

**CITY OF SANTA FE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2012 6:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6
SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Ralph Stenzel.

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

Public Hearing: Second public hearing on proposed tax increase

Mayor Stenzel explained that we will have the public hearing for 30 minutes, then adjourn to the regular meeting. Once the regular meeting is convened and the pledges are recited, we will pick up where we left off from the public hearing.

Mr. Jerry Stephens of 4725 Main Street said he is concerned about the tax increase because they have a way of staying in place for eternity even if the purpose for which it was initially adopted goes away. He said he supports a new police department but voted down the last three propositions because of the anticipated cost. He suggested we pursue grant funding for construction costs.

Ms. Marcie Dreyer of 13013 Polk asked how much the architectural drawing cost for the proposed police department? Council said about \$30,000.

Mr. Robert Braeking of 3313 Elm Rd. said he is vehemently opposed to any tax increase not sufficient to support a facility, and he suggested we downsize the proposed facility. He also stated his disappointment that many of the meetings lately have been held in special session rather than in regular session.

Mr. Matthew Driscoll of 11907 Old Spanish Trail said he still opposes the tax increase but appreciates that options have been considered. He thinks we should have a plan to move forward so we know how much money we need before randomly increasing taxes. He suggested we develop a new plan and submit it to the voters on the ballot and not just by a vote of Council.

Mr. Benny Baucom of 13328 Winston Drive said we are in a recession and have been for the past four years. He said times are tough and jobs have been lost. He suggested we reduce staff and vehicles and stop funding the employees' pension to save funds and not increase taxes. He suggested we do away with the union by placing it back on the ballot.

Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to suspend the public hearing for the regular meeting at 7 p.m. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

RALPH STENZEL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary