

**CITY OF SANTA FE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010 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 Ralph Stenzel.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Ralph Stenzel
Mayor Pro-tem Joe Carothers
Councilmember Jeff Tambrella
Councilmember Bubba Jannett
Councilmember Jim Abney
Councilmember Pat McCrary
City Attorney Ellis J. Orgego
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 Councilmember Jim Abney.

Reports: The minutes of 8/12/10, 8/24/10, 8/26/10, and 8/31/10 were approved as presented.

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 presented the annual reports from the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment/Building Standards Commission. The major accomplishments were revisions to the Corridor Development Standards and strides towards voluntary removal or demolition of substandard structures.

2. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing Mayor to execute the Interlocal Agreement for operating and engineering costs for the Dickinson Bayou Watershed Steering Committee for FY 2011

City Manager Joe Dickson said we have participated in the Dickinson Bayou Watershed Steering Committee since 1994. The committee oversees the cleaning and operating costs of the watershed. They are currently looking at properties for a regional detention facility which the consolidated drainage district will eventually maintain. Our cost to participate for FY 2011 is 4 percent of the total and these funds have been budgeted. Motion by Councilmember Tambrella, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to authorize the Mayor to execute the Interlocal Agreement for operating and engineering costs for the Dickinson Bayou Watershed Steering Committee for FY 2011. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

City Business (Other):

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Public hearing and discussion of proposed 2010/11 general fund operating budget

City Manager Joe Dickson read the budget message which is included in the 2010/11 proposed general fund operating budget of \$4,474,507. The budget is based on a value of \$469,784,510 at a 96 percent collection rate of ad valorem taxes and the proposed budget is based on a tax rate of \$0.3114 per \$100 valuation, the same as last year's rate. The proposed budget reflects an anticipated unappropriated fund balance of \$1,253,517. Highlights include continued lease purchase payments on vehicles and equipment, new computer hardware and software, video equipment for the police cars, improvements to the Joe A. Tambrella park and Thelma Webber community center, street improvements, a 4 percent increase in the cost of employee medical insurance, and average 3 percent wage increase for non-collective bargaining personnel, and increases for collective bargaining personnel. Mayor Stenzel opened the public hearing at 7:12 p.m. There were no comments from the public. Mayor Stenzel closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

2. Consideration and possible action: First and final reading of an ordinance adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010

Motion by Councilmember Abney, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to pass the first and final reading of an ordinance adopting the budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2010. The motion passed the roll call vote four to one. Those voting for: Councilmember Carothers, Councilmember Tambrella, Councilmember Abney, and Councilmember McCrary. Those voting against: Councilmember Jannett.

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 proposed tax rate is \$0.3114 per \$100 valuation, which is a 5.4 percent increase in the effective tax rate of \$0.2954. This rate includes a 9.5 cents decrease for the ½ cent sales tax for property tax reduction and it maintains the over 65 and disabled exemptions and the tax freeze. Motion by Councilmember McCrary, seconded by Councilmember Carothers to pass the 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. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

4. Consideration and possible action: Ratifying property tax revenue increase reflected in the 2010/11 general fund operating budget

Motion by Councilmember McCrary, seconded by Councilmember Abney to ratify the property tax revenue increase of \$101,365 reflected in the 2010/11 general fund operating budget. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

5. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution accepting the 2010 tax roll as provided for in the Texas Property Tax Code

Motion by Councilmember Abney, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to adopt the resolution accepting the 2010 tax roll as provided for in the Texas Property Tax Code. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

6. Consideration and possible action: Adoption of a resolution designating a representative and an alternate representative to the Houston-Galveston Area Council 2011 General Assembly

City Manager Joe Dickson said Council has historically designated the Mayor and Mayor Pro-tem as the city's representatives to HGAC. Motion by Councilmember Abney, seconded by Councilmember Tambrella to adopt the resolution designating the Mayor as the representative and the Mayor Pro-tem as the alternate representative to the Houston-Galveston Area Council 2011 General Assembly. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

7. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing Mayor to execute Utility Easement with WCID #8 for installation and maintenance of a water and sewer service line

City Manager Joe Dickson said Council previously authorized an east/west easement on the north side of the city property in proximity to FM 646N and FM 1764 for a water line for the Pentecostal Church. Since that time, the Santa Fe Economic Development Corporation has a current project under construction to run a water line along the south side of FM 1764 to the drainage ditch past Avenue Q. However, the daughter of a deceased resident is not willing to grant an easement along her property on FM 1764 for this purpose. The new Utility Easement proposed is between the city and the water district, rather than the Pentecostals, and in addition to the east/west easement, it would also run southerly on the western boundary of the city's property to the back of the deceased resident's property. Motion by Councilmember Carothers, seconded

by Councilmember Jannett to authorize the Mayor to execute the Utility Easement with WCID #8 for installation and maintenance of a water and sewer service line. The motion passed the roll vote unanimously.

8. Consideration and possible action: Authorizing Mayor to execute Contract for Water Pollution Control and Abatement Services between the City and the Galveston County Health District for the 2010/11 fiscal year

City Manager Joe Dickson said the health district checks out pollution problems and complaints, inspects grease traps, and monitors storm water under this contract at a fee per capita of \$0.5033. Funds have been budgeted for these services, which equates to \$5,447 this year. Census figures should be available by April, 2011, and the cost will be adjusted accordingly next year. Motion by Councilmember Tambrella, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to authorize the Mayor to execute the Contract for Water Pollution Control and Abatement Services between the City and the Galveston County Health District for the 2010/11 fiscal year. The motion passed the roll call vote unanimously.

Announcements: Santa Fe Education Foundation Ford test-drive fundraiser at the high school this Friday.

Summary of action from this agenda, request for future agenda items, and scheduling future meetings
The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for September 23 at 7 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Jannett, seconded by Councilmember McCrary to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

RALPH STENZEL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Janet L. Davis, City Secretary