

**CITY OF SMITHVILLE**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**

Present: Mayor Sharon Foerster, Councilmembers Janice Bruno, Bill Gordon, Tom Etheredge, Joanna Morgan, Cassie Barrientos, and City Manager Robert Tamble.

**Open Meeting:** Call to order: Mayor Foerster called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Foerster led the Invocation and Pledge.

Recognition/Awards/Proclamations/Announcements/Presentations:

- a) Proclamation for "Constitution Week" Mayor read the proclamation
- b) Proclamation for "National Preparedness Month" Mayor read the proclamation
- c) Proclamation for "Energy Efficiency Day" Jill read the proclamation

Citizen Comments: None

Approval of the minutes from August 8, 2022, City Council Meeting, the August 26, 2022 City Council Workshop (Housing Huddle), the August 31, 2022 Special-Called City Council Meeting and Workshop, and the September 7, 2021 Special-Called City Council Meeting, Public Hearing, and Workshop. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve all of the minutes as presented. Councilwoman Bruno seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance adopting the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year Budget: Our FY22/23 revenues and expenditures are currently BALANCED at \$14,714,336. This is \$971,805 greater than our FY21/22 budget of \$13,742,531 and represents a 7.07% INCREASE in projected Y-O-Y spending. Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the budget. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance by the City Council of the City of Smithville, Texas authorizing the issuance of "City of Smithville, Texas Tax Notes, Series 2022"; levying an annual ad valorem tax, within the limitations prescribed by law, for the payment of the Obligations; prescribing the form, terms, conditions, and resolving other matters incident and related to the issuance, sale, and delivery of the Obligations; authorizing the execution of a Paying Agent/Registrar Agreement and a Purchase and Investment Letter; complying with the Letter of Representations previously executed with the Depository Trust Company; authorizing the execution of any necessary engagement agreement with the City's financial advisors and/or bond counsel; and providing an effective date: Approving this ordinance will allow the issuance of a \$1.25M tax note to be used to purchase capital equipment and make infrastructure upgrades. The tax note will be funded by the I&S portion of the total property tax rate. SAMCO will be making a presentation regarding the issuance of the City of Smithville, Texas Tax Notes, Series 2022: Councilman Etheredge made a motion to approve the Ordinance authorizing the issuance of

obligations designated as City of Smithville, Texas Tax Notes, Series 2022. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments on: None

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance adopting the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year Tax Rate: Recommend setting 2022/2023 AD VALOREM TAX RATE of \$0.548934 cents per \$100 valuation --- a slight reduction from the current tax rate. This rate includes a \$1.25M tax note that will be used to purchase capital equipment and improve infrastructure. The Tax Note will be funded (repaid) by the I&S portion of the total rate. The BCAD assessed property values in Smithville increased by 20% this year which will bring in an additional \$123k of revenue to the General Fund to help pay for drainage improvements and street repairs. The Average Home Value INCREASED from \$186k to \$208k. The average impact to property owners is an additional \$121.00 INCREASE/year. Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the Ordinance Adopting the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year Tax Rate. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on a Resolution directing Councilmembers Janice Bruno and Joanna Morgan to facilitate a series of community engagements, to solicit input from citizens on issues related to housing within the city limits: Approving this resolution will document that the City Council supports the “Housing Huddle” initiative for the purpose of soliciting community input related to housing. Councilman Etheredge made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilwoman Barrientos seconded and the vote was:

For: Etheredge, Gordon and Barrientos

Abstain: Bruno and Morgan

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on a Resolution for the City of Smithville’s Approval of the Bastrop County Hazard Mitigation Plan: Approving this resolution will allow The Bastrop County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update to be “Approvable Pending Adoption” (APA) by FEMA. Participating jurisdictions and entities must adopt the Plan by resolution within the next 90 days. The Disaster Mitigation Act requires that hazard mitigation plans be updated reviewed and revised every five (5) years to maintain eligibility for Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant funding. The updated plan identifies mitigation strategies that minimize the impact of both natural disasters and man-made hazards from a multi-jurisdictional basis. Councilman Etheredge made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilwoman Morgan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on a Resolution for Bullet-Resistant Shields: Approving this resolution will allow the city to apply for a grant to purchase bullet-resistant shields for the Smithville Police Department. The FY23 Bullet-Resistant Shield Grant Program is funded by the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office, and Criminal Justice Division. The Smithville Police Department will be seeking funds through this grant for a more durable (and expensive shield) per grant requirements (13 shields at \$5,995.95 each, totaling \$77,947.55). If the PD does not get this grant, the ARPA funds would be the backup to pay for less expensive active-shooter shields.

Councilwoman Morgan made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on Awarding the Administrative Services Contract for the GLO's CDBG MIT (Comprehensive Plan): Proposals for grant management services were received on August 26, 2022 and reviewed by City staff on Thursday, September 8, 2022. Experience, work performance, capacity to perform, and cost were the criteria used by the City staff to evaluate/differentiate each grant management consultant's qualifications. Two grant management service providers submitted a Request for Proposal (RFP). Langford Community Management Services, Inc. (LCMS) received the highest score with 86.67 points. As such, the evaluation team recommends LCMS for consideration/selection as the grant management service provider to manage all activities associated with the submission of the City's application under GLO CDBG-MIT Resilient Communities program for the preparation of a Comprehensive Plan. Councilwoman Bruno made a motion to award Langford Community Management Services, Inc the contract. Councilwoman Barrientos seconded and the motion passes unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on an Ordinance Amending Chapter 12 Traffic and Vehicles Ordinance, Article 12.200 Control Devices to add a stop sign at Garwood and Colorado: At the recommendation of the Smithville PD, the addition of a STOP SIGN at this unmarked "T-intersection" is necessary to improve safety. Councilwoman Barrientos made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Councilman Gordon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on the interim Chamber Director taking the place of April Daniels on the Historical Preservation and Design Standards Advisory Committee (HPDSAC): If approved, Gina Chronis will assume April Daniels' responsibilities on the HPDSAC. Councilwoman Barrientos made a motion to approve Gina Chronis to replace April Daniels. Councilwoman Morgan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Action on the approval of the Financial Report. Councilman Gordon made a motion to accept the Financial Report. Councilwoman Bruno seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn 7:35 p.m.

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Sharon Foerster, Mayor

Attest:

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Jennifer Lynch, City Secretary