

CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Mayor John Sellers called the special meeting of the Sulphur Springs City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. The following council members and staff were present:

Mayor John Sellers
Councilman Craig Johnson
Councilwoman Kayla Price
Councilwoman Emily Glass
Mayor Pro Tem Freddie Taylor
Councilman Clay Walker

Absent: Councilman Oscar Aguilar

Staff: Marc Maxwell, City Manager
Gale Roberts, City Secretary
Jim McLeroy, City Attorney
Peter Karstens, Finance Director
Shane Shepard, Community Development Director
Gordon Frazier, Human Resources Director

PLEDGE AND INVOCATION

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

PRESENTATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL
READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2637, THE APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE
FOR THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014**

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. He explained that amendments from the last meeting had been added to the budget. There was no one to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final

reading. Councilwoman Price seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2638, SETTING THE TAX RATE FOR THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS FOR 2013

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. The property tax rate is set at 44¢ per \$100 of valuation. The taxes are actually assessed on the property as of January 1, 2013, though they are due after the tax rate is set. There was no one to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor moved that the property rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.44 per \$100 which is effectively a 1.01% increase in the tax rate. Councilwoman Price seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Councilman Johnson added, for the record, that this is the same rate as last year.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2639, SETTING THE WATER RATE FOR THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS FOR 2013

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. Water rates, as noted in the budget workshop, increase by 1.75% from last year. There was no one to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final reading. Councilwoman Glass seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2640, SETTING THE SEWER RATE FOR THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS FOR 2013

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. There was no one to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final reading. Councilwoman Price seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2641, SETTING THE SANITATION RATE FOR THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS FOR 2013

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilwoman Price moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final

reading. Councilman Walker seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2642, AUTHORIZATION OF UPDATED SERVICE CREDITS

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. Updated Service Credits enhance each retirement account of current employees for inflationary factors above specific thresholds. There was no one to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson moved to adopt the ordinance on the second and final reading. Councilwoman Glass seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1056 ADOPTING THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRING S INVESTMENT POLICY

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. This is the same exact policy that was adopted last year. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilwoman Price seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON RESOLUTION NO. 1057 – REIMBURSEMENT RESOLUTION

Finance Director Karstens presented the staff report. This resolution allows the city to expend certain funds on vehicles and equipment per the FY 2014 Budget and get reimbursed later by Lease Purchasing Financing. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Mayor Pro Tem Taylor moved to approve the resolution as presented. Councilwoman Glass seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ESTABLISHING A “BRANDING DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE” AND APPOINTING MEMBERS THERETO

City Manager Maxwell presented the staff report. Roger Brooks will be here October 1st and 2nd to kick off the process of developing a “brand” for Sulphur Springs. The people appointed to this committee will assist Roger Brooks with this task. Councilman Walker moved to select Mayor Sellers, Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Councilman Johnson, Craig Roberts, John Reed, Hopkins County Judge Chris Brown, City Manager Maxwell, Community Development Director Shepard, Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce

President/CEO Meredith Caddell, Don Sapaugh, Kristi Brewer, Monica Littlefield, and John Campbell. There was no one else to speak to the issue. Councilman Johnson seconded the list of names suggested by Councilman Walker and the vote was unanimous.

The motion carried.

VISITORS/PUBLIC FORUM

None.

ADJOURN

With all business complete the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.