

**SPECIAL MEETING  
LOCKHART CITY COUNCIL  
BUDGET WORKSHOP**

**JULY 16, 2009**

**7:00 P.M.**

**Council present:**

Councilmember Paul Gomez  
Councilmember Richard Wieland

Mayor James Bertram  
Councilmember Lew White  
Councilmember Richard Banks

**Council absent:**

Councilmember Kenny Roland  
Mayor Pro-Tem Frank Estrada

**Staff present:**

Vance Rodgers, City Manager  
Jeff Hinson, Finance Director  
Sandra Mauldin, Economic Dev. Coordinator  
Stephanie House, Controller

Connie Ortiz, City Secretary  
Bertha Martinez, Library Director  
Melanie Tucker, EMS Director

**Citizens/Visitors Addressing the Council:** Carl Pape of the Caldwell County Appraisal District.

**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor James Bertram called the special meeting/budget workshop of the Lockhart City Council to order on this date at 7:00 p.m.

**ITEM 2. CITIZENS/VISITORS COMMENTS.**

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

**ITEM 3-A. PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOP REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 PROPOSED BUDGET.**

There was discussion regarding the budget workshop process.

**CALDWELL COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT (CCAD)**

Carl Pape of the CCAD explained the process that they were conducting to determine the correct appraisal values for properties within the City. There was discussion regarding the following:

- Costs associated with the upgrade in computer equipment.
- Amount allocated in the contingency fund.
- One additional Appraiser added to the budget.
- Discussion regarding costs for health insurance.
- Employee wages were allocated at two percent increase.

Mayor Bertram requested that Mr. Pape inform the CCAD Board that he could not support the budget as presented and that he would not support a wage increase for employees, and the budget contingency amount.

Councilmember Gomez also stated that he could not support a wage increase for employees.

### ANIMAL SERVICES

Ms. Tucker provided information regarding the following:

- Sterilization fees.
- Printing, marketing and public relation expenses.
- Discussion regarding purchasing new equipment to be able to catch stray animals.
- Increase in the cost of dog food for the shelter.
- Discussion regarding the increase in communications, which is to purchase new radio equipment for the new animal control truck.
- Discussion regarding training sessions that were added to the budget.

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Ms. Tucker provided information regarding the following:

- Discussion regarding the proposed new position of an Operations Manager, which increased the EMS budget.
- Duties of the current Medical Billing Clerk, which would be an Administrative Assistant to both the EMS Director and the Operations Manager.
- Discussion regarding the number of Paramedics and/or Emergency Medical Transport on staff.
- Discussion regarding the purchase of new medical emergency equipment to replace old equipment.
- Discussion regarding car allowance rates.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Mauldin provided information regarding the following:

- Discussion regarding the architectural and engineering expenses, which would be used for the Industrial Park. Mr. Rodgers replied that the fees for architectural and engineering would eventually be removed from the economic development budget and moved to capital improvements.
- Discussion regarding the funds that are generated through the sell of property at the Industrial Park. Those funds are held in a special fund to be used as necessary.
- Discussion regarding funds used for promotional signs throughout the city.
- Discussion regarding the funds allocated to maintain the landscaping for the entrances to Lockhart.

### LIBRARY

Ms. Martinez provided information regarding the following:

- Discussion regarding the rental of a generator to be used during the Annual Dickens event.
- Discussion regarding landscaping the lawn at the Library.
- Discussion regarding filling the position of a part-time Youth Services Clerk.
- Discussion regarding the purchase of a video camera in the current fiscal year budget.
- Discussion regarding the purchase of new books, DVDs and CDs.
- Discussion regarding how the funds that are generated through the fundraising programs.

### TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Ms. Martinez provided information regarding the following:

- Discussion regarding the purchase of new office equipment.
- Filling the position of Instructor at the Technology Center.

**FINANCE**

Mr. Hinson provided information regarding the following:

- Health insurance increase.

**COUNCIL**

Mr. Rodgers provided information regarding the following:

- Increase was due to budgeting a possible special election in November 2009.
- Discussion regarding the attorney fees.
- Communication and postage funds budgeted.
- Discussion regarding the possibility of hiring a City Attorney to be on-staff.
- Discussion regarding upgrading software.

**CITY MANAGER**

Mr. Rodgers provided information regarding the following:

- Small decrease in budget.

**CIVIL SERVICE**

Mr. Rodgers provided information regarding the following:

- Small decrease in budget.

**INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

Mr. Rodgers provided information regarding the following:

- no increase
- Upgrades to various issues

**ITEM 3-B. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION REGARDING TENTATIVE BUDGET AND TAX RATE ADOPTION CALENDAR.**

Next budget workshop is scheduled for July 30.

**ITEM 4. ADJOURNMENT.**

Councilmember Wieland made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember White seconded. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

PASSED and APPROVED this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 2009.

CITY OF LOCKHART

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James Bertram, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Connie Ortiz, TRMC, City Secretary