

**MINUTES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF GREY FOREST, TEXAS
GREY FOREST COMMUNITY CENTER
18249 SHERWOOD TRAIL
HELOTES, TX 78023
AUGUST 20, 2021 at 6:30 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Thornton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Charles M. Thornton Jr., Mayor Pro Tem Geri Poss, Council Member Jennifer Nottingham, Council Member Susan Darst, Council Member Sean Skaggs, and Council Member Kimberly Verity

Staff Present: City Secretary Miguel Cantu, Chief of Police Rene Rodriguez

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. PRESENTATIONS BY CITIZENS AND VISITORS

Mrs. Lorna Maine wished to address the City Council regarding the City's litigation with the Sharf's. She stated that she and her family were ready for the appeal and ready to take the case to the supreme court.

Mr. Sean Maine wished to address the City Council regarding the City's litigation with the Sharf's. He mentioned that they were 99% sure that they would win the case and asked the City to reconsider their appeal.

Mr. Don Nettle wished to address the City Council regarding the City's litigation with the Sharf's. Mr. Nettle requested City Council to reconsider pursuing the litigation with the Sharf's.

Dr. Sandra Schneider wished to address the City Council regarding the City's 2021 budget. Dr. Schneider provided the City Council with her analyzation of the budget.

Mrs. Becky Loche wished to address the City Council regarding the City's static environment in the community. She asked that someone please explain to her what is factual and fiction regarding the ongoing rumors in the City.

Ms. Mandy Waldrop wished to address the City Council regarding the City's budget. She stated that she felt that council members were using City funds for "pet" projects and should focus on the wants and needs of the citizens.

V. CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING:

a) Discussion of FY 2021/2022 Budget.

Mayor Thornton presented the proposed budget. He provided an overview of the City's revenue noting that some of the revenues and expenditures were removed or transferred to another fund account from the general budget as advised by the City's auditor. Separate fund accounts were identified in the budget such as the Project Budget Fund Balance, Road & Bridge Fund, Municipal Court, LEOSE, and School Crossing Guard. The

funds that were generally noted in the regular budget were now removed and separated. Mayor Thornton explained the expenditures did include a 3% COLA for staff salaries and discussed the comparison from the 2020-2021 to the 2021-2022 budgets. Of note, were the expenditures for Attorney Fees for the year 2021-2022 which included the appeal with the Sharf case, which has been in litigation for several years. The litigation was also provided on a separate sheet titled Legal Fees for 2021-2022. The Mayor also stated he would continue to work on a new City website, road repairs, City Hall septic repair, and emergency management. Mayor Thornton also proposed the purchase or lease of a truck for Public Works since the City had recently completed the purchase for a Police Interceptor; however, the Police Department purchased a new vehicle for the department with grant funds. The Municipal Court Fund account included the purchase of Ticket Writer from Tyler Technology. City Council reviewed and discussed each expenditure line item. City Council requested the adjustment of city staff salaries to actual amount for a 3% increase.

b) Discuss and act on setting a date for a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER NOTTINGHAM TO SET THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 BUDGET FOR SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M. AT 18249 SHERWOOD TRAIL. COUNCIL MEMBER VERITY SECONDED THE MOTION. COUNCIL VOTED 5-0.

This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$496.00 which is 0.99% increase from last year's budget, and of that amount \$639,765 is ta revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

c) Discuss and act on setting the proposed 2021 tax rate and scheduling a public hearing.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER NOTTINGHAM TO SET THE PROPOSED TAX RATE OF \$0.085598 PER \$100 VALUATION. COUNCIL MEMBER VERITY SECONDED THE MOTION.

RECORD VOTE:

MAYOR PRO TEM POSS: FOR

COUNCIL MEMBER SKAGGS: FOR

COUNCIL MEMBER DARST: FOR

COUNCIL MEMBER VERITY: FOR

COUNCIL MEMBER NOTTINGHAM: FOR

VI. ADJOURNMENT


MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER NOTTINGHAM TO ADJOURN AT 9:15 P.M. COUNCIL MEMBER VERITY SECONDED THE MOTION. COUNCIL VOTED 5-0.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 28TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

APPROVED:


Charles Mitchell Thornton, Jr.

ATTEST:



Miguel Cantu, TRMC
City Secretary

