

**SPECIAL MEETING
LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

6:30 P.M.

**CLARK LIBRARY ANNEX-COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 217 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 3rd FLOOR,
LOCKHART, TEXAS**

Council present:

Mayor White

Councilmember Juan Mendoza

Councilmember Jeffrey Michelson

Councilmember John Castillo

Councilmember Kara McGregor

Councilmember Brad Westmoreland

Council absent:

Mayor Pro-Tem Angie Gonzales-Sanchez

Staff present:

Vance Rodgers, City Manager

Peter Gruning, City Attorney

Julie Bowermon, Civil Service/Human Resources Director

Connie Constancio, City Secretary

Pam Larison, Finance Director

Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council:

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Lew White called the special meeting of the Lockhart City Council to order on this date at 6:30 p.m.

ITEM 2. INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Councilmember Mendoza gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags.

ITEM 3. CITIZENS/VISITORS COMMENTS.

Mayor White requested citizens to address the Council. There were none.

**ITEM 4-A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2018-24 RATIFYING
A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019.**

Ms. Larison stated that Section 102.007 of the Texas Local Government Code requires that the ratification be in addition to and separate from the vote to adopt the budget and tax rate because the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 tax rate will increase revenue.

Councilmember McGregor made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-24, as presented. Councilmember Mendoza seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**ITEM 4-B. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2018-25 ADOPTING
THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING RESOURCES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019,
BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2018 FOR THE CITY OF LOCKHART, CALDWELL COUNTY,
TEXAS.**

Ms. Larison stated that the Ordinance will be approving the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 City of Lockhart budget. All funds are balanced with the exception of solid waste that reflects operating revenues over expenditures in the amount of \$54,316, which can be seen in the total of the budget.

Councilmember Westmoreland made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-25, as presented. Councilmember Michelson seconded.

The record vote is as follows:

Councilmember Brad Westmoreland – in favor
Councilmember Juan Mendoza – in favor
Councilmember Kara McGregor – in favor
Councilmember John Castillo – in favor
Councilmember Jeffry Michelson – in favor
Mayor Lew White – in favor

Mayor White announced that Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez was not present.

ITEM 4-C. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2018-27 REPEALING UN-CODIFIED ORDINANCE 2018-14 IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ADOPTING THIS ORDINANCE REGARDING THE CITY PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL; REMOVING PERFORMANCE OR MERIT PAY FOR POLICE AND FIRE PERSONNEL AND ADOPTING A STEP PAY PLAN FOR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS UNDER CIVIL SERVICE.

Ms. Bowermon stated Council previously approved a 10 percent increase for police officers effective October 1, 2018. In compliance with Civil Service, classified police and fire positions are paid per a pay step plan, which is set by ordinance. The proposed ordinance reflects the 10 percent increase for police. There was discussion.

Councilmember Michelson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-27, as presented. Councilmember Castillo seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 4-D. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2018-26 LEVYING MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE USE AND SUPPORT OF THE CITY OF LOCKHART, TEXAS AND INTEREST AND SINKING PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE DEBT SERVICE OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY OF LOCKHART FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019, BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2018 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2019.

Ms. Larison stated that the ordinance will represent Council's action to adopt the property taxes levy.

Mayor White made a motion that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 71.07 cents per 100 dollars taxable value, or an increase of 5.648878 percent in total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding year. Councilmember Westmoreland seconded.

The record vote is as follows:

Councilmember Brad Westmoreland – in favor
Councilmember Juan Mendoza – in favor
Councilmember Kara McGregor – in favor
Councilmember John Castillo – in favor
Councilmember Jeffry Michelson – in favor
Mayor Lew White – in favor

Mayor White announced that Mayor Pro-Tem Sanchez was not present.

ITEM 4-E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2018-18 ESTABLISHING FEES TO REFLECT THE RECOVERY OF 5% VENDOR RATE INCREASES APPROVED RECENTLY FOR RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL RECYCLING SERVICES, AND COMMERCIAL WASTE COLLECTION/DISPOSAL SERVICES AND ESTABLISHING FEES FOR OTHER SOLID WASTE SERVICES REFLECTING LANDFILL AND DISPOSAL RATE INCREASES.

Mr. Rodgers stated that during the budget process, information as provided to Council and the public regarding the current contract with Central Texas Refuse and the contractual increases. There was discussion.

Councilmember McGregor made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-18, as presented. Councilmember Michelson seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 4-F. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2018-22 AMENDING THE LOCKHART CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 58, UTILITIES, SECTION 58-141, ENTITLED "DEFINITIONS" AND SECTION 59-142, ENTITLED "WATER RATES" ADJUSTING WATER RATES TO COVER INCREASED COSTS OF NEW WATER SUPPLY LAND LEASES AND FOR NEW WATER SUPPLY DEBT PAYMENTS.

Mr. Rodgers stated that this Ordinance put in place rates to produce revenues that are reflected in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 budget to cover costs associated with new water supply land leases and for new water supply debt payments. Information has been provided to Council and the public throughout the recent budget process. He provided information justifying the need to raise rates and showed typical utility customer increases on their total bill. A typical small residential customer will see at 1 1/2 percent increase in their total bill while a typical small business customer will see a 1 percent increase in their total bill. There was discussion.

Councilmember Westmoreland made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-22, as presented. Councilmember Castillo seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 4-G. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2018-23 AMENDING DIVISION 2, ELECTRIC RATES COMPUTATION, SECTION 58-71 THROUGH SECTION 58-74 ADDING THE MITIGATION RATE CHARGE (MRC) DEFINITION AND DESCRIBING ITS USE WHICH DOES NOT RESULT IN A RATE INCREASE.

Mr. Rodgers stated that this Mitigation Rate Charge (MRC) is already in place but not clearly defined. This proposed ordinance defines the rate, its use, and states the amount which is the same for residential and non-residential customers. The funds are placed in a special fund that is used to help lower customer electric billings during peak use months such as, but not limited to, July through September. The rate funds reduced power costs for all customers primarily during the peak use months. There was discussion.

Councilmember McGregor made a motion to approve Ordinance 2018-23, as presented. Councilmember Castillo seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 4-H. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A SERVICE AND SUPPORT AGREEMENT AND FEE OF \$4,825 PER YEAR WITH AMERICAN SIGNAL CORPORATION (ASC) FOR THE CITY'S EARLY WARNING SIREN SYSTEM, AND APPOINTING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT IF APPROVED.

Mr. Rodgers stated that Gifford Electric of Fort Worth, Texas, was the company that installed the City's early warning siren system and has been maintaining the system. Gifford Electric will no longer be involved, and ASC will take over service and support services of the City's system. The fee will be \$4,825 per year. There was discussion.

Councilmember Michelson made a motion to approve the service and support agreement and a fee of \$4,825 per year with American Signal Corporation for the City's early warning siren system. Councilmember Westmoreland seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

ITEM 5. ADJOURNMENT.

Councilmember Mendoza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember McGregor seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.


PASSED and APPROVED this the 16th day of October 2018.

CITY OF LOCKHART



Lew White, Mayor

ATTEST:



Connie Constancio, TRMC
City Secretary

