

The Budget Public Hearing of September 10, 2018 was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

MAYOR

Phillip Howard

OTHERS

Shannan Kinsley

Chief David Bejar

Ann Mabry

Kathleen McCloskey

Madeline McCloskey

Pat Howard

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Susan Darst

Jennifer Nottingham

Geri Poss

Lynn Tiner

Kimberly Verity

Mayor Howard declared a quorum with all Council member's present. The meeting was started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

1. PRESENT THE PROPOSED 2018/2019 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GREY FOREST PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 102, MUNICIPAL BUDGET, SECTION 102.006. DISCUSS AND GIVE ALL INTERESTED PARTIES THE RIGHT TO APPEAR AND BE HEARD ON THE 2018/2019 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GREY FOREST.

THIS BUDGET WILL RAISE MORE REVENUE FROM PROPERTY TAXES THAN LAST YEAR'S BUDGET BY AN AMOUNT OF \$3,901, WHICH IS A 8.99 PERCENT INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR'S BUDGET. THE PROPERTY TAX REVENUE TO BE RAISED FROM NEW PROPERTY ADDED TO THE TAX ROLL THIS YEAR IS \$719.

Mayor Howard reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget. He stated the slide show originally presented budgeted for four new radios and it's been increased for five radios. The Property Tax Rate remains the same at \$0.088441/\$100. The Contingency Capital Fund is at \$671,283. The Beginning Balance is higher than what was projected at the Budget Workshop. Court Cost Line Item No. 503, State Quarterly Fees is an estimate as we don't know what tickets will be written and the fees depend on the verdict. The Assistant to City Secretary is a new Line Item this year. The position is 20 hours a week at \$17.50 an hour with retirement making the position more attractive. The office will be repositioned for the new position and Public Works as well. Legal & Litigation has been running at about \$15,000 per year. He's increased it another \$20,000 should the litigation continue. He doesn't know if that will be enough but will cross that bridge when we get there. Public Works has been increased to two Full Time Public Works Salaries, the Public Works Department Head position at \$19.25 per hour, and the secondary Full Time position at \$15.00 per hour. A third position is the Public Works Temporary Pay at \$20.00 per hour for 16 hours per week. Public Works Equipment, Line Item No. 216 is at \$17,000 for five radios. Line Item No. 222, Arborist Fund is for things such as testing trees for Oak Wilt, etc. if needed. Council member Nottingham stated Line Item No. 224 has \$300 for both Public Works Training and Animal Control Training. We still haven't sent anyone to the class. Mayor Howard stated when we get the new Public Works employees on board; we will get them trained for both items. It's been hard to keep Public Works employees but once we approve the budget; it shouldn't take long to fill the positions when paying a more reasonable living wage. Council member Nottingham stated there's no funds in the budget for Public Works Uniforms. Council member Darst stated providing uniforms would be a great benefit to go with the job. Mayor Howard stated we can allocate \$1,500 (\$500 per person) to Public Works Uniforms to cover five shirts and a pair of boots each. Council member Nottingham suggested we allocate \$500 per person in the budget for uniforms and let Bubba figure out what is best to make the employees identifiable. Council member Darst made the motion to increase the Public Works proposed budget for uniforms and have Bubba facilitate. There was further discussion on uniforms and the shirts having Grey Forest Public Works with no name. Council member Darst amended the motion to increase Line Item No. 225, Public Works Uniform allowance to \$1,500 for three employees for five shirts and one pair of safety boots each. The motion was seconded by Council

member Verity and passed unanimously. Mayor Howard stated we will contact our CPS Governmental Representative to start working on getting power to the Public Works Building for Facility Upgrades. Council member Nottingham asked if Line Item No. 1100, City Green Space can be moved under Parks & Programs. Mayor Howard stated that is restricted money that has been donated to the City to buy Green Space or pieces of property and would be an appropriate move. Mayor Howard stated under the Grey Forest Community Park Operations, Line Item No. E-11-D, Swim Hole Clean Up/Repair is for removal of debris and to remove the steel trap door at the bottom of the swim hole. GFU has stated that they will help with the cleanup. If GFU helps with the cleanup; there may be funds available that can be reallocated. Line Item No. E-11-F is for signage. Council member Nottingham stated last year; the Community Board contracted with a historian to put together the historic features of the creek. Payment was in two pieces. The City paid \$840 in November 2017. Now we need to get it finished so that we can send it to the Texas Historic Commission and get it declared as historical property. The balance due will be \$840 for the second half. Council member Verity made the motion to add \$840 to Line Item No. E-11-C, Community Center Operations/Maintenance for final payment on the historic designation. The motion was seconded by Council member Darst and passed unanimously. Mayor Howard reviewed the Madla Park Operations. He stated the goal is to have funds in the Contingency, Restricted Carryover to cover six months.

Mayor Howard asked if there was any further comments or citizen input. There was none.

2. DISCUSSION AND CITY COUNCIL ACTION ON THE 2018/2019 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF GREY FOREST

Council member Darst made the motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Budget as amended. The motion was seconded by Council member Nottingham and passed unanimously. Mayor Howard stated the 2018/2019 Fiscal Year Budget for the City of Grey Forest is passed.

Council member Nottingham made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Verity and passed unanimously. The Budget Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

These minutes were written/recorded by Whauuan Kinsley.

These minutes were approved as written/amended on the 22nd day of January, 2019.

Signed:

Phillip A. Howard
Phillip A. Howard, Mayor