

# Minutes

August 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 @ 10:00am  
Special Council Meeting

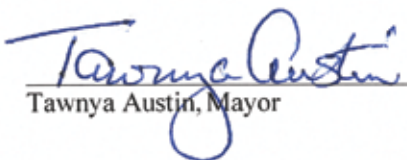
1. Call to Order @ 10:00 am.
2. Council Members Whitfill, McDonald, Napoles, Sestito, and Harrison were present. Quorum was established with Mayor Austin presiding.
3. General discussion on the 2019-2020 fiscal year budget and tax rate. Mayor Austin explained some of the changes: Attached is the budget draft for the 2019-2020 budget year. This budget draft assumes a tax rate of \$0.465431 vs the current tax rate of \$0.490160 which is a decrease of \$0.024729 in the ad valorem tax rate. Major items where additional funds have been allocated include:
  - \$40,000 additional to the debt service for the certificates of obligation. It is the intent to continue making and addition payment each year (in addition to the monies from the sales tax increase if passed).
  - \$40,000 added to building permit fee revenues to account for permitting fees from affordable senior housing developments.
  - \$18,321 to add one part time employee for the Code Enforcement Department
  - \$23,000 additional to Building Maintenance to provide for some much-needed city building improvements
  - \$21,000 to Maintenance salaries; changing one part time status to full time with benefits
  - \$9,000 additional to property abatements
  - 3% across the board salary increase

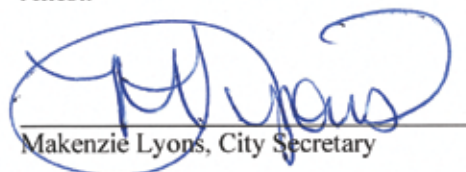
Council Member Whitfill stated that she supports the increase for the new positions and thought they were a good idea. Council Member McDonald questioned several of the increases and decrease line items in the budget to which varying members of staff and the Mayor answered. Council Member Napoles reminded everyone that salary increases were given last year and that some people were give as much as a 19% increase. Mayor Austin stated that those were positional increases and not a raise. The City was able to identify a few positions that were below average for our area and they were brought up. Council Whitfill said that she thought it was important to keep the people we have and so long as the City can afford to keep with the average pay she is fine with it. Council Member Harrison questioned the hourly rate for the part time code person stating that she felt it was low. Mayor Austin said that we could build flexibility into the hours to accommodate for a better rate if we needed to. Council collectively agreed that the property and liability insurance amount be increased.

4. Adjourn @ 11:21 am

SEAL

Attest:

  
Tawnya Austin, Mayor

  
Makenzie Lyons, City Secretary