

City of Taylor
Regular City Council Meeting
Taylor City Hall, Council Chambers, 400 Porter Street
September 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via Video Conference

In order to assist in maintaining the health of Council Members, staff and the public during COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held by video conference.

Council or staff present in City Hall: No one.

The City Hall Auditorium was open to the public at 5:30p.m. for those who wished to address the City Council on the proposed FY2020/2021 budget and tax rate agenda items (items 7 and 9).

Council Members attending via video: Mayor Brandt Rydell
Mayor Pro-Tem Dwayne Ariola
Council Member Robert Garcia
Council Member Mitch Drummond
Council Member Gerald Anderson

Others attending: Mark Schroeder, Assistant City Attorney
Brian LaBorde, City Manager
Jeff Jenkins, Deputy City Manager
Dianna Barker, City Clerk

Mayor Brandt Rydell took a roll call, declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION

Mayor Rydell read full comments received from citizens via email.

Tim Terpstra – opposed to proposed tax increase; requested Council to cut spending and lower taxes to be in line with other communities in the County.

Annette Maruska – requested Council postpone decision on raising taxes until COVID has passed.

Albert Janecka – opposed to proposed tax increase.

Kaitlyn Baum – asked what it will take to complete the sidewalk from Avery Glen to Wesley Miller Lane and add a crosswalk there to slow down the cars.

Rachel Abbott – supports Mayor Pro-Tem Ariola’s plan for reducing the tax rate; opposed to higher taxes.

BOARDS & COMMISSION PRESENTATION

1. Tree Advisory Board update.

Brian Lawrence, Chair – gave a presentation on the Board’s responsibilities, recent activities and future plans.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garcia to receive the Tree Advisory Board's update as presented. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Ariola. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 2. Approve minutes from the August 27, 2020 regular Council meeting and the September 2, 2020 special called Council meeting.**
- 3. Concur with preliminary financials for July 2020.**

4. **Consider Ordinance 2020-13, which proposes a change to the Comprehensive Plan, Future Land Use Plan Map on land consisting of approximately 6.83 acres, out of 27.73 acres, from the Single-Family Residential designation to the Commercial designation, located at the northwest intersection of North Drive and NW Carlos G. Parker Boulevard.**
5. **Consider Ordinance 2020-14 changing the current zoning for a parcel of land, consisting of approximately 70.65 acres, at the northwest corner of North Drive and Carlos G. Parker, from Rural Agricultural Zoning District (R/A) to Local Commercial Zoning District (B-1) and Single-Family Zoning District with a Residential Planned Development Overlay (R-1/RPD).**
6. **Consideration on purchase of a Vacuum Truck through Heil of Texas.**

Motion was made by Councilmember Garcia to approve the consent agenda items as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Drummond. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

PUBLIC HEARINGS / ORDINANCES

7. **Conduct Public Hearing regarding the FY 2020/2021 annual budget.**
Brian LaBorde, City Manager – explained the rules governing the requirement for public hearing.
Jeff Wood, Finance Director – gave a presentation explaining budget highlights, budget summary and revenue allocation.

Mayor Rydell opened the public hearing at 6:48p.m. With no one appearing at City Hall Auditorium or via Zoom, the public hearing was closed at 6:49p.m.

No action was taken.

8. **Consider Ordinance 2020-09, adopting the annual budget for FY 2020/2021.**
Jeff Wood, Finance Director - The FY2021 budget will raise approximately \$320,193 more in total property tax revenue than FY2020. The FY2021 budget raises approximately \$269,452 more in maintenance and operations revenue (M&O) and approximately \$50,741 more in debt service revenues (I&S). Approximately \$232,559 of this increase is the result of new property. The ordinance was introduced at the August 13, 2020 Council meeting.

Council took a break at 6:52p.m.

Council reconvened at 6:57p.m.

Mayor Rydell opened the floor to Council for discussion of the budget.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garcia to adopt Ordinance 2020-09, adopting the annual budget for FY 2020/2021 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Anderson. A record vote was taken:

Gerald Anderson - Aye
Dwayne Ariola - Aye
Mitch Drummond - Aye
Robert Garcia - Aye
Brandt Rydell - Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

A separate motion was taken by voice vote to ratify that the FY2020-21 Budget will raise approximately \$320,193 more in total property tax revenue than FY2019-20.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garcia to ratify that the FY2020/2021 Budget will raise approximately \$320,193 more in total property tax revenue than FY2019-20. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Drummond. Motion carried unanimously via roll call.

9. Conduct Public Hearing regarding fixing and levying ad valorem tax rate for tax year 2020/2021.

Jeff Wood, Finance Director – gave a presentation on the tax rate. The proposed FY2021 Budget is based on a tax rate of \$0.809215 per \$100 valuation. This tax rate is higher than the no new revenue tax rate.

Mayor Rydell opened the public hearing at 7:25p.m. With no one appearing at City Hall Auditorium or via Zoom, the public hearing was closed at 7:25p.m.

No action was taken.

10. Consider Ordinance 2020-10, fixing and levying ad valorem tax rate for tax year 2020/2021.

Jeff Wood, Finance Director - The funding of the budget is accomplished by the approval of the tax rate that supports the budget. The ordinance was introduced at the August 13, 2020 Council meeting.

The following motion was made by Councilmember Drummond.

"I move to adopt Ordinance 2020-10 with a tax rate of \$0.809215 per \$100 of valuation, which is effectively a 0.84% increase in the tax rate."

Motion was seconded by Councilmember Anderson. A record vote was taken:

Gerald Anderson - Aye
Dwayne Ariola - No
Mitch Drummond - Aye
Robert Garcia - Aye
Brandt Rydell - Aye

Motion carried 4 to 1.

11. Consider introducing Ordinance 2020-11, establishing fees for city services for FY 2020/2021.

Joseph Resendez, Assistant Finance Director – gave a presentation explaining changes to the fee schedule. The proposed Fee Ordinance is amending Ordinance 2019-24 to establish the fee schedule for FY 2021. The following departments have fee changes: Animal Control, Cemetery, Development Services, Fire, and Police.

The City Attorney read the caption of the ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2019-24 ADOPTED ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2019 BY CHANGING CERTAIN RATES AND OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CITY.

First reading of the ordinance. No action was taken.

12. Introduce Ordinance 2020-15 regarding the franchise for solid waste collection with Waste Connection Lone Star, Inc.

Tom Yantis, Development Services Director - The ordinance was presented in order to update the vendor name and codify the exclusive franchisee and the requirement of residents and businesses to utilize the franchisee for all solid waste services. The solid waste franchise ordinance was adopted in 2002 and has had three addendums.

The City Attorney read the caption of the ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS ("CITY"); REGARDING A FRANCHISE FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF THE CITY CHARTER, ARTICLE 14 WHEREIN THE AUTHORITY IS GRANTED TO PASS AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A FRANCHISE; RATIFYING THE CONTRACT WITH WASTE CONNECTIONS LONE STAR, INC., FORMERLY PROGRESSIVE WASTE SOLUTIONS OF TX, INC.; REQUIRING USE OF THE FRANCHISE SERVICES BY ALL RESIDENTS AND COMMERCIAL UNITS WITHIN THE CITY AS ALLOWED BY THE TEXAS HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE; PROHIBITING SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL BY COMPANIES NOT FRANCHISED BY THE CITY; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR COMPANIES OPERATING WITHOUT A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT; AND SETTING A FRANCHISE FEE IN THE AMOUNT OF TEN PERCENT (10%); PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING A PENALTY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE.

First reading of the ordinance. No action was taken.

REGULAR AGENDA; REVIEW/DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION

13. Receive update from Place Designers and consider bidding the Robinson Restroom project and lighting projects at Pierce Skate Park and Robinson Park basketball courts.

Philip Wanke, Place Designers - gave a presentation updating the council on the Valero quality of life projects progress for the design of the Robinson Park restroom and lighting components. Staff requested approval to take the projects forward for bidding.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garcia to receive the project update and schedule from Place Designers as presented and grant approval to release for Bid. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Ariola. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

14. Consider extending the temporary parklets program.

Tom Yantis, Development Services Director – requested Council consider whether to extend the temporary parklets program which is set to expire on September 29, 2020. A parklet is a portion of the City right-of-way, typically on-street parking spaces, that is allowed to be licensed for use by a business or property owner to create an outdoor area for patrons of the business and the general public.

Motion was made by Councilmember Garcia to draft an ordinance to bring back to Council extending the Parklet program until June 4, 2021. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Ariola. Motion carried unanimously via roll call vote.

ADJOURN

With no further business Mayor Rydell declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55p.m.


Brandt Rydell, Mayor

ATTEST:


Dianna Barker, City Clerk

