

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
CITY OF COLLEGE STATION  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2014

STATE OF TEXAS           §  
  §  
COUNTY OF BRAZOS       §

**Present:**

Nancy Berry, Mayor

**Council:**

Blanche Brick  
Steve Aldrich  
Karl Mooney  
John Nichols  
Julie Schultz  
James Benham

**City Staff:**

Kelly Templin, City Manager  
Chuck Gilman, Deputy City Manager  
Tanya McNutt, Deputy City Secretary  
Ian Whittenton, Records Management Coordinator

**1. Call to Order and Announce a Quorum is Present**

With a quorum present, the Special Meeting of the College Station City Council was called to order by Mayor Berry at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, 2014 in the Council Chambers of the City of College Station City Hall, 1101 Texas Avenue, College Station, Texas 77842.

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

**2. Public Hearing, presentation, possible action, and discussion on the City of College Station 2014 proposed tax rate of \$0.4525 per \$100 assessed valuation resulting in an increase in tax revenues.**

Jeff Kersten, Assistant City Manager, provided a review of the proposed tax rate for the FY14-15 budget. The current effective tax rate is \$.0425958 per \$100 assessed valuation and the proposed tax rate is \$0.452500 per \$100 assessed valuation. This is an increase of \$0.026542 per \$100 assessed valuation and is estimated to provide an additional \$1.6 million in revenues. The certified property valuation totaled \$6.56 billion, which is a total increase of \$330,622,559 or approximately a 5.3% increase in value over last year. If adopted, the proposed tax rate per \$100

of assessed valuation would be 45.2500 cents and would provide 19.3053 cents for debt service and 25.9447 cents for the general fund.

The Proposed Tax Rate Funds:

- Keeping up with growth
- Public Safety/Police
  - Additional personnel and equipment for the Police Department.
    - Traffic Patrol, Animal Control, and support positions
    - Patrol cars, motorcycles, tasers
- Public Safety/Fire
  - Additional personnel for EMS/Safety Officer program and for initial staffing for new ladder truck
- Transportation/Mobility
  - Additional street maintenance and repair funds, and initial funding for new intelligent transportation system.
- Improved park facilities and equipment
- Competitive Pay and Benefits
  - 3.5% average performance pay
  - Continue Police Step Plan, Fire and Electric Plans
  - Increase pay scale for sworn police and fire

Mr. Kersten summarized that the proposed budget and tax rate would allow the city to keep pace with growth and be well positioned to meet increased service demands over the next several years. Staff recommends approval.

At approximately 6:07 p.m., Mayor Berry opened the Public Hearing.

Richard Dusold, 4602 Oakmont, addressed the council with his concerns about what he feels is a lack of transparency and a lack of clarity in the presentations from staff on the effect of the proposed tax rate in real dollars. He challenged the council to not approve the proposed budget.

J. Michael Bozardt, 2409 Friar, spoke to the council on his concerns regarding the distribution of the tax base among residents, students, and landlords. He also listed multiple taxes already levied on the citizens by the city and other government agencies.

There being no further comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:13 p.m.

Mayor Berry announced that council will take a vote on the tax rate on September 22, 2014 in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

### **3. Adjournment.**

**MOTION:** There being no further business, Mayor Berry adjourned the Special Meeting of the City Council at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, 2014.

*Nancy Berry*  
Nancy Berry, Mayor

ATTEST:

*Sherry Mashburn*  
Sherry Mashburn, City Secretary