

City Council
September 8, 2020

A briefing session of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Waxahachie, Texas was held in the City Council Conference Room at City Hall, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas, on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: David Hill, Mayor
Mary Lou Shipley, Mayor Pro Tem
Chuck Beatty, Councilmember
Kevin Strength, Councilmember
Melissa Olson, Councilmember

Others Present: Michael Scott, City Manager
Albert Lawrence, Assistant City Manager
Tommy Ludwig, Assistant City Manager
Robert Brown, City Attorney
Lori Cartwright, City Secretary

1. Call to Order

Mayor David Hill called the meeting to order.

2. Conduct a briefing to discuss items for the 7:00 p.m. regular meeting

City Manager Michael Scott reviewed the Consent Agenda noting the proposed Resolution is to extend the closure on FM 813 from September 9, 2020 to September 15, 2020.

Director of Planning Shon Brooks reviewed the following Planning and Zoning cases:

- ZDC-92-2020 – Applicant withdrew.
- ZDC-87-2020 – Applicant requested to increase landscaping in lieu of a masonry screening wall that had been on the original plan. Staff recommended approval.
- SUB-000080-2020 – Applicant requested hardship waiver for inadequate fire flow to the proposed site. Waxahachie Fire Marshall recommended approval for the petition of hardship waiver.
- SP-101-2020 – Applicant proposes to construct two multi-tenant office buildings on 1.381 acres. Staff recommended approval.

Assistant Director of Public Works Jim Lockart reported bids were received for the 2020 Street Rehabilitation Program and will recommend award of bid to Reynolds Asphalt & Construction Company in the amount of \$543,303.00. Staff recommended a contingency fund in the amount of \$30,000.00.

Utilities Director David Bailey reported bids were received for the construction of the Lower Mustang Creek Parallel Force Main and recommended award of bid to Wilson Contractors LLP in the amount of \$2,404,205.95. Staff recommended a contingency fund in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Assistant City Manager Tommy Ludwig stated bio-solids from the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be contracted with Waste Connections. Staff recommended separating this service from the general trash recycling agreement.

City Secretary Lori Cartwright reported the proposed Ordinance adopts new regulations on solicitation activities by repealing existing Chapter 23, of the Code of Ordinances. She stated solicitation applications will be processed at the Waxahachie Police Department.

Mr. Scott reviewed several Ordinances pertaining to the adoption of the 2020-2021 budget.

Finance Director Chad Tustison referenced the ratification of the property tax revenue increase reflected in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget in accordance with the Texas Local Government Code. He stated ratifying the property tax revenue is related to state law depicting a city that raises more revenue in property tax over the prior year and requires a separate vote on ratifying that increase in the budget. He explained this is strictly a state requirement and is not related to the tax rate.

Mr. Tustison reviewed the proposed Ordinance adopting the Tax Rate for fiscal year 2020-2021. He stated, in summary, the 4.7% tax increase is not referencing the current rate and the property tax rate is decreasing 2 cents from the current rate. The average resident's tax bill will increase approximately 2.6% when you take into account the value increases and the tax rate decreases.

Mr. Scott reviewed a proposed Ordinance re-establishing classified positions under Civil Service noting total staffing for the Waxahachie Fire Department is 64 and total staffing for the Waxahachie Police Department is 74.

3. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Cartwright
City Secretary