

**CITY OF SANTA FE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 22, 2011 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12002 HWY. 6
SANTA FE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Ralph Stenzel.

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

The invocation was given by and the pledge of allegiance to the U. S. Flag and to the Texas Flag was led by Councilmember Joe Carothers.

Mayor's and City Manager's Reports:

Head Coach Trish Leidy asked that we postpone recognizing the Santa Fe High School Softball State 4A Champions until the girls at college are home for the Christmas break.

Planning and Zoning Business:

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Discussion: Presentation and review of annual activity reports from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment

Community Services Director Diana Steelquist reviewed the activity reports of both boards for the past fiscal year.

City Business (Other):

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the execution of an addendum to the Residential Solid Waste Collection Services Contract to extend the term of the current contract and to authorize a rate increase

City Manager Joe Dickson said AmeriWaste, Inc. has been the residential solid waste collection provider since 2005. In 2008, Council granted a 3 year extension to the contract, and AmeriWaste has requested another 3 year extension with a \$0.35 per month rate increase. They have provided good service and good rates. Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Carothers to adopt the resolution authorizing the execution of an addendum to the Residential Solid Waste Collection Services Contract to extend the term of the current contract to December 31, 2014, and to authorize a rate increase. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

2. Consideration and possible action: First and final reading of an ordinance adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2011

City Manager Joe Dickson said the proposed 2011/12 budget is \$4,532,060, a slight increase over the 2010/11 budget. The proposed budget reflects an appropriated fund balance of \$329,882 and a wage freeze for all employees effective January 1, 2012. He reviewed the changes in expenditures from last year's budget. Motion by Councilmember Carothers, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to pass the first and final reading of an ordinance adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2011. Mr. James Craig of 10502 A Bar Dr. asked about the radio transition from analog to analog digital. Mr. Brian Mallynn questioned a 6% increase in the medical insurance, \$20,000 for webpage maintenance, \$200 for extra help, 3 percent increase on payroll, \$5300 for judicial repairs, car rotation, and radio migration effective date. He said he would like to see the budget revised before it is adopted. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

3. Consideration and possible action: First and final reading of an ordinance establishing the ad valorem tax rate; date when ad valorem taxes become delinquent; rate as of assessment; providing for certain exemptions; penalty and interest for delinquent taxes and savings clause

City Manager Joe Dickson said the effective tax rate is \$0.3060 and the current rate is \$0.3114. If the effective tax rate is adopted, any increase in revenue is based on new properties on the tax roll. A tax rate of \$0.3114 is a 1.76 percent increase in the effective tax rate. A tax increase would decrease the appropriated fund balance. Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Abney to pass the first and final reading of an ordinance establishing the ad valorem tax rate at \$0.3114 per \$100 valuation; date when ad valorem taxes become delinquent; rate as of assessment; providing for certain exemptions; penalty and interest for delinquent taxes and savings clause. Ms. Donna Clegg said she was recently annexed and told the tax rate would not increase when they were annexed. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

4. Consideration and possible action: Ratifying property tax revenue increase reflected in the 2011/12 general fund operating budget

City Manager Joe Dickson said a separate vote is required if the adoption of the budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than in the previous year. Motion by Councilmember Tambrella, seconded by Councilmember Carothers to ratify the \$25,988 more in total property tax revenue than last year's budget and of that amount, \$18,245 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

5. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing refund of a portion of the payment for the abandoned right-of-way at 25th Street and Avenue G ½ to Lisa and Ebbie Thurmond

City Manager Joe Dickson said the city abandoned a portion of the Avenue G ½ right of way off 25th Street and the Thurmonds purchased that property. Shortly after the abandonment was finalized, they submitted a replat of the property and we required dedication of 10' along 25th Street to widen the existing 40' wide roadway. Instead of charging the full amount for the abandoned property, we should have exchanged a portion of the abandoned property for the portion we required to be dedicated. Therefore, staff is requesting a refund of a portion of the property purchased, based upon the most recent appraisal of the property value. Motion by Councilmember McCrary, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to authorize a refund in the amount of \$1,320.75 for a portion of the payment for the abandoned right-of-way at 25th Street and Avenue G ½ to Lisa and Ebbie Thurmond. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

6. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing Mayor to execute the Fee Reduction Amendment to the Interlocal Tax Collection Agreement between the City and the County of Galveston

City Manager Joe Dickson said we currently have an agreement with the County for property tax collection and they are proposing to reduce the fee per parcel from \$0.32 to \$0.27. Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to authorize the Mayor to execute the Fee Reduction Amendment to the Interlocal Tax Collection Agreement between the City and the County of Galveston. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

7. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing Mayor to execute Contract for Water Pollution Control and Abatement between the City and the Galveston County Health District for the fiscal year October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012

City Manager Joe Dickson said this is a renewal of the annual contract for water pollution control and abatement services at a rate of \$0.5233 per capita. He said the proposed contract is based on the state demographer's population of 12,660, but the health district has agreed to use the 2010 census count of 12,222. Motion by Councilmember Tambrella, seconded by Councilmember Jannett to authorize the Mayor to execute the Contract for Water Pollution Control and Abatement between the City and the Galveston County Health District for the fiscal year October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012, using the 2010 census count of 12,222. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

8. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing Mayor to execute the Contract for Storm Water Pollution Prevention between the City of Santa Fe, the Galveston County Health District, and Galveston County Drainage District No. 1 for fiscal year 2012

Community Services Director Diana Steelquist said this is only the second year of this annual contract between the City, the Health District, and Drainage District #1 for Storm Water Pollution Prevention services. A joint agreement reduces the duplication of efforts by the three entities and shares the cost so that each entity pays only \$10,000 for the program. Motion by Councilmember Carothers, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to authorize the Mayor to execute the Contract for Storm Water Pollution Prevention between the City of Santa Fe, the Galveston County Health District, and Galveston County Drainage District No. 1 for fiscal year 2012. The motion passed the roll call vote four to one. Those voting for: Councilmember Abney, Councilmember McCrary, Councilmember Carothers, and Councilmember Tambrella. Those voting against: Councilmember Jannett.

Announcements: Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce Car and Bike Show on October 1 at Santa Fe Junction shopping center; and the Child Safety Fair is scheduled for October 8 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Joe A. Tambrella park.

Summary of action from this agenda, request for future agenda items, and scheduling future meetings
The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 27.

Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

RALPH STENZEL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary