

CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL**

AUGUST 21, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Mayor John Sellers called the regular meeting of the Sulphur Springs City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Glass moved to adjourn to executive session in accordance with Texas Government Code, Title 5, Chapter 551.074, Personnel Matters, specifically relating to the two Municipal Court Judges and the City Secretary. Councilman Taylor seconded. There was no one present to speak to the issue. The vote was unanimous. The following council members and staff were present:

Mayor John A. Sellers
Mayor Pro Tem Emily Glass
Councilwoman Erica Armstrong
Councilman Jimmy D. Lucas
Councilman Norman Sanders
Councilman Freddie Taylor
Councilman Doug Moore

Absent: None

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney
Lesa Smith, Finance Director
Gordon Frazier, HR Director
Jason Ricketson, Captain SSPD

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Sellers reconvened the meeting at 6:30p.m.

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

Mayor Sellers led in the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag, the Pledge to the Texas Flag, and Councilman Taylor led the invocation.

DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING APPOINTMENTS TO THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

There was a general discussion regarding this issue with several people being suggested. City Attorney McLeroy explained that he would be in attendance in his capacity as City Attorney as well as Mayor Sellers, City Manager Maxwell, and City Secretary Roberts. Councilman Lucas volunteered to serve.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON A MOTION TO PLACE A PROPOSED TAX RATE INCREASE ON THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2018 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Finance Director Smith presented the staff report and explained that two (2) public hearings had to be scheduled as well as the date to vote on the proposed budget that would bring about the proposed tax increase. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the issue. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Taylor made a motion to place the proposal to adopt a 44-cent property tax rate on the agenda of the September 11, 2018, regular City Council meeting, for consideration which if adopted would result in a tax increase.

Ayes: Taylor, Glass, Armstrong, Moore, and Sellers
Nays: Lucas, Sanders
Abstain: None.

The motion carried.

This is an increase in overall tax revenue but not an increase in the tax rate.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON A MOTION TO SCHEDULE TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR THE PROPOSED TAX INCREASE

Finance Director Smith presented the staff report. Mayor Pro Tem Glass moved to schedule two public hearings for August 30, 2018 at 12:00PM (noon) and September 5, 2018, at 6:00PM. Councilman Taylor seconded the motion and the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Glass, Taylor, Armstrong, Lucas, Sanders, Moore, and Sellers
Nays: None.
Abstain: None.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEM REGARDING THE TWO MUNICIPAL JUDGES AND THE CITY SECRETARY

Mayor Pro Tem Glass moved to approve a monthly rate increase of \$350 each for the two Municipal Judges. Councilman Taylor seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

Councilman Taylor moved to approve a yearly rate increase of \$3,800 for the City Secretary. Councilman Lucas seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Mayor Sellers, publically and personally stated the City of Sulphur Springs has an extraordinary city secretary who does beyond what a lot of cities require of their city secretaries who have multi-person offices and she is a one-person department. She also serves as the City Manager's personal secretary and the City Council's secretary.

Councilman Lucas stated that the \$3,800 per year increase for City Secretary Roberts had already been earned due to all the help she has given him since his election to the City Council. He added that she has four new councilmembers and the increase will almost be \$1000 per year for each of them.

The motion carried.

ADJOURN

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.