



**MINUTES
SEALY CITY COUNCIL
W.E. HILL COMMUNITY CENTER
1000 MAIN STREET
SEALY, TX 77474
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Whitehead called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

2. Invocation and Pledges of Allegiance

Mayor Whitehead gave the invocation.

3. Roll Call and Certification of a Quorum

Present:

Janice Whitehead	Mayor
Dee Anne Lerma	Councilmember, Place 1
Chris Noack	Councilmember, Place 2
Sandra Vrablec	Councilmember, Place 3
Jennifer Sullivan	Councilmember, Place 4
Larry Koy	Councilmember, Place 5
Adam Burttschell	Councilmember, Place 6

A quorum was declared present.

Staff attending:

Lloyd Merrell, City Manager
Mark Pulos, Public Works Director
Joey Schmidt, Fire Marshall
Lawrence Siska, Public Works Dept.
Steven Kutra, Finance Director
Scott Riske, Police Captain
Warren Escovy, Asst. City Manager
Tim Kirwin, City Attorney
Robert Worley, Executive Director SEDC
Mercedes Bencomo, Deputy City Secretary

4. Proclamations and Special Recognitions

None

5. Petition(s) and/or Request(s) from the Public.

Ellen Remmert feels that staff should be able to get the employees they requested.

Carolyn Bilski asked whether or not council is aware of the fine for Main Street parking violations. She feels as though the fee is excessive. She also spoke about the tree ordinance.

Robert Worley spoke on the budget and requested employees.

6. **Discussion and possible action to approve an ordinance adopting the City of Sealy, Texas budget for the fiscal year 2020-2021.**
(Per the City of Sealy Home Rule Charter, Section 3.12. (1) Procedure to Enact Legislation, and Section 7.02.E. Adoption, only one reading is required for final passage of this ordinance. A record vote will be taken.)

Councilman Noack moved to approve an ordinance adopting the City of Sealy, Texas budget for fiscal the year 2020-2021, under the following conditions: Keep two police officer positions budgeted, keep one street utility worker position budgeted, keep one water/sewer utility worker position budgeted, change the assistant public works director budgeted amount to a six-month budgeted amount instead of its current 12-month budgeted amount, remove all other new positions from their specified budgeted line items. Under the fund balance addition line items, under the correct funds, add the sum budgeted amount for the positions that were removed from that fund so that these monies can be used later for new positions or projects at council's discretion.

Councilwoman Sullivan seconded the motion. Mayor Whitehead called for the vote:

The Deputy City Secretary took a record vote as follows:

Mayor Whitehead- Aye
Councilwoman Lerma- Aye
Councilman Noack- Aye
Councilwoman Vrablec- Aye
Councilwoman Sullivan- Aye
Councilman Koy- Aye
Councilman Burttschell- Aye

The motion carried.

(This ordinance is enrolled as Ordinance No. 2020-14.)

7. **Discussion and possible action to approve an ordinance providing for the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes of the City of Sealy, Texas, for the year 2020.**
(Per the City of Sealy Home Rule Charter, Section 3.12. (2) – Procedure to Enact Legislation, only one reading is required for final passage of this ordinance. A record vote will be taken.)

Councilwoman Lerma moved to approve the 2020 maintenance and operations property tax rate of 19.469 cents per \$100 valuation. Councilman Noack seconded the motion. Mayor Whitehead called for the vote:

The Deputy City Secretary took a record vote as follows:

Mayor Whitehead- Aye
Councilwoman Lerma- Aye
Councilman Noack- Aye
Councilwoman Vrablec- Aye

Councilwoman Sullivan- Aye
Councilman Koy- Aye
Councilman Burttschell- Aye

The motion carried.

Councilwoman Lerma moved to moved to approve the 2020 interest and sinking property tax rate of 7.525 cents per \$100 valuation. Councilman Noack seconded the motion. Mayor Whitehead called for the vote:

The Deputy City Secretary took a record vote as follows:

Mayor Whitehead- Aye
Councilwoman Lerma- Aye
Councilman Noack- Aye
Councilwoman Vrablec- Aye
Councilwoman Sullivan- Aye
Councilman Koy- Aye
Councilman Burttschell- Aye

The motion carried.

Councilwoman Lerma moved to adopt the 2020 property tax rate of 26.994 cents per \$100 valuation. Councilman Noack seconded the motion. Mayor Whitehead called for the vote:

The Deputy City Secretary took a record vote as follows:

Mayor Whitehead- Aye
Councilwoman Lerma- Aye
Councilman Noack- Aye
Councilwoman Vrablec- Aye
Councilwoman Sullivan- Aye
Councilman Koy- Aye
Councilman Burttschell- Aye

The motion carried.

(This ordinance is enrolled as Ordinance No. 2020-15.)

8. Request(s) for future agenda items and comment(s).

Councilwoman Sullivan requested a copy of the revised budget once it becomes available.

Councilman Noack thanked staff for their hard work on the budget.

Councilwoman Lerma thanked staff and is looking forward to a great year ahead.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: A closed meeting will be held concerning the following item(s):

- a) **Texas Government Code, Section 551.072. DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY.** The City may conduct a closed meeting to deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property as deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person.
- Acquisition of easements
 - Acquisition of land for roadway
 - Acquisition of land for community facility

The city council recessed open session at 7:00 p.m.

10. Reconvene into regular session and consider action, if any, on items discussed in Executive Session.

The city council reconvened into open session at 7:34 p.m.

Councilwoman Lerma made a motion to authorize the city manager to hire Stateside for easement acquisitions and fee simple along Hwy 36 N. Councilwoman Sullivan seconded the motion. Mayor Whitehead called for the vote:

AYES: Whitehead, Lerma, Noack, Vrablec, Sullivan, Koy, Burttshell
NOES: None

The motion carried.

11. Adjournment

At 7:36 p.m., Councilwoman Lerma moved that the city council stand adjourned until the next scheduled meeting. Councilwoman Sullivan seconded the motion. Mayor Whitehead called for the vote:

AYES: Whitehead, Lerma, Noack, Vrablec, Sullivan, Koy, Burttshell
NOES: None

The motion carried.

CERTIFICATION

PASSED AND APPROVED this 6th day of October, 2020.

Janice Whitehead, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brooke Knoll, City Secretary