
Tuesday, September 15, 2020

5:31 PM

Council Chambers

ATTENDEES:

Mayor	L. Kelly Jones
Council Member	Tiffany Aller
Council Member	Rosa Mendez
Council Member	John Davies
Council Member	Sharon Schmitz
Council Member	Christina Cowden (<i>via teleconference</i>)
City Secretary	Brandy Barrett
Police Chief	Kevin Reaves
City Attorney	Alicia Kreh

ABSENT:

REGULAR SESSION

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jones at 5:31pm. He thanked Councilwoman Cowden for joining the meeting remotely and expressed the council's deepest condolences on the passing of her father.

INVOCATION was given by Chief Reaves.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Mayor Jones.

Mayor Jones re-opened public hearing #1 at 5:33pm, recessed on September 8th:

Public Hearing to receive citizen comments and input on the adoption of the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget. The proposed budget is based on no change to the *ad valorem* tax rate of \$0.475 per \$100 of valuation. Revenue will increase by \$220,013 due to new properties coming onto the tax rolls and increased valuation from redeveloped properties. (*Council will take action when the public hearing is closed.*)

- There were no citizen comments.

Mayor Jones closed public hearing #1 at 5:35

ACTION ITEM:

A. Mayor Jones

Discuss and take action to approve Ordinance 468 adopting the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.
MOTION to approve Ordinance 468 adopting the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.

- **MADE BY:** Tiffany Aller. **SECOND:** Rosa Mendez.

Discussion regarding when the tax rate could be change occurred, Ms. Kreh explained the order and process were dictated by State Law, the budget must be approved and ratified before the rate can be set. She continued by explained if the rate was changed, the budget could be revisited either at this meeting or another meeting could be set up.

Motion passed by a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

B. Mayor Jones

Discuss and take action to ratify the property tax increase as reflected in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget as the Budget will require raising more tax revenue than in the previous year (whether from a tax increase or an increase in taxable value).

MOTION to ratify the property tax increase as reflected in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget.

- **MADE BY:** Sharon Schmitz. **SECOND:** Tiffany Aller.

Motion passed by a vote of 5 Ayes and 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones re-opened public hearing #2 at 5:44pm, recessed on September 8th:

Public Hearing to receive citizen comments and input on the adoption of the 2020 Tax Rate of \$.475 per \$100 of valuation with the proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by \$220,013. Your individual taxes may increase or decrease at a greater or lesser rate, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property and the tax rate that is adopted. If the City of Westworth Village adopts a 2020 tax rate equal to the no new revenue rate of \$0.437195 per \$100 of value, taxes would increase compared to 2019 taxes by \$84,472. *(Council will take action when the public hearing is closed.)*

COMMENTS:

The following individuals submitted letters of support of the proposed tax rate:

- Steve Beckman, 400 Wyndham Crest
- Mike Coleman, 114 Monterra Circle
- Margaret Craine, 700 Cinnabar
- Walt Feldman, 107 Kay Lane
- Thomas Garrison, 808 Dunham Close
- Cheryl T. Hodge, 107 Monterra Circle
- Scott & Melissa Huffman, 207 La Jolla Cove
- Denny Loverin, 18 Trinity Oaks
- Kriss Myers, 505 Calera Place
- Richard Marxen, 107 Monterra Circle
- Debbie McGee, 425 Wyndham Crest
- Douglas Rogers, 403 Wyndham Crest
- Kerre Randel, 106 Monterra Circle
- David Tierney, 438 Wyndham Crest
- Joe & Janet Thompson, 602 Deloache Crescent
- Craig Wade, 800 Dunham Close

The following individual spoke against the proposed tax rate:

- Abraham Elizondo, 5733 Sunset Rd.

Mayor Jones closed public hearing #2 at 5:48

C. Mayor Jones

Discuss and take action to approve Ordinance 469 setting and adopting the 2020 Tax Rate of \$.475 per \$100 of valuation.

MOTION to approve the property tax rate increase by the adoption of a tax rate of \$.475 per \$100 of valuation which is effectively a \$220,013 by which the proposed tax rate exceeds the no-new-revenue tax rate percent increase in the tax rate.

- **MADE BY:** Tiffany Aller. **SECOND:** Christina Cowden.

Discussion was led by Councilwoman Schmitz on the need to lower the tax rate to \$.470 per \$100 of valuation, which would decrease revenue by \$17K. Mayor Jones explained that a decrease of one half a cent would have little to no effect on the budget, but it would equate to \$250K in future debt service the city would qualify for to fix the drainage issues it is facing. Ms. Kreh, at the request of Mayor Jones, also explained how the past legislative session decreased the flexibility the city had to increase

or raise taxes in the future. Councilwoman Schmitz requested that her expectation to have the tax rate lowered be reflected in the minutes.

Motion passed by a vote of 4 Ayes and 1 Nays (Schmitz)

Mayor Jones opened public hearing #3 at 6:00pm:

Public Hearing to receive citizen comments and input on the adoption of increased drainage charges for the Westworth Village Municipal Drainage Utility System, which was established in August 2011. There have been no rate increases or studies since it was first adopted. TCEQ requires an engineering study every five years. The proposed rate increase and engineering expenses for an updated study have been included in the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-2021. *(Council will take action on this proposal at the regularly scheduled council meeting on October 13th at 7:00pm.)*

- There were no citizen comments.

Mayor Jones closed public hearing #3 at 6:00pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

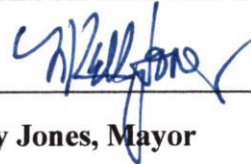
Mayor Jones convened a closed executive session, at 6:01pm, to deliberate the following items:

- A. Consultation with Attorney pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071.
Receive legal advice regarding property developments.**
- B. Consultation with Attorney pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074.
Deliberation of personnel matters regarding city staff.**

Mayor Jones re-convened in Regular Session, at 6:15pm, based upon Executive Session discussion, no action was necessary.

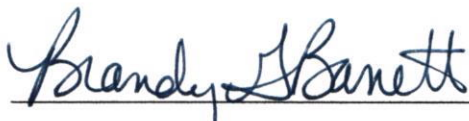
The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm by Mayor Jones.

MINUTES APPROVED BY:



L. Kelly Jones, Mayor

SIGNATURE ATTESTED BY:



Brandy G. Barrett, TRMC
City Secretary

