

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF WALLER
CITY OF HEMPSTEAD**

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 8th day of September A.D., 2023 at 4:00 P.M. the City Council met in a Budget Workshop at the Hempstead City Hall, 1125 Austin Street, Hempstead, Texas, there being present, to-wit:

Erica Gillum, Mayor
Lonnie Garfield, Mayor Pro-Tem
Cindy Pearce, Councilmember
Karon Neal, Councilmember
Nora Hodges, Councilmember
Mildred Jefferson, Councilmember (Absent)

Sabrina Alvarez, City Secretary

1. Call to order and invocation.

Mayor Erica Gillum called the meeting to order at 4:08 P.M. and Public Works Director Fredrick Alexander gave the invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

3. Public Comments.

No Public Comments.

4. Discussion on 2023-2024 Budget

Discussion was held on proposed 2023-2024, Alan Younts, the city's part time financial consultant presented to council some worksheets stating that we need to increase revenue or cut expenditures. Capital equipment is always a big hit Councilmember Nora Hodges stated that she talked to all the department heads and supervisors and asked them about salaries and equipment needed. He stated that tax notes can be used to fund the equipment and won't affect the budget. Supervisors and departments heads spoke about salaries and equipment needed. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield stated that employees are important and the most asset. Chief David Hartley stated that he recommends the step program to retain his police officers, he has had zero applicants. Councilmember Cindy Pearce wants to give raises to the police officers and three supervisors only. Councilmember Nora Nodges would like to give a 3% raise only for certain employees, not all. Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield would like to give 5% across the board. Councilmember Karon Neal would like to give 5% across the board. Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to give a 3% across the board, except for the police officers and supervisors. No one seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield made a motion to approve a 5% raise across the board except for the police department with the step program and the managers and supervisors. Councilmember

Karon Neal seconded the motion. NO-Councilmember Cindy Pearce, Councilmember Nora Hodges. AYES-Mayor Pro-Tem Lonnie Garfield, Councilmember Karon Neal and Mayor Erica Gillum broke the tie and voted. ABSENT-Councilmember Mildred Jefferson.

Adjourn City Council Meeting.

Councilmember Nora Hodges made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 P.M. Mayor Pro-Tem, Lonnie Garfield seconded the motion and it carried.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 18th day of September, A.D., 2023.

APPROVED:

/s/: Erica Gillum, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/: Sabrina Alvarez, City Secretary