist said the community center needs major repairs, specifically replacing the rotting roof decking and fascia boards as well as the flooring. She said we receive about \$4,000 in rental revenue but spend about \$18,000 in basic maintenance.

Street Superintendent Chris Beanland said funds have been budgeted for our current lease purchase payments. He said the street improvement funds have been reduced, but because asphalt costs have stabilized, he should be able to pave about 2.16 miles for \$160,000. Mr. Beanland said although the gradall has a new motor, transmission, cylinders, and pump, we need to consider replacement of this excavator in about two years. He also reminded Council that a new mower will be needed upon annexation of the new territory planned for next year.

Motion by Councilmember Tambrella, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

RALPH STENZEL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary