

CITY OF SMITHVILLE
SPECIAL CALLED COUNCIL MEETING AND
BUDGET WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

Present: Mayor Foerster, Councilmembers, Janice Bruno, Tom Etheredge, Jimmy Jenkins, Tyrone Washington, Mitchell Jameson, and City Manager Robert Tamble.

Call to order: Mayor Foerster called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Workshop:

Citizen Comments: Jenny Busche, Jeannie Ralph, and Pace Davis spoke.

Discussion / Workshop on the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget. City Manager Robert Tamble gave an updated presentation on the budget. During the discussion, it was agreed that the Recycling Center Taskforce (Councilman Jenkins and Washington) do a cost comparison with other recycling centers. It was also agreed that the recycling membership be lowered to \$50 for residents and \$100 for non-residents. The council would like the City Manager to create an economic development strategy that would include a staffing plan and funding mechanism before the end of the year.

Public Hearing:

Public Hearing on the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget. Carol Jackson, Michele Rutherford, Britanie Olvera, and Brandon Dunham made comments.

Public Hearing on the 2023/2024 Ad Valorem Tax Rate. Jenny Busche and Britanie Olvera made comments in the public hearing.

The Mayor made a statement that the city council will vote on the proposed tax rate, at the September 11, 2023 Council Meeting held at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers at 317 Main Street Smithville TX.

Adjourn Public Hearing

Open Meeting:

Citizen Comments: Pace Davis Sopke

Discussion and Possible Action on waiving the late penalty of utility bills with an agreed payment plan. Councilman Etheredge made a motion, instead of waiving the penalty we extend the due date for utility bills to the 15th of the month effective November 1, 2023. Councilman Jenkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments: None

Discussion and Possible Action on a Variable Base Rate Distribution Fee. Councilman Etheredge made a motion to direct the City Manager to go back and formulate a plan that addresses smoothing out the monthly electric bills to a variable plan and present at a later date. Councilman Jenkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Sharon Foerster, Mayor

Attest:

Jennifer Lynch, City Secretary