

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

September 10, 2019

9:00 A.M.

The City Council of the City of Sweetwater, Texas met on September 10, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Room at City Hall, 200 E. Fourth Street with the following members present:

JIM MCKENZIE, Mayor

JEROD PEEK, Mayor Pro Tem

JIM LEE, Councilman

RICKY CASTRO, Councilman

GRANT CHERRY, Councilman

DAVID A. VELA, City Manager

PATTY TORRES, City Secretary

PETE SHERIDAN, City Attorney

Staff Members present: Public Works Director Russell Jones, Fire Chief Grant Madden, Utilities Director Eddy Campbell, Chief of Police Brian Frieda, Director of Administrative Services Lisa Adames, Director of Planning & Development Services Dana Schoening, SNAP Director Tonya Challis and IT Director Zach Adames.

1. Mayor McKenzie called the meeting to order.
2. Daniel Norton with Lamar Street Baptist Church gave the invocation.
3. Mayor Pro Tem Peek led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American and the Texas Flags.
4. Motion was made by Councilman Cherry, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, to approve the minutes for the meeting held on August 13, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Public Input: None
6. Action Items
 - A. City Council heard from Nancy Johnson of Tommy Morris Agency concerning the proposals received August 13, 2019, on Group Health, Dental and Life Insurance Employee Benefit FY 2019-2020. After discussing options and projections, motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Lee to renew with BlueCross BlueShield for Health, Ochs/Securian for City paid Life and Voluntary Life Insurance and Ameritas for Dental and Vision. The motion carried unanimously.

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- B. Motion was made by Councilman Lee, seconded by Councilman Cherry to approve the low annual bids for fuel, oil and lubrication products, and hot mix cold lay asphalt for use from October 2019 through September 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

United Oil and Grease was awarded bids for regular and diesel fuel.

United Oil and Grease was awarded bid for oil and lubrication products

Vulcan Materials was awarded bid for hot mix cold lay asphalt.

COPY OF BID SHEET IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XIV PAGES 1595 - 1597.

- C. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Lee to approve the reappointments of Mr. Terry Bennett, Mr. Gill Cherry and Mr. Keith Brock as board members whose terms expire on October 31, 2021 and reappointment of Ms. Terry Blankenship (alternate) whose term expires October 31, 2020 for the Board of Adjustments. The motion carried unanimously.
- D. Mayor Pro Tem Peek made nomination to appoint Russ Petty and Mayor McKenzie made nomination to reappoint Jerod Peek.

Motion was made by Councilman Lee, seconded by Councilman Cherry to approve appointment of Russ Petty and reappointment of Jerod Peek as board members to the Sweetwater Enterprise for Economic Development – Municipal Development District (SEED-MDD), with terms expiring September 30, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

- E. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Castro to enter into a public hearing on the FY 2019 – 2020 Proposed Budget for the City of Sweetwater. The motion carried unanimously.

This budget will raise more revenue from property taxes than last year's budget by an amount of \$256,412, which is a 11.34 percent increase from last year's budget. The property tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year is \$5,664.

There were no public comments.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Castro to close the public hearing and enter into regular session. The motion carried unanimously. No action was necessary from the public.

- F. Motion was made by Councilman Lee, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Peek to enter into the first public hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate of \$0.539

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(cents) per \$100 valuation for Tax Year 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

This tax rate will raise more taxes for maintenance and operations than last year's tax rate.

The tax rate will effectively be raised by 11.22 percent and will raise taxes for maintenance and operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$41.58.

There were no public comments

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Cherry to close the public hearing and enter into regular session. The motion carried unanimously. No action was necessary from the public.

G. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Castro to table the Ordinance Amending the FYE 2018 – 2019 Budget. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Motion was made by Councilman Cherry, seconded by Councilman Lee to approve Resolution on the Central Rate Schedule for the 2019 – 2020 Budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Peek made a motion to amend the Central Rate Schedule presented to exclude the proposed 10% increase to residential water and sewer, Councilman Lee, seconded to approve as amended. The motion carried unanimously to approve the Central Rate Schedule as amended.

COPY OF RESOLUTION IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XIV PAGES 1598 - 1622.

I. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Cherry to ratify the increase in total property tax revenue as reported in the FYE 2019 – 2020 budget for the City of Sweetwater, Texas. The motion carried unanimously.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

J. Motion was made by Councilman Lee, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Peek to approve Ordinance to adopt the FYE 2019 – 2020 Budget for the City of Sweetwater. The motion carried unanimously.

Ayes: 5

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Nays: 0

COPY OF ORDINANCE IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XIV PAGES 1623 - 1624.

- K. Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Peek, seconded by Councilman Cherry to approve Appropriations Ordinance for the FYE 2019 – 2020 for the City of Sweetwater. The motion carried unanimously.

COPY OF ORDINANCE IS LOCATED IN THE ORDINANCE AND CONTRACT BOOK XIV PAGES 1625.

7. City Manager's Report

- A. Fire Department Rehab Trailer
- B. Dam Inspections
- C. Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise
- D. Landfill Update
- E. New City of Sweetwater Web Site

8. Mayor Pro Tem Peek made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cherry to adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Jim McKenzie, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patty Torres, City Secretary

Persons signing register: Nancy Johnson, Melonnie Hicks, Tracy Gathrig, Miesha Adams, Ken Becker, Kristy Tyra, Daniel Norton, Scott Lambert and Sage Dille